

## A4 Architects

### Lookout Point Residence, Salisbury Cove, Bar Harbor

On a steep Mount Desert Island site, a family's summer home reflects the warmth of its owners, as well as the textures and colors of its surroundings.



Construction: Brian D. Shaw, Inc.

Engineering: Albert Putnam, PE (structural), Greg Johnston, PE (civil)

Landscape Design: Robert J. Krieg, ASLA, Coplon Associates

Photography: Augusto Rosa



On a steep ledge and wooded terrain overlooking Frenchman's Bay, the excited new owners of this property turned to the architect and asked, "So can we build something here?" "Of course," Kay Stevens Rosa responded, looking at the road above and out to the breathtaking bay views as her mind raced through the complexities of the challenge. After renting a neighboring cottage for many summers, the family had come to love the place, since it was hidden away from the commotion of their everyday urban existence.

Months of site studies and digital modeling produced an elegant design that carved the home into the hillside, hugging

the natural contours of the land. An inviting terraced stone entrance is naturalized by the deft touch of the landscape architect. The warm cherry trim and white-paneled interior—traversed by a gallery of treasures found by the family while beachcombing—steps down toward the sea, as it opens to the view along a wall of glass punctuated by skylights, opening onto an expansive deck. Windows that strategically frame large boulders, a fireplace made of stones from the site, and the soothing colors of beach pebbles and sea glass create a dialogue between the inside and the outside.

What began as a daunting challenge became the project's most interesting and wonderful feature.