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# readers' choice

BY MAUREEN FRIEDMAN

The six award-winning projects in this issue were selected by the staff of *Fine Homebuilding*. We also gave our readers an opportunity to select their favorites from our runners-up. Below are the 10 projects nominated for our readers' choice awards. The following pages feature the three winners. For more on each project, visit [FineHomebuilding.com/houses](http://FineHomebuilding.com/houses).

## Fontana Lake House

**Architect**  
Samsel Architects

**Photograph**  
Todd Crawford,  
courtesy of Samsel  
Architects



## Cottage Street

**Architect**  
Patrick Ahearn  
Architect

**Photograph**  
Greg Premru

## Whimsy on the Creek

**Design**  
Steve Kuhl

**Photograph**  
Troy Gustafson



## Ben's Barn

**Architect**  
Caleb Johnson  
Architects & Builders

**Photograph**  
Trent Bell

## Vine Hill Residence

**Architect**  
Arkin Tilt Architects

**Photograph**  
Edward Caldwell



## Westport River House

**Architect**  
Ruhl Walker  
Architects

**Photograph**  
Nat Rea

## Millcreek House

**Design** Lloyd  
Architects and Susan  
Taggart Design

**Photograph**  
Mark Weinberg



## Their Final House

**Architect** South  
Mountain Company

**Photograph** South  
Mountain Company

## American Revival

**Architect**  
Lococo Architects

**Photograph**  
John Cole  
Photography



## House in Town

**Architect**  
Elliott & Elliott  
Architecture

**Photograph**  
Trent Bell





## 2 READERS' CHOICE SECOND PLACE

### Cottage Street

Located in a historic village on the Massachusetts coast, this new house reads as a more modest piece of architecture from a previous time. In order to blend with the character and scale of the historic homes adjacent to the property, the facade recalls the Greek-revival cottage style, and the streetscape mimics the scale and character of its surroundings. The brick sidewalks and driveway, white picket fence, window boxes, green shutters, and cedar roof complete the look.

What made the project especially challenging was the client's wish for a main house with a covered porch and attached garage, a large carriage house, a pool and cabana, and a detached guest house on little more than a quarter acre. He also wanted to incorporate his love of fishing and all things nautical. The foyer has a teak and holly floor recalling the old Hinckley wooden yachts, and "Hinckley blue" is used as an accent color throughout the house. Hardware resembling cleats, gloss-white finishes, custom tiles, and custom cabinetry make the kitchen look like a galley in a luxury motor yacht. The wide cased opening that resembles a window found in the captain's stateroom of a pirate ship separates the kitchen and family room. A NanaWall opens to create an indoor/outdoor experience between the family room and the covered bluestone porch. The porch has a brick fireplace, and a custom copper skylight bathes the room in natural light while still providing a retreat from the summer sun. The cased beams are repeated on the ceiling of the covered porch to create a seamless transition between the two spaces.

**Architect** Patrick Ahearn Architect, Boston, [patrickahearn.com](http://patrickahearn.com)

**Interior designer** Lynn Morgan, Lynn Morgan Design, Norwalk, Conn.; [lynnmorgandesign.com](http://lynnmorgandesign.com)

**Builder** Rosbeck Builders, Edgartown, Mass.; [rosbeckbuilders.com](http://rosbeckbuilders.com)

**Photographs** Greg Premru, [gregpremru.com](http://gregpremru.com)





