

Clem Labine's **Period Homes**

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BEST IN SHOW

The New England Chapter of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art announced its sixth annual Bulfinch Awards winners this past February. The award is named for Charles Bulfinch, America's first native-born architect, and designer of the Massachusetts State House. The award recognizes the best work of individuals who contribute to the creation of classical and traditional architecture in New England.

The following are three winners in the residential categories.



RESIDENTIAL (NEW CONSTRUCTION) UNDER 5,000 SF

“HGTV DREAM HOME 2015” – PATRICK AHEARN ARCHITECT LLC



Images courtesy of Patrick Ahearn Architect





Located on Martha's Vineyard, Patrick Ahearn Architect designs the 2015 HGTV Dream Home, which reflects traditional Cape Cod architecture.

The design is historically scripted to look as though it has grown over time. This concept of scripting allows the opportunity to embrace the home's utilitarian program with a sense of history that results in houses that look as natural and authentic as possible.

The "script" of this home begins with a fisherman building a small cottage, the first piece and the center of the home. The surrounding accessory buildings could have originally been built for utilitarian use but were later attached as the family grew in size.

Ahearn expresses the symmetry of the home with a main door flanked by widows, v-grooved clad porches, and wings on each side. He adorns the windows with traditional green shutters and lushly planted window boxes. The enclosed porches are topped with white railings to resemble widow walks traditionally found in New England architecture.

While the exterior of the home reads as a casual beach home, the interior incorporates a refined living space with intricate trim and recessed panel walls. The one-story home appears larger than 3,200 square feet due to the bright, open floor plan, dramatic vaulted beadboard ceilings, contrasted with reclaimed antique beams, and a combination dormers and custom skylights to provide additional sunlight. The main home holds the family gathering spaces. The right wing forms the master suite and the left wing holds additional bedrooms with a garage topped with a charming cupola. Every room is appointed with a private bath, walk-in closet, and French doors that open to a bluestone patio.

Located in the rear of the home is the outdoor living space set on a bluestone patio with a dining, seating area, and an outdoor shower enclosure. The outdoor living area can be accessed by three sets of French doors opening off the great room. Leaving the doors open creates a rich indoor/outdoor experience perfect for entertaining on a beautiful summer night.