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What projects are you currently working on?

Within New England, I am designing a number of new coastal homes on Martha's Vineyard and Cape Cod, Massachusetts. I am also working on a restoration/renovation of a family homestead on 17 acres in Cazenovia, New York and a new custom home for a multi-generational family on Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire.

In Michigan, I am currently working on a variety of diverse projects in the historic Village of Grosse Point including a boutique hotel and the renovation/restoration of 1920's manor accompanied by newly constructed residences designed to look like accessory buildings that could have previously served the manor house. The objective is to give the illusion of a grand estate that was lovingly restored into a residential community rather than a newly constructed planned residential development.

What projects have you recently completed?

We have recently completed a wide range of projects in varying architectural styles throughout Massachusetts. For coastal homes, we completed a significant project in Chatham on Cape Cod, MA which is a reconsideration of a grand shingle style house overlooking the harbor with a carriage house and pool. In Martha's Vineyard we completed a new Greek Revival home, boathouse, and pool along Edgartown Harbor. For grand country homes, we completed a wonderful stone and shingle style home in Weston, MA totaling 15,000 SF as well as a compound in historic Dover, MA on a 17 acre horse farm estate including a custom home and a restoration of an old barn.

What companies have you worked with for the above projects?

We work with a lot of local general contractors and landscape designers including Whitla Brothers in Chatham and Colonial

Reproductions and Donaroma's Nursery and Landscape Services on the Vineyard - just to name a few.

What direction do you feel interior design is heading towards in general terms?

In the residential world, interior design is heading towards a renewed interest in a modern and clean aesthetic. I would attribute this change to the generational shift in economics. Specifically, I have noticed that adults in their 30's and 40's are willing to spend more of their disposable income on their homes and as a result, they have rediscovered clean lines and modernism but in a classical shell.

Are there any key design directions you would like to discuss?

Homeowners are beginning understand that the spaces around the home are just as important as the home itself because they appreciate the importance of bringing the living and social aspects of their lifestyles to the outdoors. This is achieved by analyzing the organizational aspects of the home and resolving the appropriate gathering spaces with corresponding outdoor living spaces, creating an essential interplay with a seamless indoor/outdoor transition. These outdoor spaces often include, but are not limited to porches, outdoor fireplaces, fire pits, pergolas, free standing gazebos, etc. all centered around water elements such as pools, waterfalls, Jacuzzi or the ocean/beach itself.

Trends going forward?

Recently, there has been a dramatic shift from formal to casual living, even in the luxury market. Today, a home is rarely staffed, resulting in the service areas more commonly used by the homeowners. Kitchens have dramatically increased in size and are now considered the new heart of the home.

Many people are requesting the kitchen to be adjacent to a gathering space but not necessarily wide open. The placement of these connected spaces encourages social interaction while fostering multiple activities and maximizing space. The great rooms and dining rooms are disappearing and bars are now located on the first floor as opposed to the basement. People are looking for a more detailed, higher level of refinement. The idea is that they do not have to go to a specific space to entertain guests and friends; they can entertain throughout their entire house.

What are your favorite recent schemes? Please describe key elements.

We stress the importance of celebrating the outdoors during the warm weather, however, I have been interested in optimizing outdoor living spaces for the winter as well. Outdoor spaces can be outfitted with removable storm panels and radiant heat under the floors to lend itself to a multiplicity of year-round functions. For example, a pool cabana can be converted into a warming hut to accompany an ice skating rink. The orientation of the space becomes really important because the sun is lower in the winter. Elements such as floor-to-ceiling glass and southern orientation allow the sun to filter in and warm the interior space while taking advantage of the views outside.

What products/services could you not live without when designing?

Every project we work on, we use MDF Nantucket® BeadBoard. It has certainly become a staple when designing.

www.patrickahearn.com

