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Atlantic and Pacific Waterfront Beauties
Built to Withstand the Elements

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The home, which is elevated 4 feet with a landscaped berm, was constructed with a strapping and anchoring system that can withstand 120 mile per hour winds. Structural cross ties were designed for the second-floor ceiling areas, and thicker plywood was used for the shear walls. The basement has a perimeter drainage system with a series of pumps to exterior dry wells to control roof runoff, and a gravel driveway to reduce standing water.

For the roof, Seifert chose ACQ-treated, 18-inch, hand-split wood shingles. "These shingles are 5/8-inch thick, so right off the bat you're getting almost double the roof thickness," he says. "[The shingles] can go right on top of plywood, so you avoid a lot of unnecessary blocking. And because they're fatter, you don't have cupping—the roof lays perfectly flat."

The first floor features 11-foot, coffered ceilings, a large, family-style kitchen, a grand curved staircase, a private office and laundry room, and a large deck with a screened porch that wraps around three sides of the house. Bedrooms are located upstairs for privacy.

Creative use of glass elevates Shingle-style home

Another summer retreat, located on the south shore of Martha's Vineyard, Mass., not only has ocean frontage but backs up to a creek. This meant that Boston-based architect Patrick Ahearn and Edgartown, Mass., builder Peter Rosbeck had to comply with conservation and zoning regulations as well as the requirements



"Between the house, guest house, pool, cabana, and the outdoor fireplace with the pergola, there are all these wonderful places to enjoy the property and the views and entertain on multiple levels," architect Patrick Ahearn says.



Instead of one huge house, architect Patrick Ahearn designed two structures for the 4½-acre family compound: a 6,000-square-foot main house and a 4,000-square-foot carriage house. Because they weather well, builder Peter Rosbeck used red cedar shingles for the roof and white cedar shingles for the siding.



Elements such as the wainscoting and salvaged beams in the living room's cathedral ceiling give the interiors a more tailored look while still carrying through the Shingle style, Ahearn says.

The kitchen of the main house provides a relaxed environment for cooking and casual dining. The ceiling beams and beadboard used in the other living areas are repeated here.

The clients, who have children and frequent guests and love to entertain, "wanted the house to be open and flowing so it would live in a modern way, and also have a more tailored look with salvaged ceiling beams and timbers in the living and dining rooms," Ahearn says.

The home and its mechanical equipment are elevated above the flood plain. Rosbeck's crew paid meticulous attention to flashing details and installed hurricane-rated doors and windows. Special features include a bar that opens to a bay-windowed area with interchangeable screens and storm windows, "so it feels like you're in a resort in St. Barts," Ahearn says. "And there are doors that fold away completely so you get a true indoor/outdoor experience."

The project was named Best in Show in Marvin Windows and Doors' 2014 Architects Challenge program. Marvin was especially

of a containment airport district overlay. They also had to pass a design review by the homeowners' association governing that particular street.

Existing homes on adjoining lots totaling 4½ acres were demolished to make way for two new structures: a main house of approximately 6,000 square feet and a carriage house of about 4,000 square feet.

"Due to a 30-foot height restriction and the topography of the nearby dunes, in order to get panoramic ocean views we located the primary living spaces of both houses on the second floor," Ahearn says. The challenge was to create a Shingle-style island vernacular architecture that did not reflect the upside-down nature of the living spaces. Ahearn linked the two levels together on the ocean side and the pool side.

impressed with Ahearn's use of impact glass with simulated divided lites, and double-hung windows formed into bays. One rectangular window was outlined to make it a focal point of the elevation.

"The custom Marvin doors have a unique pattern to the muntin-bar system," Ahearn says. "The lower part of the door has single-lite glass, but there are four lite panels above it that help tie into the Shingle-style vernacular."

Rosbeck adds, "Every little detail was well thought out, from the outdoor areas around the pool and the bocce court to the communication system between the main house and guest house. Even the compost building by the garden looks like a miniature replica of the house, with its gambrel shape." **CB**



PHOTOS: GREG PREMURU