



# RESIDENTIAL HONOR AWARD

## Englishman Bay Retreat

WHITTEN ARCHITECTS

**THE ARCHITECTS SAY:** Englishman Bay is known for its rugged coastline and pristine landscape. The client would walk from his family’s camp through the spruces and birches to a secluded pebble beach, over time wearing a path under the tree canopy. He approached us to design a home for his family along the same path. He wanted a rustic camp feel, with warm, natural materials that would blend with the surrounding forest and allow for ocean views. We arranged the spaces within the house so that morning light would come in through the kitchen and sunsets would be visible in the bedrooms. Perching the house on columns limited the site disturbance and improved the view. The vistas are carefully curated so that pockets of ocean, distant headlands, and sky are visible. A three-season porch with tall windows connects the kitchen and dining area with the bedroom wing. Local materials are

used throughout the house — the outside is clad in eastern hemlock, while the interior walls and ceilings are made of locally sourced eastern white pine.

**THE JURY SAYS:** This project creates a successful balance between nature [and] architecture, [with a] simplicity and sensitivity for details that elevate it above the [ordinary]. Raising the house up on stilts does not seem overpowering, but rather humble in the way it leaves the topography for nature, while clearing the way for views. The project conjures a nostalgic feeling through its [use of] intimate interior spaces and a fort-like viewing deck. The feeling of being up in the trees bestows a [sense] of playfulness. The detailing and material selection is well thought out and beautifully executed.

PROJECT ARCHITECT:  
Tom Lane, AIA

PROJECT TEAM: Russ  
Tyson, AIA, Haley Blanco

GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR: Nate  
Holyoke Builders

INTERIOR DESIGNER:  
Krista Stokes

LANDSCAPING  
CONTRACTOR: Atlantic  
Landscape Construction

STRUCTURAL  
ENGINEER: Albert Putnam  
Associates