

Maine Home

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+ DESIGN

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KEVIN BROWNE ARCHITECTURE

PRESUMPCOT POINT

Shingle style gets a modern edge



Kevin Browne is not looking to rethink traditional architecture—he just wants to add an edge to it. His goal is to take traditional detailing and blend it with more contemporary features. The premise for this house, which he worked on with long-time collaborators Jonathan and Catherine Culley of Redfern Properties, started with a common architectural theme: the shingle style. Browne has worked with the Culleys on numerous homes and other rehab projects, but this home was designed specifically for them and their growing family. They worked together on ways to incorporate modern features into the traditional design, such as black trim, a distinctive entryway with tumbled rather than polished black and white marble, and a floating curved staircase with stainless-steel balusters and a large Noguchi pendant lamp. The kitchen cabinetry is traditional in form but painted a very dark, bluish gray. Glass matchstick tiles and a light gray concrete countertop also denote a more modern approach. In the living room, coffered ceilings feature a markedly simplified trim detail and a larger scale. Three sets of French doors drench the house in south-facing natural light throughout the day.

Radiant heat is used as an efficient heating system. Low-e windows, water-sensible plumbing fixtures, low-VOC paint, and the positioning of the house on the site to maximize its solar gain round out the list of the sustainable features found in this home.

Construction: Redfern Properties, Todd Harrison Construction Inc.

Engineer: Structural Integrity

Interior Design: Urban Dwellings

Photography: Jeff Scher Photography (above and top right), Nathan Hankla (top left)