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MAINE HOME + DESIGN

NOVEMBER // DECEMBER 2022

THE ARCHITECTURE ISSUE



DRINK+SKETCH

MAINE ARCHITECTS AND DESIGNERS GOT A NAPKIN,
A PEN, A DRINK, AND 30 MINUTES TO CREATE

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Modern Farmhouse

The size and shape of the buildable lot area, along with the clients' desire for a prominent entry and hidden garage, contributed to the bent shape of this residence. The owners wanted a comfortable home that would support their large family, and the design requirements included spaces for remote working, energy efficiency, a strong connection with the outdoors, plenty of natural daylight, and a great room for entertaining. The entry of the building faces the road, while the bend in the house allows the garage to settle into the background. The street side (facing south) is humble, featuring simple details, clean aesthetics, and punched openings that allow daylight to permeate the center of the house while maintaining privacy from the street. The bend in the building also allows the north side—which opens to an in-ground pool and golf course beyond—to orient toward the west, capturing the afternoon sun. The exterior siding is predominantly James Hardie board-and-batten, with highlights of painted shiplap eastern white cedar siding.

Just beyond the entry, centered within the first floor is the great room: a large, double-height space with kitchen, dining, and living spaces ideal for entertaining. The exposed framing, large pendant lights, bumpout breakfast area, window seats, and bar area all help to create warmth and human-scale, and defined spaces for various uses. Two bedroom suites—a guest suite on the west side and the primary suite on the east—allow for aging in place and privacy for guests. The second floor includes a balcony overlooking the great room, a den, an office, a Jack-and-Jill-style bathroom, and three additional bedrooms for children.

The home was designed to meet “Pretty Good House” guidelines, including a robust building envelope that supports energy efficiency and comfort. With the addition of photovoltaic panels the home will be net zero, enhanced by the triple-glazed European-style tilt-turn windows and lift-and-slide doors. The wall system includes a combination of continuous exterior insulation, dense-pack cellulose, four inches of rigid insulation below the concrete slab, a combination of closed-cell spray foam and loose-fill cellulose in the roof, and high-performance tapes and sealants that all contribute to a low EUI (energy use intensity).

Architect: BRIBURN

Builder: Sylvain & Sevigny Custom Builders

Structural Engineer: Structural Integrity Consulting Engineers

Interior Designer: Samantha S. Pappas Design

Kitchen Designer: Balance Design Studio

Landscape Installation: Gnome Landscape, Design, Masonry & Maintenance

Photographer: François Gagné

Location: Falmouth

Completed: 2022