

A bayside BLESSING

A HOME ON THE POINT
FRAMES SPECTACULAR VISTAS

*When the homeowners
of a 1700s Pennsylvania*

farmhouse looked to build a new waterfront home on Cape Cod, their aim was to find a secluded, tranquil spot with ample land amid the beach and bluffs. They didn't have any one town in mind; they'd know the site when they found it. When they discovered a private peninsula in Orleans with broad, beautiful water vistas and 270-degree views of Little Pleasant Bay, they saw magic in it. This point, not far from the bustle of town yet worlds away, would become home. Its quiet splendor with peaceful inlets and coves and barrier beach islands would be their view. And they'd be grateful for it.

Team:

Architect: **Nicholaeff Architecture + Design**

Builder: **Kenneth Vona Construction**

Landscape Architect: **Gregory Lombardi Design**

Landscape Contractor: **Schumacher Companies**

Interior Designer: **Manuel de Santaren**

Kitchen Build: **Architectural Kitchens**

Stonework: **Cumar, Inc.**

Stone Masonry: **The O'Hara Company**

Photography: **Richard Mandelkorn**

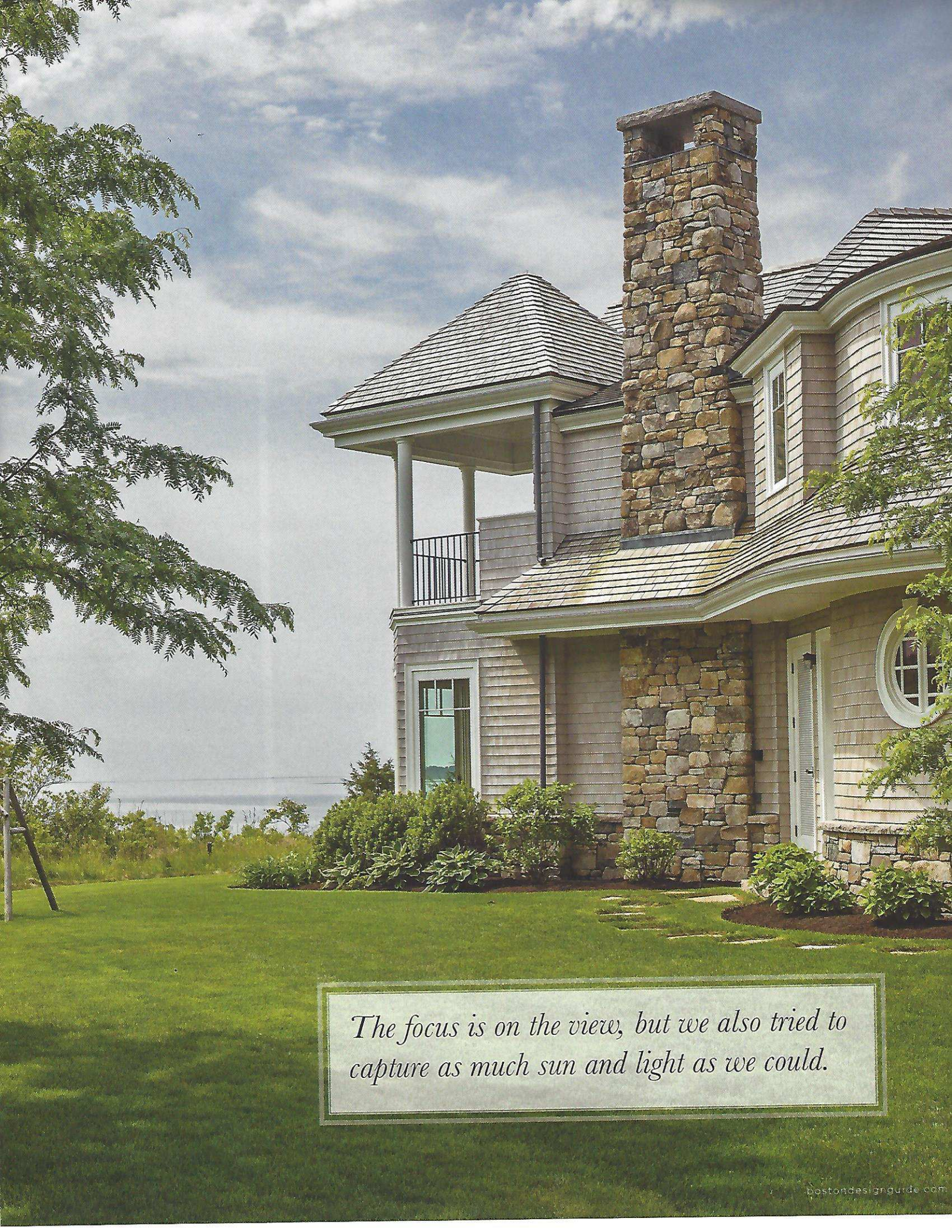
Text: **Sandy Giardi**



The house they'd build couldn't be an inward-looking cocoon that reflected their personalities or successes, not here. It would look outward, and be "full of quiet places where they can relax and enjoy what God created," says the client. They found just the team in Nicholaeff Architecture + Design, Kenneth Vona Construction, landscape architect Gregory Lombardi Design, landscape contractor Schumacher Companies and interior designer Manuel de Santaren to do it justice.

Those at Kenneth Vona Construction agree. "As is true with each new build, the success of any project is greatly determined by the team that makes the clients' dream home a reality. This job was no exception. From the homeowners' vision and the architect's intricate design to the craftsmanship that helped bring them both to life—this was a collaborative effort from start to finish. It is our privilege to work with talented craftsmen who put their all into these homes."





The focus is on the view, but we also tried to capture as much sun and light as we could.



The goal was to fashion an open, comfortable living space for family and friends that would capture the views from as many rooms as possible. Architect Doreve Nicholaeff didn't disappoint. Every space (even a tiny half bath) is a vantage to the landscape, and decks and balconies, some shaded, some in full sun, grace nearly every upper level room. The crowning glory is an extended cupola that ascends from the art studio for a lookout as high as the shingles.

"The views are so special because you're not just looking out at the open ocean. It's not just one thing. It's like looking at a painting," says Nicholaeff.

It's more than the bay, with its wild tangles of beach plum and sea grass, that delights. A sparkling spa and

pool terrace, lazy chaises under sycamore maples and a lush yard with plantings of lavender, daylilies and catmint, carefully cultivated by Gregory Lombardi Design and The Schumacher Companies, are also a treat to the eye.

In designing the grounds, Lombardi remembered what enchanted the client from the start. He deliberately contrasted the geometric with the naturalistic, so that you "feel the sense that the architecture is breaking down as it moves away," as if receding into nature.

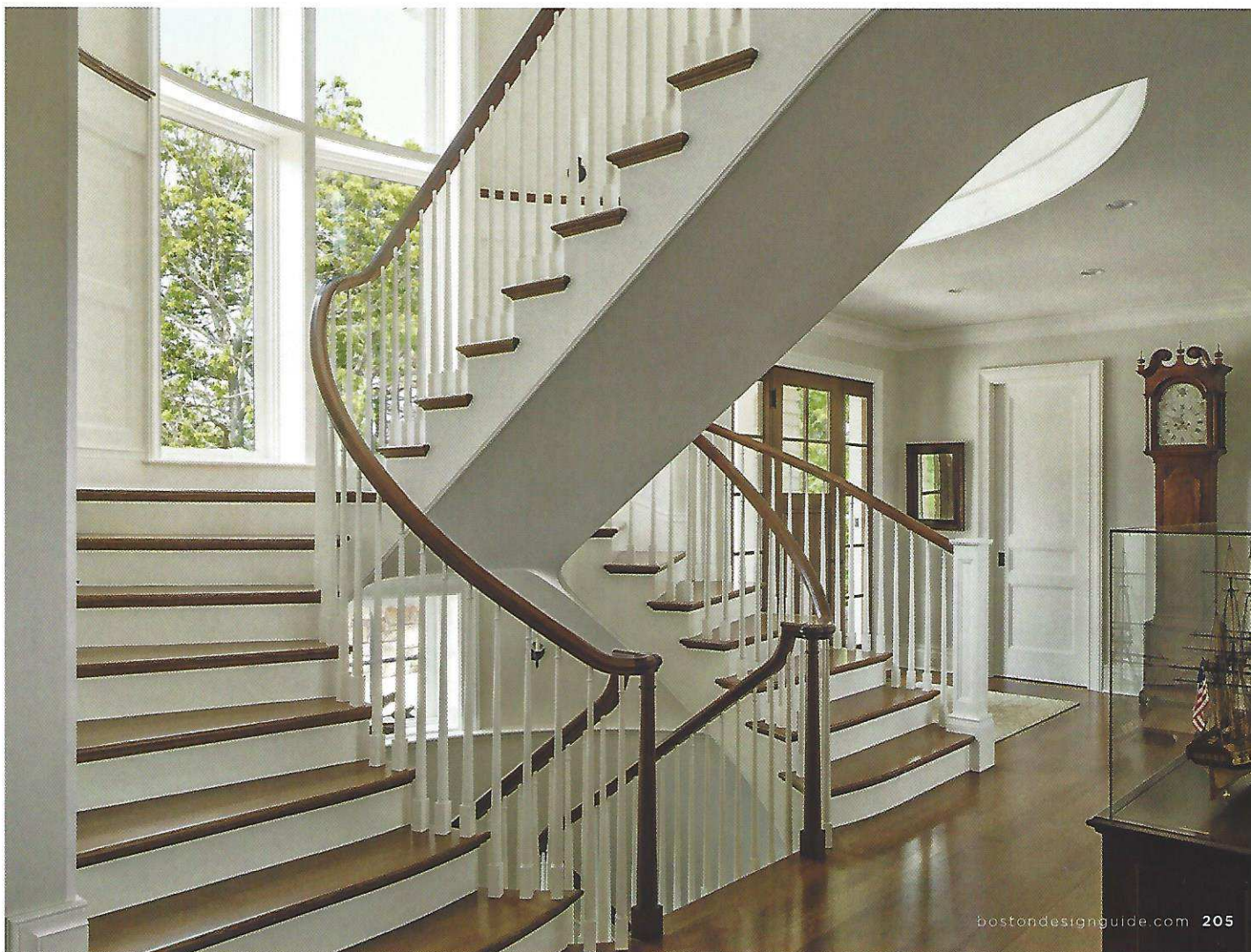
The home itself is also a vision, and a bold one. It's an airy, open setting full of angles and arcs that gently flow from one to the next. Its curves are calming and "make you feel like you're embraced," says Nicholaeff.

We deliberately contrasted the more organized geometric outdoor spaces with the naturalistic. You have the sense that the architecture is breaking down as it moves away, receding into nature.





Dulcet shades of blue and dune mingle with folk art finds. Spare window treatments highlight the beautiful casings and moldings. OPPOSITE: a rich, saturated Emperidor dark marble counter picks up the wood tones of the house; an arresting, gravity-defying flying staircase.



We were extremely fortunate to work alongside a client whose trust in our process and commitment to quality was unwavering. —KVC



In all of her homes, Nicholaeff creates designs that are a seamless series of courtyards. In this residence, a glorious atrium kitchen, created in conjunction with Architectural Kitchens, is at the core. It's equipped with a wall of windows, and feeds into a gracious living room on one side and dining room on the other.

All of the “moments and views”—whether art or the landscape—are set up. From the foyer, there is a glimpse of the views beyond, while the statement-making, flying circular staircase serves as the central piece for the journey to the semiprivate and private realms and lower and upper levels.

When fashioning the interiors, designer Manuel de Santaren kept these progressions in mind, and worked in the homeowners' wonderful collection of American art and antiques. “Without a doubt, we wanted quiet, soft transitions from space to space,” he offers, and a subdued color palette that fit the home's contemplative spaces.

For direction, de Santaren just looked outside. “The property gave you the information. Having seen it during different times of the year, different seasons, it was pretty clear that nature was giving me the clues as to what we should do.” Which was to give the homeowners—these “incredible stewards of the land,” says Lombardi—a special place to enjoy it.

