

# Moving On Up

An expansive harborfront residence gets a revamped roofline that accommodates more opportunities to take in the view.

Architecture: John Toates Architecture and Design, LLC  
Construction: McPhee Associates of Cape Cod  
Kitchen and bathroom countertops: Cape Cod Marble & Granite, Inc.  
Shutters and blinds: New England Shutter Mills, Inc.  
Photography: Amber Jane Barricman; BluWater Photography



With copper gutters, extensive trim details, and an abundance of custom elements, this renovated home in Harwich Port is full of nautical charm. Yet the current owners felt that the original Cape design did not capitalize on the second-floor square-footage or take advantage of the home's incredible harbor view. A renovation was done to improve the home's floor plan and maximize its view of the water while ensuring the home still fit within the context of the neighborhood in Harwich Port.

Removing the roof off of the second floor and creating a gambrel roof structure transformed the home by extending the ceilings and walls, allowing more sunlight

in. "We were forced to look down at the ground from the second floor because of how short the walls were," says Rob McPhee, president of McPhee Associates of Cape Cod, who was the builder for this project. "By making the roof and walls taller we let in more daylight to showcase their beautiful views."

Adding character to the home in the form of unique custom elements was another priority. The outdoor shower reflects elements of Cape Cod with carved wood shingles that emulate a tuna fish and an oval-shaped window in the bar area gives the illusion of a porthole on a ship. Extensive trim details on the exterior resemble a stately

(Clockwise from above) Sliding glass doors allow the kitchen to be constantly connected with the outdoors; a cozy seating area by the fireplace provide a place to take in the view when it's too cool to be on the deck; in the powder room, a mirror encrusted with shells hangs above a trough sink with copper faucets; a wicker bed pairs with shiplap to evoke a cottage feel in a bedroom; the living room's coffered ceiling gives a dimension to the all-white space; the ample outdoor shower has nautical light fixtures; the home's copper gutters will develop a rich patina over time.



Replete with an outdoor kitchen, the new patio is an idyllic spot to observe the activity on the harbor.

sea captain's home, says McPhee, and shallow coffered ceilings in the living room add another historic touch.

Reconfiguring the floor plan to create various vantage points give each room an exclusive vista and captures more of the water. "Framing different views through the windows out to the harbor and the Nantucket Sound highlights different views in different areas," says Patrick McDonough, senior project manager for John Toates Architecture and Design and lead architect for this project. "A bedroom upstairs has a great reading niche with a large window that captures a view of the harbor and dock."

Cape Cod Marble & Granite created a white waterfall edge island counter for the airy, light-filled, kitchen. A painted white brick wall behind the cooktop and a custom latch window above the sink opens out to the patio, offering a view out to the harbor. The homeowners, who wanted a local manufacturer to craft and install the home's interior and exterior shutters, tapped Karl Ivester of New England Shutter Mills to do the job.

The kitchen, living room, and dining room connect and flow visually without an open floor plan, maintaining the home's historic feel. "There's a sense that the walls kind of dissolve, but it's still a traditional spatial design," says John Toates, owner and principal of John Toates Architecture and Design.

Creating guest quarters above the garage with a bedroom and bathroom was also part of the renovation, along with adding a patio and outdoor kitchen. "Bringing the vision our clients had to life and seeing the transformation from the old to the new was an incredible process," says McPhee.