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HOUSE

DESIGN • ARCHITECTURE • LIFESTYLE

A Sense of Place



A large, two-story house with a wrap-around porch. The house features light-colored horizontal siding and white trim around the windows and doors. The porch has a dark wooden roof and white columns. A stone fireplace is visible on the left side of the porch. The house is surrounded by a well-manicured lawn and some landscaping.

As an architect working on a residential project, the responsibilities include bringing the client's ideas into reality and making their house feel like a home, in essence creating for them a place that is uniquely theirs.

It is not very often that a waterfront property on Long Island has a view that is not facing across a canal into another backyard. With views of a golf course and the Meadowbrook Bridge in the distance, the richness of the site had to be taken advantage of and brought inside. With the use of windows and transoms, the architect, Eric Kupferberg, was able to use large glass areas and still present a more traditional styling and scale to the home. These were just a few of the design ideas carried out in this recently completed project.

With this design, capturing the view – and creating places to enjoy them – were crucial to a successful design solu-

tion. At the onset of the design process, the client was presented with the concept of third floor mezzanines. Two were proposed, one that opens up to the master bedroom, and another that opens to the center hall. These “extra” spaces were located to further capture the views on a third floor and also to allow for a work area off of the master bedroom and a smaller play room for the kids.

Working within the maximum height allowed, the central foyer, with its grand sweeping stairs, rises up 29 feet. As one



would expect, when you enter the foyer, your eyes are drawn upward to the ceiling beams and chandelier, design elements that were crucial to creating a focal point worthy of this grand space. In order to appreciate this space as more than just a series of corridors and stairs, a place to enjoy it was needed. Eric Kupferberg



designed this space to be an open yet intimate setting. While this space sits centered on the second floor in this magnificent hall, it allows the homeowners a place to sit, a place to stop, and take in their home. The personal scale of the sitting area and other of the architect's intentions throughout the home were further enhanced by the interior designer, Caroline Wilks.

The exterior patios in the rear were also designed with this same sense of proportion and intimacy. The sweeping overhangs, allow for covered sitting areas, that open up to the waterfront. The patio, designed to be level with the interior floor, with French doors, creates a continuity and flow from inside to out. There is even a fire pit on the patio for those cooler evenings. Working with Sentry Electric of Freeport, the area is lit with cast iron lighting that not only provides a warm glow, but also further enhances the intimate scale of this outdoor place.



Back inside, the dining area is almost entirely glass, and creates an al fresco feeling to every meal. Aide from the four French doors, the transoms allowed for a more traditional and intimate scale that would have been lost with larger unbroken expanses of glass.

With the master bedroom in the rear overlooking the water, this space needed special elements to enhance the views. Eric Kupferberg designed a Juliet balcony with French doors to bring the sea breezes right into the room. The turreted roof on the outside creates the faceted cathedral ceiling, thus further defining an area to sit and giving the room more character. ■



Architect: Eric Kupferberg, R.A.
Interior Designer: Caroline Wilks
General Contractor: Gary Draghi Contracting