

NEW ENGLAND

FINE



LIVING

LUXURY HOMES

LIFESTYLE & LIVING



SUMMER 2015  
Display Until September 1



*Inside...*

**An Upscale Island Getaway \* Outdoor Living & Entertaining  
Secure Your Financial Future \* A Hidden Historical Find**



# KEY ELEMENTS



*Make Outdoor Living and Entertaining*

# A Delight

*Written by Diane Parazin*



**T**here's a lot to love about outdoor living, particularly in New England, where the climate isn't warm and inviting year-round. Harsh winters leave us dreaming of pools, patios and open-air living rooms, where we can have fun and savor the sun and warm temperatures.

Architect Patrick Ahearn, says outdoor spaces that harmonize backyard landscaping, views and vistas make for the most enjoyable places in which to spend time.

“Creating the right outdoor opportunity can make a home an incredibly successful place to visit and live in,” he says.

Location: Martha's Vineyard  
Architect: Patrick Ahearn  
Photographer: Greg Premru



## BRING THE INDOORS OUT

Outdoor living and entertainment spaces can be created by taking advantage of a few key design elements, including the concept of bringing the inside out. Luxurious living rooms under ceilinged porches make for great outdoor living spaces.

“It’s all about scale” says Ahearn. “When designing an outdoor space, think about the scale of the space and how it relates to the environment you’re trying to create. It is key to have the flow of the outdoor and the indoor space work well together.”

Ahearn does just that with this property, a large home on Martha’s Vineyard with distant water views (shown on page 23). The use of multiple columns is reflective of the home’s Gambrel architecture. Red brick on the fireplace and oversized bluestone on the floor complement the more formal characteristics of the home.

Scale is just as essential to Architect Mat Cummings.

“If people are dwarfed, they don’t feel secure,” Cummings said. For this beautiful outdoor living space in Lynnfield, Massachusetts (below), Cummings balanced a large tree that stands just outside the verandah with the doubled-sided stone fireplace to make it feel comfortable. Fir bead board ceilings and mahogany decking cozy up the space.

Location: Lynnfield, MA / Architect: Mat Cummings of Cummings Architects / Photographer: Eric Roth



Location: Mattapoisett, MA

Architect: Beth McDougal of McDougal Architects

Photographer: Blind Dog Studios







## TIERED SPACES PROVIDE ENTERTAINMENT OPTIONS

Porches, balconies, patios and lawns, all working together can create an enticing multi-tiered living space.

Beth McDougal, of McDougal Architects, uses balconies to great success in this Mattapoisett, Massachusetts home (above, left). The outdoor spaces can be accessed from each room of the house, giving the homeowners a wide variety of options when planning family gatherings. The deck opens to a lush lawn, which leads to the beach via a whimsical bridge, further adding to the entertainment.

In this striking Winchester, Massachusetts Victorian (above, right), Cummings uses different materials to clearly define the patio and porch spaces, creating a hierarchy. Cummings says that such a transition makes each space feel intimate, while creating variety through familiarity.

Location: Winchester, MA  
 Architect: Mat Cummings of  
 Cummings Architects  
 Photographer: Eric Roth

## POOLS – THE LIQUID SHOWPIECE

A swimming pool can be the liquid showpiece of any outdoor space, turning your home into a decadent escape.

In this home on Eel Pond Overlook in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts (right), Ahearn designed the pool to be in line of sight with the indoors.

“What you see when you look out helps define the scale and the character of that outdoor space,” said Ahearn. “If you’re in the living room and you’re looking out to the swimming pool, it should offer a sense of organization and alignment with a picture window, or a pair of French glass doors, from the house.”

Location: Martha's Vineyard / Architect: Patrick Ahearn / Photographer: Greg Premru







Location: Mattapoisett, MA / Architect: Beth McDougal of McDougal Architects / Photographer: Andrew DeLory

Glass doors, leading out to a pool, play an important role in this Mattapoisett, Massachusetts home (above). With the family with adult children in mind during the design, McDougal made the pool accessible from the family and living room, the library, and a game area, which is the main attraction of the outdoor space. The result, according to McDougal, is a place where everyone wants to come home to, time and time again.

Like McDougal's Mattapoisett home, this Cummings-designed West Newbury, Massachusetts home (left) provides entry to the pool and outdoor area from multiple rooms. The house is designed to gradually open from indoors to outdoors. A card room is a transitional space from the interior living area and opens into a bar, which shifts into a family living space. The family area can be completely opened to the outside, allowing the homeowners and their guest to enjoy an all-inclusive indoor/outdoor experience. Glass windows throughout the indoors allow the pool to remain a focal point.



Location: West Newbury, MA / Architect: Mat Cummings of Cummings Architects / Photographer: Eric Roth

## Resources

### Patrick Ahearn

Boston, MA  
 (617) 266-1710  
 Martha's Vineyard, MA  
 (508) 939-9312  
[www.patrickahearn.com](http://www.patrickahearn.com)

### Mat Cummings

Cummings Architects  
 Ipswich, MA  
 (978) 356-5026  
[www.cummingsarchitects.com](http://www.cummingsarchitects.com)

### Beth McDougal

McDougal Architects  
 Boston, MA  
 (617) 292-2724  
[mcdougalarchitects.com](http://mcdougalarchitects.com)







Location: Martha's Vineyard / Architect: Patrick Ahearn

Photographer: Greg Premru

## USE FIRE TO FUEL THE PARTY

Like water, fire plays an essential role in New England outdoor living and allows homeowners to spark up some outdoor bonding time.

"Fire is an increasingly important outdoor element in New England," said Ahearn. "People tend to gather around an open flame."

This home, also on Martha's Vineyard (above), offers a fireplace that provides warmth, allowing the homeowners to use the space into the night, as well as into the colder seasons. The light brick and open concept complement the more relaxed feel of the home.

Knowing that people congregate around fire, Cummings recently added a large red-brick fireplace to his own home (below).

"A fireplace close to the home will generally draw people out of the busy kitchen and into the outdoors," he says.

Cummings designed the fireplace as an intimate part of the back façade of the home, with windows framing the chimney, and a circular

Location: Ipswich, MA / Architect: Mat Cummings of Cummings Architects

Photographer: Cynthia August



seating area surrounding the fireplace. This lets his family and friends feel as though the exterior patio space is a room unto itself.

Whether you open up the views to your outdoor features, or add an outdoor fireplace to warm your patio, enhancing your outdoor living spaces is a great way to make the most of your outdoor time. \*

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