



A Kitchen Worth the Wait



The original space was dated with a lack of function. The original portion of the residence had served its purpose and was torn down. In its place, a new addition opens the interior of the home up to its natural environment. Perched atop the highest elevation on the property, the interior spaces have 180 degree views to the outside. Cathedral ceilings and high windows give a light, open and airy feeling to the space. The white cabinets with white stone counters and stainless appliances create an elegant and sophisticated backdrop to the otherwise unobstructed views and a wood burning fireplace with its natural stone surround creates a stunning focal point in the adjacent sitting area. The exterior chimney provides an impressive sculptural element to the landscape and the lower exterior stone patio creates a bridge from structure to nature while providing a place to relax and entertain within the surrounding wildlife refuge.



House Information:

Location: Rye, N.H.

Program: The homeowner is a fine home builder and like the story of the shoemaker whose children had no shoes, his own kitchen had been neglected for many years. One request made by the owners was to "bring the landscape in" to the great room/kitchen.

Sustainable Design Elements:

- High efficiency foam insulation was added on the first floor
- Vacuum tube solar collectors were roof mounted with polyethylene glycol running to a heat exchanger and 115 gallon solar hot water tank in the basement
- An AC pump provides "on the grid" hot water operation while a DC pump runs in series to provide "off the grid" operation
- Roof-mounted photovoltaic panels back feed the system as well as power essentials during grid outages