

Oceanfront Gambrel



Steps from the water, this 1840s gambrel located in a New England seafaring community, was a perfect location for a newly-engaged, water loving couple! The home had been remodeled 15 years ago, deleting some of its original character, and the owners wished to bring back more of the home's original style.

TMS worked with the owners on a redesign of the historic home, keeping some elements and reworking others. A large fireplace divided the kitchen and as the architect explained "There are five fireplaces in the house but this one just dominated the room and chopped up the space. Removing it allowed us to expand the kitchen with a better layout and more room for entertaining."



The home now has a large kitchen that flows into the dining and living room areas. The home has two first floor living rooms separated by a Rumford fireplace. The second living room connects to a glassed-in porch that has been insulated, heated and equipped with new operable windows and serves as a year-round retreat.

Nautical motifs and an ocean color palette reinforce the home's seaside location. The master bedroom is located at the top of the house and is built like a ship's cabin with original tongue-and-groove paneling on the walls, built-ins and banks of windows that take full advantage of the spectacular site. As the homeowner said "It is literally like being on a ship in the ocean."

House Information:

Location: Newburyport, MA

Innovative Building

Components: *The third floor has an unusual element that the homeowners have come to appreciate - there is a hatch to a rooftop deck... perfect for sunset cocktails. There is also a second floor deck and a backyard patio, so entertaining can start at the top of the house and work its way down to the ground floor.*

The home is located across from a popular boat launch so it was important to create a sense of privacy. A stone wall was added around the front and a patio to the side which now clearly define the boundaries of the home.