

COASTAL LIVING[®]

WEEKEND PARADISE!

**THE BEST SEASIDE
COTTAGE RENTALS**

**CREATIVE
DESIGN
SOLUTIONS**

**16 pages
of eco-savvy
style**

**DELICIOUS!
SECRET
RECIPES**
from five
top coastal
chefs

plus
spring
beauty
essentials

APRIL 2010

ECO-SAVVY IDEA

No hallways or corridors means the open kitchen/dining/living space upstairs helps this compact house live larger than its 2,400 square feet.

eco-style #2

modest footprint, major function

On Block Island, Rhode Island, architect Jim Estes designs a simple shelter from sun and wind that lives light on the land





ON THE HOUSE

STYLE modern version of a classic New England farmhouse

SPACE 2,400 square feet, including four bedrooms and three baths, broken into two wings (main and guest) that are joined by an open-air lookout tower and staircase

SETTING Block Island, a popular summer destination for New York and New England families, just a short ferry ride from Newport, Rhode Island

VIEW Long Island Sound from the second-story living spaces and the entire island from the tower

meet the owners

A New York couple with two adult sons approached Jim Estes, principal of Newport, Rhode Island-based Estes/Twombly Architects, about designing a beach retreat on Block Island with one goal in mind: simplicity. Because they planned to use the house only on weekends and vacations, they wanted a low-maintenance getaway without a single square inch of unused space. They also wanted something that would be cozy enough for just the two of them but also accommodate visiting children and grandchildren. Last but not least, they wanted their time spent at the beach to be as connected to nature as possible. Known for his warm, uncomplicated houses with humble but smart floor plans, Jim proved just the architect to make their fantasy a reality.

their green dream

Although not sheathed in solar panels or outfitted with wind turbines, this modest house exemplifies the green building principle of minimizing >

ECO-SAVVY IDEA

Jim left the structural rafters exposed, but layered 4½ inches of closed-cell foam insulation between the ceiling and the roof, providing protection from the island's blustering winds.





ECO-SAVVY IDEAS

- Dividing the house into two distinct wings allows the owners to heat, cool, and supply power to only the space they're using.
- The L-shaped house is oriented to the southeast so that the courtyard is sheltered from the sun and from strong winds out of the northwest.
- Jim used leftover building materials, such as sheets of plywood, a stair tread, and galvanized pipes, to create a pegboard wall and mudroom bench in the entry (right).

climate factors

The house sits on a small hilltop a quarter-mile from the ocean. To maximize the spectacular views to the west and south, Jim designed an "upside-down house," with the main wing's living spaces on the second floor and the bedrooms on the ground floor. A west-facing, wraparound

human impact on nature. Just 2,400 square feet, the cottage's open, hardworking floor plan makes the most of its size with built-in shelves and furnishings, few space-consuming hallways, and pegboards instead of closets. To satisfy his clients'

desire for useful, flexible spaces, Jim designed an L-shaped house with two wings—one for the main house and one for guests—connected by an open-air tower. Separating the two wings allows the clients to heat, cool, and supply power

to only the main house when it's just the two of them. The design not only saves them money but also prevents them from wasting energy. Most importantly, the house responds to, rather than imposes itself on, the natural surroundings.

Wed. 6:21 p.m.
Bachman's Sparrow

Fri. 6:45 a.m.
Red-headed Woodpecker

Sat. 1:23 p.m.
Indigo Bunting





BARN DOORS
CONCEAL BIKE
AND KAYAK
STORAGE

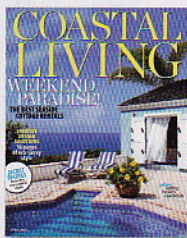
deck offers prime sunset views; exaggerated eaves shade that side of the house from harsh afternoon light. Most of the large windows face west and south, which keeps interiors warm year-round.

Harnessing and moderating sunlight was a delicate balance, but the prevailing challenge Jim faced was the wind. Houses on Block Island require additional insulation to mitigate howling

gusts, especially in winter. To sneak in extra insulation while preserving his open plan's few walls and exposed rafters, Jim layered closed-cell insulation between the second-floor ceiling and roof. Because he oriented the L-shaped building so that its open courtyard faces southeast, the structure itself shields against winds from the west and north. The house's simple shed roofs ➤

treasure hunting

WHERE TO FIND WHAT'S SHOWN IN THIS ISSUE



COVER: Designer Twila Wilson, Twila Wilson & Associates; 340/778-4882 or twilawilson.com. For a similar chaise, try Santana Teak Single Chaise with cushion in Ink Blue Classic Stripe, Pottery Barn; 888/779-5176 or potterybarn.com.

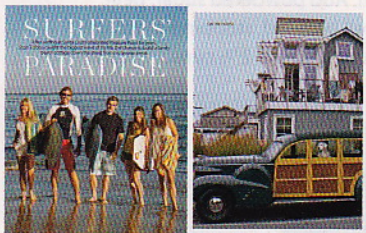


EDGY & EFFICIENT **page 31:** Architectural designer Eva Sobesky, EIS Studio; 310/392-8887 or eisstudio.com. Campion Walker Garden Design; 310/392-3535 or campionwalker.com. Builder Bruce Brown, Brown/Osvaldsson Builders,

Inc.; 310/392-8899 or bob-inc.com. Living room, **pages 31 and 34:** Walls in Super White, Benjamin Moore; benjaminmoore.com (M). Noguchi coffee table, Herman Miller; hermanmiller.com (M). George Nelson Bubble Lamps, Y Lighting; 866/428-9289 or ylighting.com. Cubix sofa in Chocolate Passion Suede, The Sofa Company; thesofaco.com. Pillows, Pottery Barn; 888/779-5176 or potterybarn.com. Art, Jackie Chang; jackiechang.net (C). Kitchen, **page 34:** Bertoia bar stools, Design Within Reach; 800/944-2233 or dwr.com. Cabinetry, Hardwood Habitat; 310/525-1202 or hardwoodhabitat.com (C). Office, **page 34:** Table designed by Eva Sobesky and built by Hardwood Habitat. Karim Rashid Oh! Chair, The Container Store; 888/266-8246 or containerstore.com. Art, Russell Crotty, CRG Gallery; crggallery.com (C). Bedroom, **page 36:** Bedding, Calvin Klein; 866/513-0513 or calvinklein.com. Built-ins, Hardwood Habitat (C). Bath, **page 36:** Cabinetry, Hardwood Habitat (C). Hastings Catalano Zero 50 square sinks, Snyder Diamond; snyderdiamond.com (M). Tub, Kohler; 800/456-4537 or kohler.com. Sink and Meta tub fixtures, Dornbracht; dornbracht.com (M).

MODEST FOOTPRINT, MAJOR FUNCTION **page 40:** Architect Jim Estes, Estes/Twombly; 401/848-2818 or estestwombly.com. Designer Mary Fran Brassard, Brassard Design Associates; 732/741-3773 or brassarddesigns.com.

PREFAB-ULOUS SURF Shack **page 50:** Designer/contractor Hartman Kable, Kable Design | Build; 206/915-4272 or surfshackbox.com.



SURFERS' PARADISE **page 92:** Architect Noel Cross; 408/591-5795 or nfcarchitect.com. Construction project manager Dan Singleton, The Conrado Company; 408/867-2095 or conrado.com. Interior designer Gina Viscusi, Viscusi Elson Interior Design; 650/941-7800 or veinteriordesign.com. Digital photographs/paintings, Teresa Nora Trobpe; imagingbyt.com. Landscape designer Christopher Yates Design; 510/601-1499 or christopheryatesdesign.com. Exterior, **page 93:** Siding in Night Train (1567), Benjamin Moore; 888/236-6667 or benjaminmoore.com (M). Kitchen, **page 94:** Stairwell in Boothbay Gray (HC-165) and kitchen walls in Mellowed Ivory (2149-50), Benjamin Moore (M). For a similar range, try ABT; 866/294-1002 or abt.com. Custom bar stools, Plantation; 323/930-5674 or plantationdesign.com. Pendant lights, Juliska, 888/414-8448 or juliska.com (M). Living room, **page 95:** Walls in Boothbay Gray (HC-165), Benjamin Moore (M). Sofa, A. Rudin; 415/431-5021 or arudin.com (M). Tango sofa upholstery in Slate, Cowtan & Tout; 212/647-6900 or cowtan.com (D). Rug, Floordesign; 415/626-1005



YOU ASKED, WE ANSWERED!

"SAVED BY SALVAGE"

You really loved this story, from our Dec/Jan 2010 issue (page 36)—we've heard lots of great feedback about it! For more details, contact the talented team behind the revitalized Maine cottage: Paul Gosselin, Salmon Falls Architecture; 207/283-4247 or salmonfallsarch.com. Tim Spang, Spang Builders, Inc.; 207/967-2100 or spangbuilders.com.

or floordesign.biz (D). Master bedroom, **page 96:** Walls in Antique Jade (465), Benjamin Moore (M). Headboard, West Elm; 888/922-4119 or westelm.com. Kew shade fabric in Green, Osborne & Little; 203/359-1500 or osborneandlittle.com (D). Stringline curtain fabric in Spa, Kravet; 800/645-9068 or kravet.com (D). Love seat, Crate & Barrel; 800/967-6696 or crateandbarrel.com. Bunkroom, **page 97:** Walls in Wythe Blue (HC-143), Benjamin Moore (M). Quilts, The Company Store; 800/323-8000 or thecompanystore.com. Belmont pillow fabric in Blue/Green, Cowtan & Tout (D). Sconces, Bruck Lighting; 714/259-9959 or www.brucklighting.com (M). Fire pit, **page 98:** Adirondack chairs, Pier 1 Imports; 800/245-4595 or pier1.com.

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FASHION UPDATE! PAGE 28

SPRING BREAK ESSENTIALS FROM MICHAEL KORS



Linen Tunic in Washed Indigo, \$99.50, and Loden Two-Piece Bikini with hammered hardware, \$243, MICHAEL Michael Kors; 866/709-5677 or at select Michael Kors boutiques

KEY

- (M) Manufacturer, for retailer info
- (C) Commissioned by artist/craftsperson
- (D) Designer or architect, for availability