



Casco Bay Calm

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The homeowners travel extensively for business. The goal for the home, particularly the owners' suite, was to provide a much-deserved respite from many hours of sitting on planes and running through airports. Designer Bob Francisco wanted the owners' suite to feel like a series of rooms that one might find in a well-appointed seaside bed-and-breakfast. The homeowners wanted coastal references but nothing overtly nautical. The colors and material selections are all inspired by the rocky coastline and water beyond; the owners' suite celebrates a view of Casco Bay from both the bedroom and the bathroom. The goal of the homeowners was to feel the exterior flowing into the interior.

Property line setbacks were a major challenge when laying out the configuration of the owners' suite. The existing home was located within the setback, and Knickerbocker Group was not allowed to add any building volume within the setback. This restriction called for some creativity with the room layouts. Incorporating new and old areas under tricky existing rooflines and in parts where expansion was allowed was a big part of space planning.

The process of designing the owners' suite and the rest of Drew House was one of collaboration. The homeowner was very hands-on with every decision, from room layout to the selection of cabinet hardware. The process involved a lot of listening, not only to the homeowners but also to the home itself. Now the owners' suite seamlessly blends new spaces with those of a 100-year-old home. The philosophy was to preserve, repurpose, and make an old place new again without losing the soul that can only come from being lived in and loved over many years.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DARREN SETLOW

