

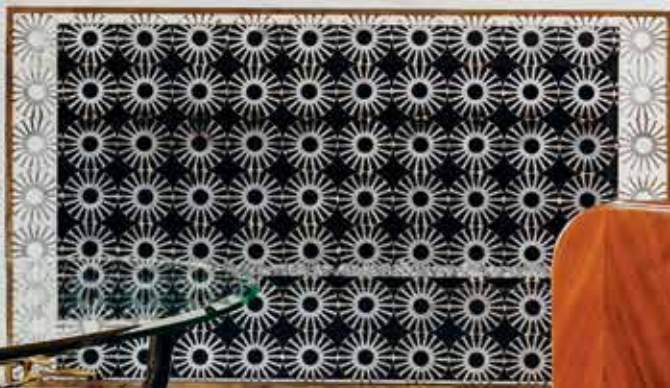
New England HOME

Celebrating Fine Design, Architecture, and Building



Artful Rest

AN ODE TO
THE OASIS



Here & There

DESIGN DISCOVERIES FROM AROUND NEW ENGLAND

Framed offsite and assembled on the shore of Lake Champlain, this versatile shed provides a haven for personal pursuits in an undisturbed landscape.



DESIGN INTERVENTION

These three inspirational outbuildings are made for moments when “accessory” feels a lot like “necessity.” BY DEBRA JUDGE SILBER

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: The shed's minimalist interior accentuates the lush surroundings visible through its six-foot-square window and twelve-foot-wide sliding door; a cantilevered deck stretches toward the lake. On approach, the open door is visible; when closed, it blends into the siding, with its steel steps the only hint to its location. Built on the footprint of an old pumphouse, the shed uses the existing electrical service for lighting and wifi; a woodburning stove set on a glass hearth provides heat.



a solitary escape conducive to yoga, meditation, and other personal pursuits—which, with the advent of the pandemic, would also include Zoom calls. Visual interruptions were intentionally minimized: “The design is in what’s not there,” Frechette explains. Aside from the bell-shaped pendants above and curved wooden wall hooks, the room holds only a woodburning stove, set on a glass hearth so as not to break the rhythm of the floor. Heaton likewise gauged the grooves of the pine walls to allow switch plates to disappear. “There are so few details,” the architect says, “the details we did do had to count.”

INNER PEACE

The seemingly windowless shed tucked among the cedars ringing Lake Champlain fades into the landscape, as anonymous outbuildings often do. “If you were to walk by it, you’d wonder what it was,” says designer Mika Frechette. But open the door hidden amid the vertical siding, and you can feel reality shift: the interior is clean and bright, with wide openings framing the woodlands and lake, and the walls and ceiling wrapped in channel rustic pine. Working with architect Joan Heaton, Frechette envisioned the small building as

INTERIOR DESIGN: Mika Frechette, Stoneledge Farm + Home

ARCHITECTURE: Joan Heaton, Joan Heaton Architects

BUILDER: Silver Maple Construction

LANDSCAPE DESIGN: Wagner Hodgson Landscape Architecture

PHOTOGRAPHY: Jim Westphalen

