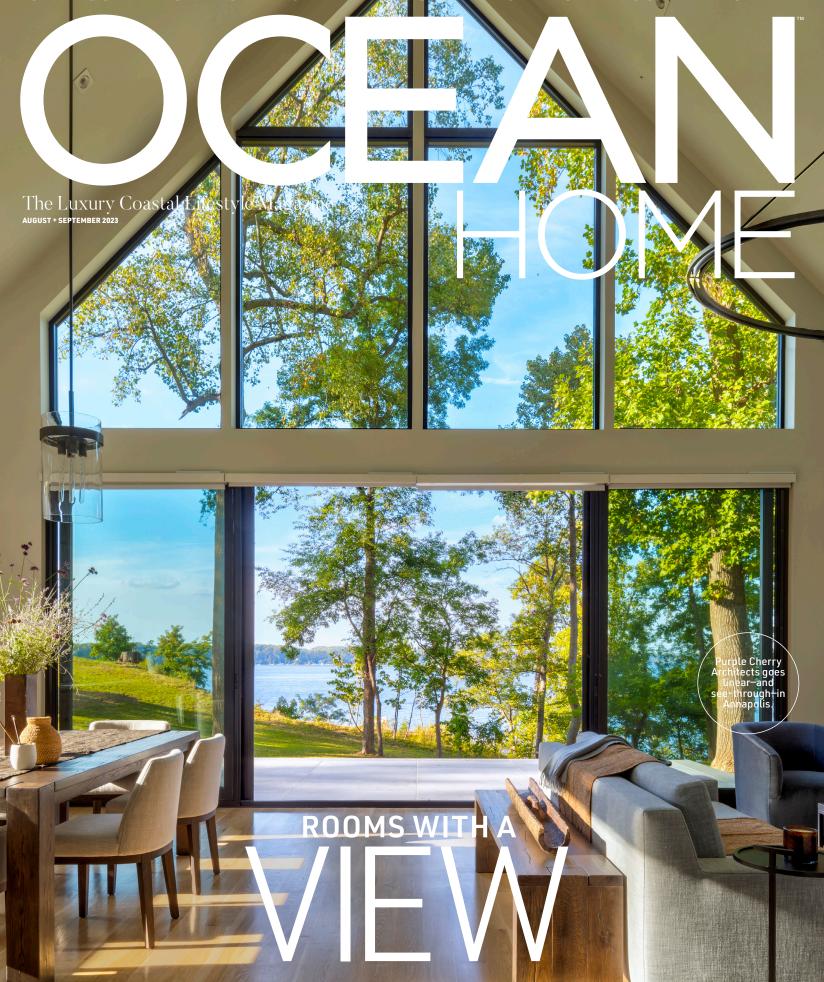
## CAPE COD MIDCENTURY MODERN / SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEMPORARY





## ALL IN A LINE

A CONTEMPORARY HAVEN IN ANNAPOLIS HIGHLIGHTS A LIFETIME OF TREASURES WITH RESTRAINT.

37

oodcliff, a stone and nickel gap contemporary with a metal roof designed by Cathy Purple Cherry for a retired energy executive and his wife, sits on a bluff 40 feet

above the Severn River, an estuary off the Chesapeake Bay in Annapolis. "The name is descriptive, but also references the street that the client's father grew up on in Richmond, Virginia," the architect says. Surrounded by tall trees and lush swaths of green lawn complete with Adirondack chairs and a flagpole, it is a picture-perfect, everyday retreat for someone who spent decades traveling the world.

The owners, who relocated from a Texas metropolis, relish the quieter pace of coastal living—Purple Cherry surmises they didn't landscape the river side of the property so that the husband could putter about on his tractor. They were also keen to pay tribute to their global adventures. "They wanted the house to be a living gallery," the founder and principal of Purple Cherry Architects says. "It's designed with clean lines and large walls against which they can display collections from their extensive travels."

The 6,300-square-foot home stretches nearly 160 feet east to west along the craggy cliff in what Purple Cherry calls a "fantastic long line." That said, this is no mere lowslung rectangle. The podlike design alternates between three one-story volumes with gable roofs oriented east-west and two doubleheight towers with gable roofs oriented northsouth, with a flat-roofed connector between them. The effect is lyrical and nearly symmetrical, save for a screened porch that juts north toward the water and a three-car garage that pushes south on the flip side.

That the eastern tower is the entry is clear, literally. Both the front and back façades are glass, from the foundation to the roof. That the house is see-through, from front to back along most of its length, was a significant aspect of the design. "All the primary spaces capture the view," Purple Cherry says, noting that the isolated site allows for such splendor.

From the low platform of a front porch, and with the water a straight shot ahead, 10-foot-tall glass doors open into the gallerylike space, its ceiling soaring to 28 feet at the



ridge. That the room is just 13 feet wide amplifies the impact.

Expanses of warm white walls showcase lifetimes of artifacts. There is a collection of antique copper plates that the husband's parents acquired when the family lived in Turkey and a grouping of carved camel bells from Djibouti, a small country in East Africa. Figural sculptures by Mozambique ceramicist Antique copper plates that the husband's parents acquired when the family lived in Turkey hang in the entry tower, which reaches 28 feet high at the center. A shallow bluestone patio runs in front of the primary suite at the left, while a more expansive entertaining patio runs from the entry tower, along the living room and kitchen, to the screened porch. The kitchen and living space share one room.



39



