

PORTFOLIO OF AWARD-WINNING ARCHITECTS

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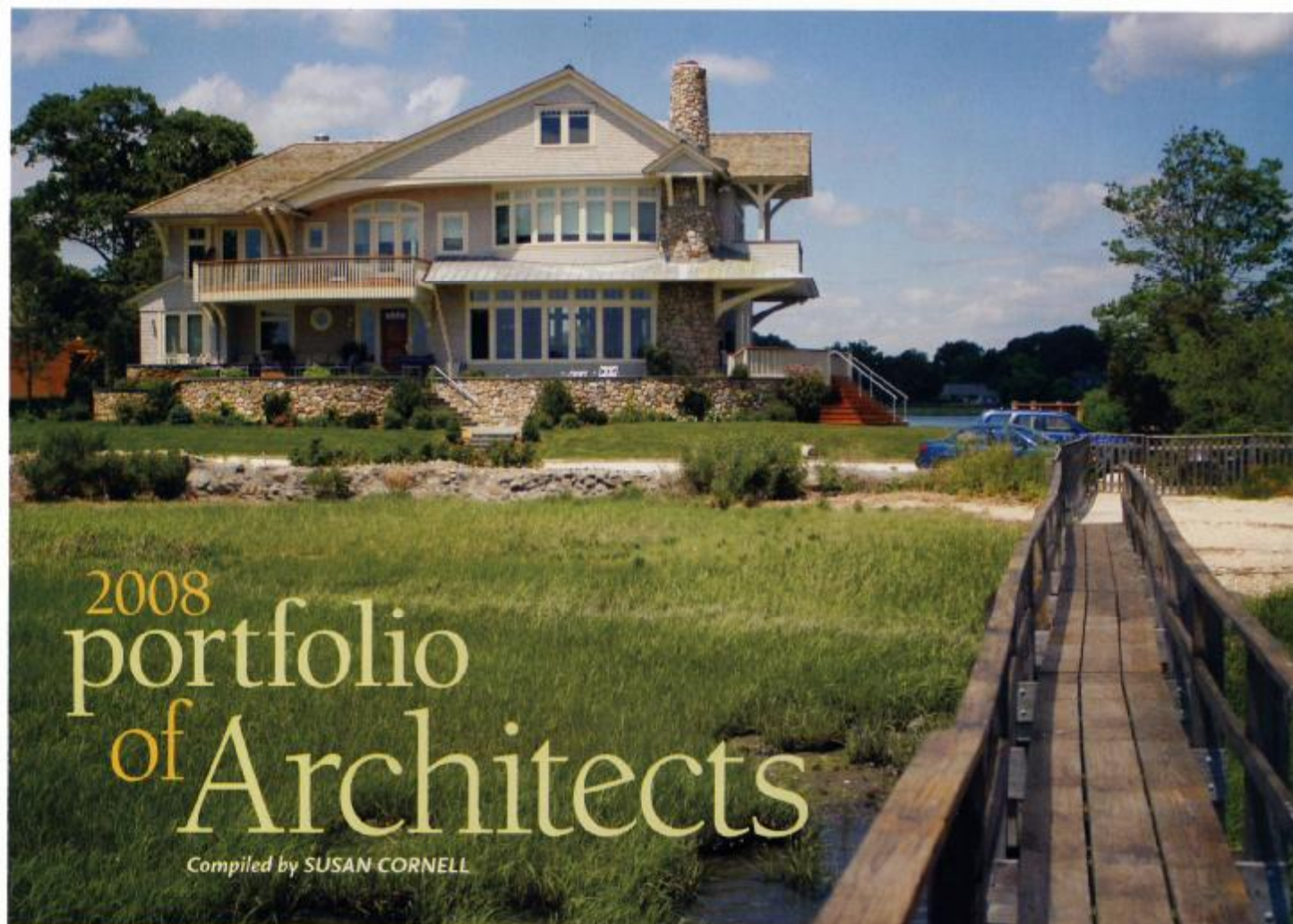
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THERE ARE MANY GOOD REASONS TO USE AN ARCHITECT WHEN PLANNING A NEW home, a substantial addition or renovation. As a trained designer, an architect can help you see possibilities, such as matching the overall design of a home to its site, solve problems creatively and manage projects efficiently. A good architect is well-versed in building codes and zoning laws, innovative materials and cost-effective construction methods, so working with one may actually save you time and/or money. There are hundreds of residential architects in Connecticut, and we're pleased to showcase some of the best in the pages that follow. We called on firms that had received awards recognition over the years—some by their peers, others by builders or the communities in which they work. We asked them to share their mission with our readers and tell what it is that makes them unique. It should be noted that there are many exceptional architects in Connecticut who choose not to submit their work for consideration of awards. Some told us they don't have time; others insist a satisfied client is the best award they could ever have. And yet, having one's work acknowledged is one measure of a professional's success, and so we are honored to present this portfolio.

**DUO DICKINSON,
ARCHITECT**

This house grabs views from its perch on a coastal harbor while drawing attention both on, and offshore. Balconies abound and its windows are protected by metal "rooflets," while stone anchors the house and ascends as a chimney. A mix of materials combines to form a symphony of shape and texture amid the surrounding salt marsh.



MARK P. FINLAY ARCHITECTS

This spacious farmhouse sits near a pasture in Kent. Red cedar roof shingles, painted board-and-batten siding and trim, red cedar columns and fieldstone chimneys accentuate the traditional gable roofs, dormers and cupola.

"skill in communicating with his clients" as well as his "experience with code compliance issues and knowledge of the permit process." The firm has a minimum of 15 projects in development every year, ranging from small residential renovations and additions to large new custom homes. Of note: A large residence to be built in Greenwich is the firm's first LEED-certified home, designed to generate "100 percent of its energy needs through alternative resources." Most important award: 2007 HOBI award for "Remodeled Home of the Year" located in Rowayton. (dconlonarchitects.com)

Robert T. Coolidge AIA. P.O. Box 2274, Branford, 06405. 203/483-1334. Principal Robert T. Coolidge's work includes designs for new spaces, rebuilds and renovations. Worked on 14 projects in 2007 and is best known for "solid basics: livable and workable spaces that are not too big or too small and are handsome to look at." Recently completed: New house on the water in Guilford with a "lighthouse" motif; its design approaches boat-like efficiency in the use of space. Of note: Mission-style makeover project involving the addition of a full second floor to a 1940s ranch house. Most important award: An AIA Connecticut Award in 1999 for a barn addition. (robertcoolidge.com)

Jarett M. Crooks Architects LLC. 51 Aspen La., Trumbull, 06611. 203/261-0556. A two-architect firm providing full architectural and interior design services, from new construction to additions, alterations and historic renovations. Had more than 50 projects in progress and "on the boards" in 2007. Recently completed: An addition and alteration to an existing home in Fairfield; the challenge was "to make the additions look like natural extensions." Most important award: First Place in Qualified Remodeler magazine's Master Design Award Contest for best "Exterior Facelift."

Duo Dickinson, Architect. 94 Bradley Rd., Madison, 06443. 203/245-0405. A custom residential practice completing approximately 40 projects a year. With more than 100 projects published, principal Duo Dickinson has also written six books on residential architecture and is a contributing writer on home design for *Money* magazine. The firm is presently working on 15 new houses, 30 renovations and additions, and five pro bono (or at-cost) projects. Recently completed: A burned-down house in Bethlehem that was replaced un-

ROB SANDERS ARCHITECTS

Perfect proportions prevail in this Second Empire-style home. The architect designed a grand, arched doorway, with doors crafted from mahogany, to open onto the restored entry hall of the home.



DAVID SLOANE

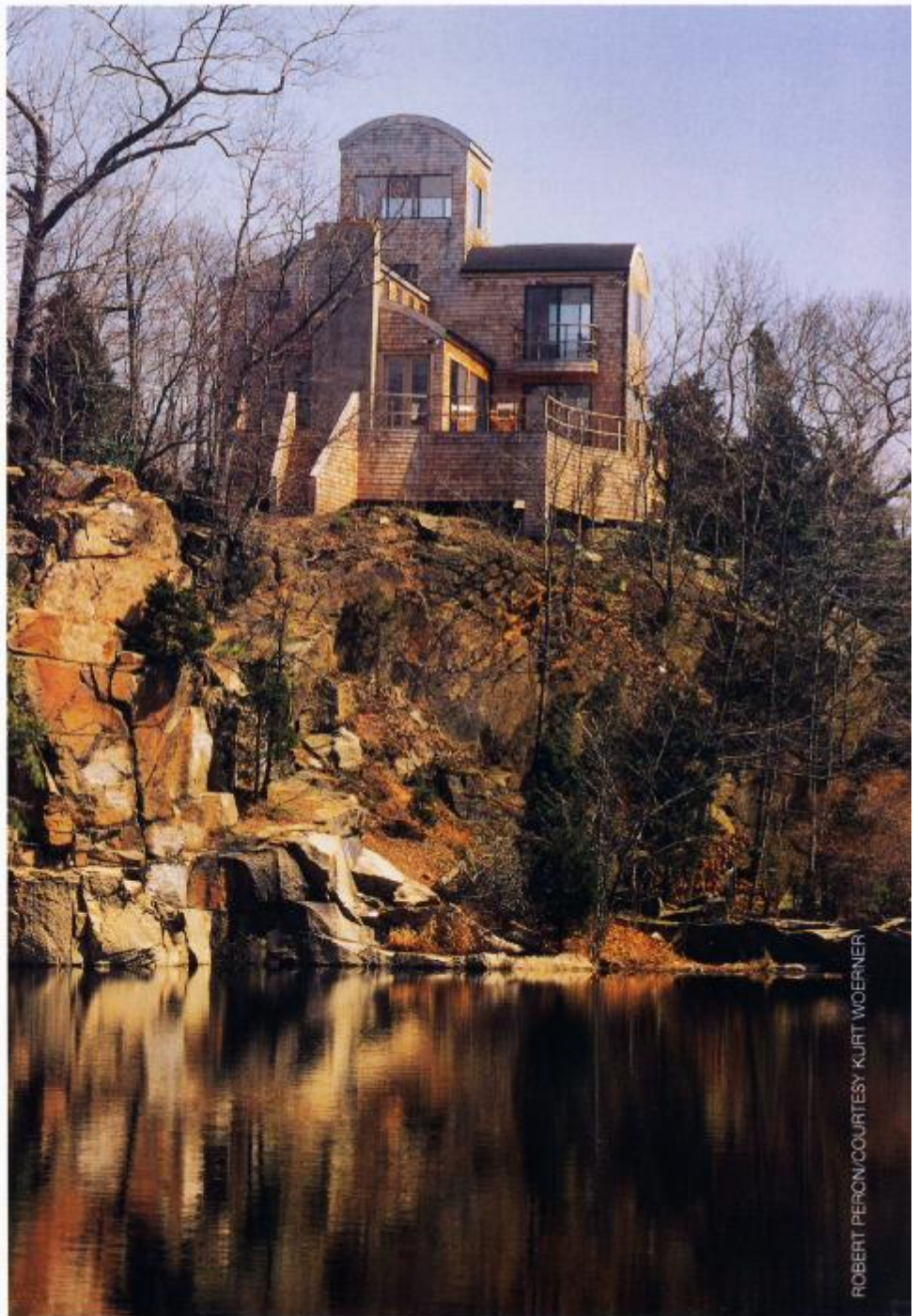
der an extraordinarily tight budget. This project was selected for the annual *Fine Homebuilding Houses* issue. (duodickinson.com)

Faesy-Smith Architects. 523 Danbury Rd., Wilton, 06897. 203/834-2724. Works on 30 to 40 projects a year. Much of the firm's work is residential, including many historic preservation projects. Recently completed: A 1775 home in the historic district of Wilton. The substantial addition matches the detailing and scale of the original home, and great attention was given to the health of the owners with the use of environmentally friendly materials. Of note: Uses local materials and craftsmen, and strives for energy efficiency beyond code requirements. The firm has received awards from the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Association of Homebuilders. (faesy-smith.com.)

Mark P. Finlay Architects AIA. 96 Old Post Rd. Suite 200, Southport, 06890. 203/254-2388. An eight-architect firm (with one landscape architect and four interior designers). Known for custom residential work. Worked on about 27 ongoing jobs in 2007. Recently completed: An 18,000-square foot Shingle-style home on seven acres of waterfront property in Southport, "scaled and proportioned to the site and referential to vernacular architecture." Most important award: Fairfield Center Streetscape Award, given in 1984 for the redesign of downtown Fairfield's streetscape. (markfinlay.com.)

J.P. Franzen Associates Architect PC. 95 Harbor Rd., Southport, 06890. 203/259-0529. This firm (four licensed architects, one licensed landscape architect and three architect interns) is known for "well-executed authenticity and detail." Worked on approximately 40 residential projects in 2007. Recently completed: Renovation of a waterfront 1915 Tudor house in Westport. The firm won a first place AIA Connecticut Design Award in 1991 for its preservation work on the Abel Bradley House in Westport.

Wayne S. Garrick Architects. 291 Whitney Ave., New Haven, 06511. 203/776-1874. A three-architect firm that typically works on 14 to 20 projects a year, ranging from small additions/renovations to new homes. Of note: Designs are often characterized by a timeless quality, "whether the project is



ROBERT PERON/COURTESY KURT WOERNER

very contemporary, extremely traditional or somewhere in between." Almost all projects are fairly open in plan. Most important award: Selected by the Connecticut Home Builders Association as the "Architect of the Year" in 2005.

David D. Harlan Architects. 938 Chapel St., New Haven, 06510. 203/495-8032. A three-architect firm specializing in traditional and classical design. The firm's strength and success is derived from "close attention to historic and contemporary examples, commitment to clients and an ability to sustain and expand unique architectural themes." Projects range from historic preservation to private residence additions and renovations. Currently

PETER KURT WOERNER & ASSOCIATES

This stunning contemporary with a third-floor tower room was designed to offer views in all directions. Built on an unusual and difficult site, the property encompasses a 19th-century granite quarry that supplied stone for the base of the Brooklyn Bridge.