



**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.