

# CAPE COD HOME

MARTHA'S VINEYARD & NANTUCKET

## 2012 ANNUAL RESOURCE GUIDE

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# BLUEPRINT *for* EXCELLENCE

Architect John Dvorsack delights  
in designing every detail of his  
clients' dream homes.

Architect John Dvorsack's office, located in historic Highfield Hall in Falmouth, is a picture of subtle color and form. Look closely and you'll see the hand-cut nails that stud the pumpkin pine floor. In late afternoon, you may notice a particular golden light that pours through the deep original windows. The bright, spacious office, tucked away on the second floor of the grand 1878 former estate—now a cultural center—perfectly melds historic craftsmanship, the natural world, and modern architectural practices.

Whether new construction or renovations, the same focus on pleasing, functional detail is infused throughout Dvorsack's work. One of his recent projects was on the site of an original 1915 fishing cottage overlooking Megansett Harbor. Though it was in a state of disrepair, the owners had a strong emotional connection to the antique cottage's character and feel. Rather than use new products, Dvorsack salvaged and restored the cottage's front door, accent windows, interior doors, original hardware, beadboard, and oversized exterior columns, and designed the new house to incorporate these old elements. The old exterior pergola and massive century-old Wiste-

John Dvorsack's devotion to masterful craftsmanship and his sensitivity to blending each home into the surrounding environment is evident in both interior and exterior elements of his architectural designs.

PHOTOS BY CAROLYN DVORSACK



ria were also saved. The Wisteria was relocated to another corner of the property, and the old-growth heart pine pergola was milled and fabricated into the stair newels and powder room vanity. The end result is a beautiful new home that respects and feels like the original.

Though the details in his designs can be subtle, the effect is very intentional. “It’s a personalization of architectural design,” Dvorsack says of his philosophy. “As a small practice I am able to spend a lot of time working closely with my clients to understand what’s really important to them. I really enjoy the owner’s reaction when it all comes together.”





"I really enjoy the customer's reaction when it all comes together," says Dvorsack from his office in Falmouth's historic Highfield Hall.

To maintain this personal connection to clients and attention to detail, Dvorsack limits the projects he undertakes every year. "I want to be an architect," he says, "not a manager."

Dvorsack, assisted by his wife, Carolyn, feels lucky to be one of a handful of businesses with offices in Highfield Hall. Being here has helped the longtime Falmouth resident deepen his connection to the area's historic roots and way of life. In the end, as long as the work is gratifying and pleasing, Dvorsack knows he's on the right track. "The process should be fun," he says. "I love what I do."

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