



2009

Bluff House Maryann Thompson Architects

CHAPPAQUIDDICK

HE IMAGE OF BLUFF HOUSE, with its wide overhangs and wooden interiors, is peaceful and shady, harkening back to the early camps of the Vineyard. Occupying the crest of a windblown bluff overlooking the Atlantic and nearby saltwater ponds, the house situates the occupant between an earthen stone plinth and light trapezoidal roof forms. The complex form is generated by the natural forms of the bluff on which it sits. The house visually becomes an extension of the landscape as the roof planes reciprocate the formal qualities of the bluff, windswept cedars, and cresting waves of the Atlantic below.

The interior layout revolves around the central combined living/dining/kitchen space. Moments of intimacy are achieved within the open floor plan through the use of nooks and smaller spatial moments. The house is laid out organically, in an attempt to heighten the multiple water views and relationships to the site and landscape beyond. The angled floor plan directs views away from neighboring houses and creates a covered exterior sitting area, addressing the ocean and fostering a sense of privacy.

Cedar tongue-and-groove cladding is used for both exterior and interior walls, creating visual continuity and evoking the Vineyard's boat-building traditions.

















