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SPECIAL FOCUS: Landscape Design

Hillside Haven

John Tittmann and J.B. Clancy, of Albert, Righter & Tittmann Architects, had in mind an ancient Greek temple when they envisioned this Vermont home and its landscape. While the front of the house has a welcoming farmhouse look, the rear elevation takes what Tittmann calls a "temple form," with a long, column-studded veranda. Sitting substantially above grade, the house looks out over a sloping meadow of grass and wildflowers and wide views of forested hills beyond. Landscape designer Jonathan Keep worked with the architects on siting the house. "Typically, you'd place a house on a hill parallel to the contour line," he says. "But we pushed one side

out, which saved a wonderful down-valley view from the narrow side and gave the broad rear side the mountain views." A terrace of lawn extends from the veranda, ending at a tiered gabion wall. A gabion wall—essentially a series of wire baskets filled with stone—results in a sturdy wall without mortar, Keep explains. A similar wall also borders the raised swimming pool and its surround of Goshen stone. The landscape plan is simple, really, yet undeniably striking. It's easy to imagine the owners reveling in the magnificent mountain and meadow views.

CREDITS

Landscape design: Jonathan Keep Landscape construction: Bergeron's Lawn Service & Landscaping House architecture: Albert, Righter & Tittmann Architects House builder: Domus Photography: Robert Benson





