


## Exceptional Houses

BY CAROLYN ISAAK

## One of these note-

 worthy homes will be acknowledged for outstanding design at AIANH's annual award ceremony in January.Good design should be recognized. That's why the New Hampshire chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) has been holding an Excellence in Architecture Design Awards Program each year since 1983. And this year's four residential entries shine.

The winning project is scheduled to be announced at the AIANH Awards Banquet on January 16 and will be posted on the AIANH Web site, www. aianh.org. In addition, New Hampshire Home plans to feature the winning residential designs in the March issue-stay tuned!

## A VERTICAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Despite zoning restrictions on the building's footprint and the many goals for the space, architects Jacob Albert, Craig Gibson and Jim Righter of Albert, Righter \& Tittmann Architects, Inc., in Boston, were able to design a guesthouse that also functions as a library, tennis viewing pavilion and boathouse.

Located on the property of a one-hundred-year-old vacation home in New Hampshire, Lake Library (as it's called) is a compact, vertical structure
that is compatible with the main house but still maintains a distinct identity.

The exterior cedar shingles, green trim and the wood interiors are consistent with the main house. However, where the main house is horizontally expansive, the guesthouse is perky and vertical. The main house, although much bigger, is simple and camp-like; the guesthouse is an energetic, exuberant folly (the picturesque roof-scape and bundling of vertical elements give
it the aspect of a miniature castle).
Inside, the living room is rustic, cozy and grand. Focal points are a massive stone fireplace as well as a bay window that faces the tennis court and looks out to the lake. The room is flooded with light from the bay window and a rooftop light monitor.

Upstairs, guests can relive their childhoods. With low eaves and a band of small windows, the bedroom feels as if it's located in a tree house!


## ABOUT AIANH'S EXCELLENCE IN ARCHITECTURE DESIGN AWARDS PROGRAM

Open to AIANH members who are either architects from New Hampshire or out-of-state architects with New Hampshire projects, the 2009 program received four residential submissions, highlighted here, and twenty-four commercial entries. There is also an "unbuilt design" category as well as a twenty-five-year award that recognizes architecture of enduring significance with buildings that have stood the test of time for between twenty-five and thirty-five years.

Entries are judged on overall design excellence, including aesthetics, clarity, creativity, appropriate functionality, sustainability, building performance and appropriateness with regard to the client's request.

The jurors for the 2009 program were Grace N. Chiang, AlA, principal, Holt Architects, PC; Anton Christiansen, AIA, LEED, principal associate, Holt Architects, PC; and Andrew Magre, AIA, senior project manager, planning, design and construction, Cornell University-all from Ithaca, New York.

