

DECOR MAINE

ARCHITECTURE ART DESIGN EXPERIENCE FOOD SUSTAINABILITY

DECEMBER 2020

DESIGN

The most innovative & spirited projects of the year

VISIONARIES

**A SLEEK
PASSIVE HOUSE
IN NORWAY**

**A 1906-MEETS-
NOW COTTAGE IN
BOOTHBAY**

**A SOARING
BARN ON MOUNT
DESERT ISLAND**

**A KITCHEN FOR
BAKING IN
CAPE ELIZABETH**

**A FLOATING
POOL RETREAT IN
KENNEBUNKPORT**

AND MORE



Situated on a sloped lot with few trees, this Kevin Browne designed home maximizes its 180-degree view of unspoiled marshland.



photo: Jeff Roberts

The Now:
Designs of
Distinction
2020

Over the summer, we put out a call for the best of the best. We wanted to see fresh, innovative design work from across the state, work from every arena—commercial, residential, professional, amateur, interior, exterior, furniture, single rooms, even individual design details. If you had the coolest drawer pull in York, we wanted to see it!

We debated what to call the selected projects. Winners? Finalists? Honorees? With so many incredible submissions, and with so much stellar work left on the editorial room floor for no reason beyond page count, we decided to forgo official labels. Rather, we've included here an eclectic mix of projects, all of which meet—in one way or another—the übercriteria we use every day: They are all designed with distinction.

words by **BRIAN SHUFF**



public facing

The Imbibing Mood

Capozza Tile and Floor Covering Center, Portland

Maine Beer Co.
photographer MEREDITH PURDUE
architect ATTARDO PONDELIS
builder WELSHER FINE HOMES

Austin Street
photographer LAURYN HOTTINGER
architect RYAN SENATORE
builder LANDRY FRENCH



Austin Street Brewery's newest location on Fox Street in Portland is a vibrant hub for beer connoisseurs. **opposite, top right** Tile and countertop collaboration: Capozza Tile and Floor Covering Center, Capozza Concrete Services, and Old Port Specialty Tile.



BREWERIES ARE ABOUT A LOT MORE than beer. “The aesthetic of the tasting room creates the mood and the atmosphere that keep people coming back,” says Mike Webster, Capozza’s director of operations. To help establish the look and feel at two of Maine’s premier brew stops—Portland’s Austin Street and Freeport’s Maine Beer Company—Capozza marshaled its forces. “Commercial spaces give us the chance to work as a team with our sister companies, Old Port Specialty Tile and Capozza Concrete and Epoxy,” Mike says.

At Maine Beer Company, notice the modern twist on subway tile decking the bar. The two-by-eight-inch Victorian Blue tiles have a major gloss and are installed vertically. “They carried this same tile across all three bar areas,” Mike says. “The pouring bar, the pizza bar, and the reception area.”

Housed in a former industrial site, the Austin Street taproom had concrete floors with years of wear. “Lucky for us, the owners saw the potential,” says Mike. Polishing concrete grinds away the existing slab until the desired sheen emerges. The result is a densified, highly durable surface that requires little maintenance. “It’s important to remember you’re not fixing the floors,” says Mike. “Polishing is about enhancing the beauty of the existing slab. Now, the terrazzo floors at Austin Street are highlighted, protected, and will set the stage for a relaxing drink for a long time.”