

Lovely Landscaping | Updating Kitchens | Inside Ocean Grove

# designNJ

NEW JERSEY'S HOME & DESIGN MAGAZINE

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## *ultimate* Shore Retreat



REFRESH WITH COLOR  
MODERN STYLE: GEOMETRICS  
SUMMER ENTERTAINING



# Summertime Strong

THE LIVING IS EASY BUT THE LANDSCAPE IS TOUGH AT THIS SEASHORE RETREAT

WRITTEN BY MARIROSE KRALL

PHOTOS BY TIM PROCTOR EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

LANDSCAPE DESIGN BY CORDING LANDSCAPE DESIGN

ARCHITECTURE BY BOL ARCHITECTURE

BUILT BY MONETTI CUSTOM HOMES

OUTDOOR FURNITURE SELECTION BY DONNA SIRIANNI

SWIMMING POOL BY LIQUID INC./LIQUIDSCAPES



Soft lighting bathes this stately Seaside Park home in a subtle glow.





RENDERING BY BETH PELLEGRINI



SIDE | Porches at the front, rear and side allow plenty of space to enjoy the seaside air.

FRONT | Plantings at the front of the home were chosen for sturdiness in the face of coastal weather and “to make the grounds look like a cultured dune,” landscape designer Beth Pellegrini says.

of stone and natural boulders,” she says. Stone is an ideal choice, of course; it’s been weathering storms since time immemorial. Pellegrini used durable quartzite pavers for the pool deck. Granite planter walls mark the perimeter of the space.

Pellegrini incorporated teak and mahogany components. Both types of



When the catastrophe that was Hurricane Sandy hit the Jersey Shore in 2012, builders were in the early stages of construction of a Seaside Park home. Though this particular plot of land was spared the worst of Sandy’s fury, the storm was a devastating reminder of the vicissitudes of Mother Nature. Keeping that in mind, the owners of this residence called in Beth Pellegrini of Cording Landscape Design in Towaco. As someone who makes a living designing outdoor environments, Pellegrini is acutely familiar with the whims of the weather, but she is also adept at creating natural settings that stand up to the elements. Pellegrini had worked with the homeowners previously and understood the sort of setting they envisioned for their backyard. “They wanted a lot



EVEN A LITTLE RAIN WON'T HINDER THE ACTION. THE PERGOLA OFFERS ONE OF SEVERAL SHELTERED SPACES, AS DOES THE LARGE PORCH OFF THE KITCHEN.



wood are robust and age to a lovely patina. A teak “boardwalk,” traverses the pool deck, leading toward the mahogany pergola.

Even on a beautiful day, a coastal environment can wreak havoc with plant materials. So the flora chosen for this project needed the ability to thrive in sandy soil and salty air. At the rear of the home, black pines and ‘Flushing’ yews — among other trees and bushes — add greenery while helping to screen the property from wind gusts. Decorative grasses add an untamed element and create a mid-height layer between the trees, shrubs and lower-lying flowers.

PORCH | Cushiony chairs and a fire feature make the back porch a cozy place to gather.

POOL | The relaxing backyard space features a pool with curved edges, a bar area and seating under a pergola. A large stone acts as the “table” surrounded by a stone bench as seen on the lower right side of the pool photo.

PERGOLA | A pergola offers a bit of shade on sunny days. A fire pit offers a bit of warmth on chilly nights.







**FIRE PIT** | Plantings soften the hardscape of the pool area. The fire pit has a 3-inch-thick cap cut from a single slab of bluestone. Custom cushions on the hand-tooled semicircular granite sofa ensure comfort around the fire.

**BEACH ENTRY** | The beach entry pool gently integrates with its surroundings and is framed by a stone wall and plantings.

**BOARDWALK** | Curved teak "boardwalks" cross the stone tiles of the pool deck.





PHOTO BY BETH PELLEGRINI

Hydrangeas bring bold color to the summer landscape.



PHOTO BY BETH PELLEGRINI

Most of the planter walls were built at seat height for those who want to sit and enjoy the surroundings. Pellegrini included flowers in a variety of colors in her landscape design.

The landscaping at the front of the house required even more highly resilient plants because the ocean is just steps away. Pellegrini included such sturdy specimens as rugosa roses, black-eyed Susans, and ‘Torulosa’ junipers. At both the front and back, Pellegrini “tried to get as much in the palette as possible. We used a lot of shrub roses, hydrangeas and daylilies. There’s a lot of summer color.”

There’s also a lot of year-round style. Large decorative boulders — carved from the same type of granite used for the stone walls — dot the property. The randomly placed rocks match the surroundings, contributing to the sense that the entire backyard was hewn from one massive outcropping.

Pellegrini then added other amenities on the homeowners’ wish list. Two fire features — one built from stone and paired with a matching bench, another on a porch table — mean that backyard fun doesn’t stop just because chilly weather arrives. Even a little rain won’t hinder the action. The pergola offers one of several sheltered spaces, as does the large porch off the kitchen.

Pellegrini notes that the homeowners love to entertain, and this is certainly the place to welcome family and friends. It’s a gorgeous spot that will be a leisure-time destination for many years — come rain or shine or whatever the wind blows in. **DNI**

*For a look at the interiors of this home, please see “Sand Castle” in our April/May 2017 issue.*

**SOURCES** landscape design and masonry, Cording Landscape Design in Towaco; carpentry (pergola, custom fence, covered bar area, teak boardwalks), Monetti Custom Homes in Brielle; plans for pergolas, house and detached garage with covered bar area, Bol Architecture in Berkeley Heights; Courtstone® paver driveways, Unilock in Brewster, New York; pool, Liquid Inc./Liquidscapes in Pittstown; outdoor furniture selection, Donna Sirianni Interiors LLC in Maplewood; custom cushion on bench around pool area fire pit, Garwood Interiors Upholstery in Westfield with fabric from Sunbrella®; porch fan, Big Ass Fans in Lexington, Kentucky.

**As Featured in June/July 2017 of**

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