

EYE ON
DESIGN
2018

AS PART OF OUR ANNUAL COMPENDIUM ON REGIONAL
STYLE, WE'VE TURNED TO THE MOST TRUSTED NAMES
IN LOCAL DESIGN TO DISCOVER TIPS, TRENDS AND
IDEAS ON WHAT DRIVES DESIGN AESTHETICS TODAY.

architecture



9 CURB appeal

A beautiful entry not only creates a sense of order when approaching a house, but also sets the stage for what's behind the front door. John B. Murray, the New York architect of this Georgian Revival in Greenwich, Connecticut, shares three important tips for establishing curb appeal. jbmarchitect.com

Give your entrance a clear definition. The path should be well-defined with low-level lighting. Another way to distinguish an arrival is by giving the door a distinct color. In this particular case, we used a sort of dark green-black hue that demarcates the entry in a pleasant way.

Broaden the scale of the entry door. This makes it grander and more gracious. Here, we also designed a bronze screen door—the beautiful material is inviting.

Invest in quality lighting. It should feature good, solid hardware and not be some low-level fixture. These patinated brass lanterns we fabricated, for example, boast hand-drawn glass, giving it character.

10 DRAFT PICKS

FIVE DIVERSE NEW YORK-BASED ARCHITECTURE TALENTS DIVULGE THEIR TAKES ON DESIGNING HOMES WITH STYLE.



ROGER H. SEIFTER

Most important exterior element: We take cues from the neighborhood, the site and our clients as we design. But in the end, a successful house strikes a balance between the functionality of its plan and the evocative nature of its exterior detailing. **Favorite material:** I like stone for its versatility. Depending on its selection and detailing, it can make the most formal villa or the most rustic cottage. ramsa.com



CAROLINE WHARTON EWING

What is your favorite material to design with lately? We often use wood on ceilings or to wrap interior volumes. This can help provide definition in an open floor plan as well as add texture and warmth. **Trick for successful interior architecture:** A perfect floor plan should feel intuitive. The rooms should unfold in a way that makes sense and needs no explanation. dberke.com



MICHAEL SMITH

Critical aspect of exterior architecture: Responding to the site conditions drives the planning of the whole design. If you don't get this right, it can negatively impact the rest of the project. **Favorite material:** Lately, we have been using a lot of natural oak in our interiors. This can range from hand-hewn beams to rough-sawn planking and even finish cabinetry. michaelsmitharchitects.com



ROBERT CARDELLO

Is there a historical trend returning? Brass is back! I see people trending toward a more modern interior, even within a more conservative exterior, by using brass finishes. **Key to the perfect floor plan:** A creative collaboration between the architect, interior designer, landscape architect and builder. The success of a good plan lies in its simplicity. cardelloarchitects.com



CHARLES HILTON

What is the most important element of interior architecture? Consistency between the site, the exterior architecture and the interior architecture and design. Each should relate to the other. **Making a comeback:** Modernism, Convenience, expediency, durability and an overall increasing comfort level with technology seem to drive this trend. hiltonarchitects.com