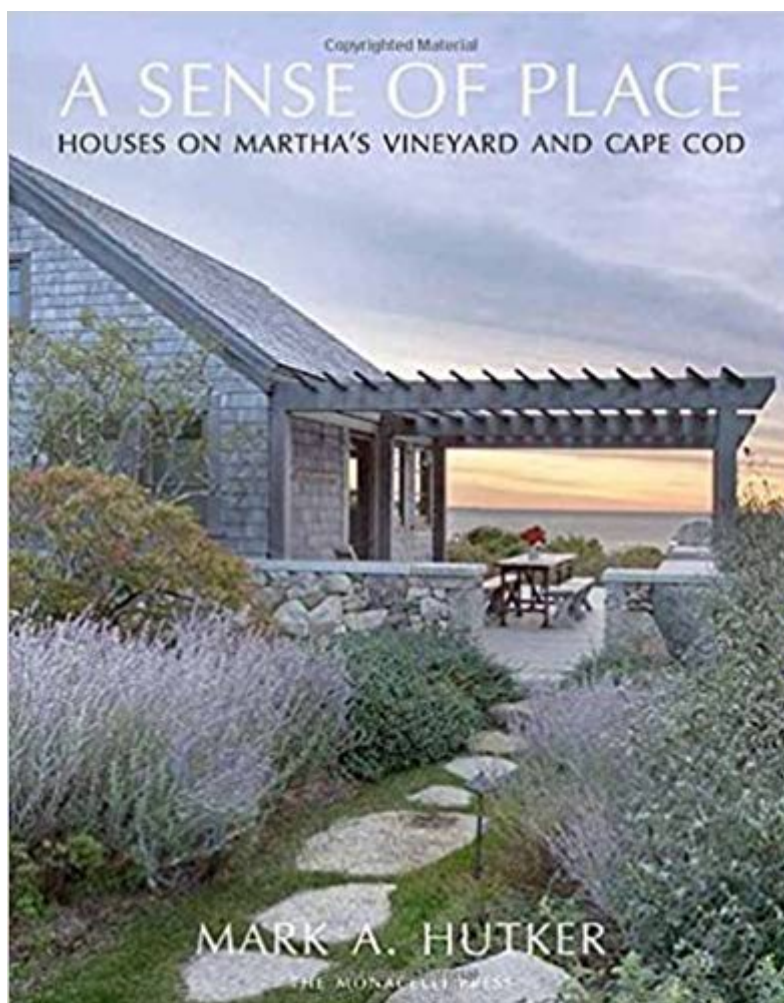


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# A Sense Of Place: Houses On Martha's Vineyard And Cape Cod



## Synopsis

Thirteen exquisite houses create a portrait of life in one of America's most exclusive coastal destinations, along the beaches of Martha's Vineyard and Cape Cod. Hutker Architects, led by founding principal Mark A. Hutker, has designed more than three hundred houses along the New England shore. A member of the close community on Martha's Vineyard since his arrival in 1985, Hutker has become an expert at interpreting the ideal lifestyles of his clients within the respected traditions and restrictive codes of the beautiful but fragile environment. In their design and construction, these houses honor the vernacular traditions of craft and indigenous materials, are deeply respectful of the cherished landscape, and demonstrate a lively range of solutions to building on the bluffs and dunes that line the shores of the Vineyard and Cape Cod. A working organic farm fulfills a family's dream of simpler values; a luxurious renovation saves the best of an antique shingle cottage while transforming it for contemporary family life and a raised structure clad in naturally weathered boards combines the legacy of midcentury regional modern architecture with Cape Cod's maritime tradition. The firm is committed to the principle "Build once, well," looking to the historic architecture of the region and the inherited experience of its carpenters and craftspeople as inspiration for contemporary design. The result is an architecture that is at once adaptable and livable, yet enduring, efficient, inevitable, and appropriate. The houses sit lightly on the land, deferring to their surroundings, often built as a series of modest pavilions linked by passages or grouped to enclose an outdoor space. Creative design solutions—a light-filled gallery running the full length of a house, a continuous wall of sliding glass doors—make houses both open to views, but protective in a storm. Specially commissioned photography captures the craftsmanship and the settings of the houses, from dramatic bluffs overlooking the sea to secluded coves and rolling meadows filled with wildflowers, creating a unique portrait of Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Meet the architect behind Cape Cod's most beautiful homes. *A Sense of Place* by architect Mark A. Hutker looks at more than 300 houses he has designed along the breezy Massachusetts shore. After designing homes on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard for thirty years, Hutker Architects is known for building livable places that respect the region's heritage. Their recently published book showcases thirteen projects that combine enduring architecture with new innovations—a stunning collection for the library of any sea-lover. With five essays and more than 200 photographs, the book is a tribute to the evolution of the cape house, with naturally weathered boards that honor coastal views and connect generations. The included homes highlight the firm's motto, 'build once, well,' as Hutker and his principles tap into history and make homes new without banishing the old.

*Boston Home* magazine: "Place is a powerful word for an architect. It describes the intangible feel of a location—its history, its present, and its future, all while drawing on what's around the site, so that being there is unlike being anywhere else. Hutker Architects, which has offices in Falmouth and Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, has 30 years' experience designing houses among the rocky bluffs and sandy dunes of the New England coastline, and the firm's book explores what makes the area unique. With five essays and more than 200 photographs (the cover shot is by Design New England contributing photographer Eric Roth) of houses that the firm, led by principal Mark A. Hutker, has designed, the book explores the values guiding every choice, from tapping local traditions to using native materials to infusing the inimitable histories of each community."

*Design New England*: "Hutker Architects' second book features photography of 13 homes on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard as well as essays about each place. On the Vineyard, projects included range from The Grey Barn Farm in Chilmark to a home overlooking the Edgartown Harbor. 'Our goal is to create the kind of structures that the community will want to defend in the future.'"

*The Vineyard Gazette*: "Projects that defer to their surroundings and feature creative design solutions."

*The Boston Globe*: "Lose yourself in the enchanting world of architect Mark Hutker, and his realm of Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard. Add some lobster rolls, white wine, and dream away."

*InsideChic*: "Hutker as a firm is known for its sense of stewardship and

sense of place, and the work shown here reflects that, with weathered wooden structures and tiled roofs which are congruent with the architectural vernacular their chosen areas have always been known for. The Salt Shack on Buzzards Bay is representative, with its variation on a traditional shape and its use of windows to open up as much of the house, which is set on a narrow neck of land, as possible. Right outside can be seen pristine, protected bay. The interiors are typically clean and spare.ââ "Women's Wear Daily

Mark A. Hutker has been designing houses on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard for thirty years. Today he and principals Philip Regan, Charles Orr, and Jim Cappuccino lead a firm of thirty-five professionals committed to design excellence and stewardship in these fabled communities. Their work has been honored with awards from AIA New England, the Boston Society of Architects, and the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art, and their projects have been featured in prestigious publications including Architectural Digest, Architectural Record, the Wall Street Journal, and Coastal Living.

Fantastic book! Amazing architects! A rare level of design and craftsmanship. I have really enjoyed reading this book and witnessing the quality of work of Mark Hutker and his team. If you have ever been in your life interested by Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard architecture, this is the book.

Gorgeous book! The homes are stunning, but more importantly, Mark Hutker has a respect for the land the homes sit upon! An important thing to remember when designing on an island with a delicate ecosystem. I was dreaming all day of myself in each home!

This book has an interesting range of homes that really fit into the coastal landscape. The pictures are nice and large and a good number of pages are devoted to each house.

13 homes in over 200 photographs of houses on Martha's Vineyard and Cape Cod are featured in this coffee table size book. It is for those who enjoy these locations and the shingle style homes which melt into the landscape. Mark A. Hutker has been designing homes here for over 30 years and these are presumably the best of his projects. A mix of styles are represented. Hutker's firm tries to use indigenous materials and designs to the mantra: "Build once, well." The materials and views star in the homes. You will see lots of stone, wood, glass, and beams. The interior design tends to be subtle with use of white and woods. There are interior and exterior views with images of the land

surrounding with an occasional pool or deck. This would be a helpful volume for any architect, builder or owner of land who wants to build a home on the ocean. You will enjoy imagining which home you would like to move into. The homes are gorgeous and full of elements you may wish to include in your own home. 5 stars for those who like shingle style homes, or are interested in building a home on the shore. There is helpful narration about the design process.

This is a beautiful coffee table architecture book for those that love beautiful homes as art. There are 200 photographs from several homes by Hutker Architects, with principal architect Mark. A. Hutker featured in the book, all located in the Martha's Vineyard and Cape Cod area. These gorgeous homes blend in to their beautiful surroundings with an effortless luxury that is often quite timeless. The focus is on the homes, and there are few people in the book, rather there are full color photographs of the interiors and exteriors of several homes. Of the 13 homes that are featured, I think my favorite is the gray barn, because it manages to look both old and modern, antique, and modern. The wood features were particularly of note to me, in the architects use of many natural materials, as well as some of the creative roof designs. I have to say though, that the photography was sometimes a bit too sterile. My favorite photograph of all was the 2 page spread that featured some very fluffy silkie chickens.

A Sense of Place is the most perfect title imaginable for this book. The thirteen homes featured in it seem to fit into their respective settings along the Northeastern seaboard as if each had sprung up naturally from the ground. The individual interiors, most of which make use of weathered, often hand-hewn, wood beams, natural wood surfaces, massive rough cut stones, hand-wrought iron fixtures reflect the same serene sensibility whether done in a modern, traditional or transitional style. Tranquil palettes of whites, grays, and pale blues, punctuated with touches of yellows and sometimes bursts of brighter colors mimic the water, sand and sky in harmonious measure to complete an almost perfect sense of place. If you love looking at beautiful homes, or would like some gorgeous ideas for decorating or building, and want to recapture the atmosphere of the coastal Northeast, this is definitely a book you will want to add to your collection.

This is a huge and gorgeous coffee table book. The pictures of the homes are inspiring, giving you a sense of the beauty and serenity of Martha's Vineyard. Aside from looking at the truly glorious pictures, you learn about each home - what the intention was when designing it and how it was accomplished. Each house fits perfectly with the extraordinary landscape and you get that wistful

feeling of what it must be like to live there. This is one of those books that you'll leave out on your table. It will be irresistible to your guests...and to you.

A well-known Seattle bookseller once urged architect/author Mike Hutker to write "a nice little book". A Sense of Place is indeed a very nice BIG gallery of the work of the Hutker Architects firm. So why might it not be considered a 5-star book? Because it simply cannot compete with its predecessor compendium - Heirlooms To Live In. (Heirlooms to Live In: Homes in a New Regional Vernacular) Packaged in a sophisticated Atlantic blue folding box, Heirlooms satisfied readers with numerous plans, plenty of pages for each project, and photos that invited the eye to stay awhile. It was a masterful announcement of the Hutker sensibility: a stylism rich with traditional New England Cape Cod elements (such as wood shingled siding), yet embellished to create a new modern classic (with structures seemingly equal parts window and wall). At over 400 pages, it contained very little text, opting instead to use the visuals as right-brain candy for the inner architect in anyone. A Sense of Place does have some merits over Heirlooms. The photographs are more lush, larger, and glossier. The text is exquisite. Hutker engages at eye level without presumptiveness; each page is an invitation to read every word. But the pictorial content is lighter. Interior shots predominate and there are no plans. No. Plans. Two of the saddest words known to fans of architecture. Still, highly recommended. But Heirlooms is well worth the search and acquisition. The Hutker style is worth it, and either book will leave you wanting more - in a good way, like any "nice, little book" should.

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