

CRAFTSMAN Influence in Cayucos

Local builder Steve Molnar and his partner Tim Shea had a vision for the cliff side home in Cayucos long before they actually broke ground on the property. Architect John MacDonald worked with them to capitalize on the vast ocean views and design the home to follow the contours of the cliff.

"I love to surf and my greatest inspiration is nature and the sea," said Molnar.

Steve's goal was to have the confluence of the home's materials -- stone, wood, glass, stained concrete and the saltwater aquarium -- seamlessly connect with the sand, rock outcroppings and sea just below the home's stone paver-covered back terrace. Some of the home's most dramatic features are found within and just beyond the private stone courtyard created by stone mason Sean Riley.



The custom African ribbon grain mahogany with walnut and maple inlay entry door and side panels created by Dick Blackburn of Pacific Millworks feature the "Cloud Lift" motif used by Greene & Greene during the American Arts & Crafts movement. The door and side panels also highlight handmade stained glass of a flowing kelp design created by Catherine Moore of Illuminations in Morro Bay.



The sweeping, freestanding solid mahogany staircase was meticulously hand-built over a four month period by Dahlan Richenberg of Crizer Construction. A 400-gallon saltwater reef aquarium stocked with live coral and breathtakingly colorful and varied fish by Mike Roese of Coastal Aquariums. Presiding over these dramatic displays is the cascading iron and hand-made Murano glass chandelier, one of several complementary pieces found throughout the home.