



The stone mass wall separates public and private spaces in Manlowe's home; clearly, nothing separates the home from that view, and 1,000 square feet of living space. "You don't need to be a brain surgeon to know to use as much glass as possible," he says. "We wanted people to not know the inside from out

FALL
HOME DESIGN

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This hillside waterfront property on Bainbridge Island has been in Bob Manlowe and Laury Bryant's family for three generations. The existing topography was maintained to minimize disturbance on the steep slope, says Matthew Coates of Coates Design Architects, with Manlowe's home (left) built on the existing footprint of the site's midcentury home, and Bryant's, right, where a 1920s cabin stood. Fairbank Construction Company built both homes.

**One architect designs
two complementary homes
for a brother and sister
on Bainbridge Island family property**

BOB MANLOWE'S HOME is bigger than his sister's.
Is not!
Is too!

Well, it is. And that's OK. We do not have to pull this car over right now. For one thing, it's only a 200-square-foot difference. For another, the whole point of two similar-but-individual sibling homes on the same stretch of Bainbridge Island — beachfront for Bob, hillside for Laury Bryant — is to foster an agreeable feeling of family.

This spectacular setting has been doing that for decades. In 1945, Bob and Laury's grandparents bought the property and its 1920s-era cabin. In 1963, they added a Swiss chalet-style home, which Bob and Laury's parents moved in to in the 1990s. Summers always meant Bainbridge for Bob; Laury; one of their sisters; and, eventually, their families. But time passed, the cabin grew a little *too* old and parcels changed hands. ▶

BY SANDY DENEAU DUNHAM

PHOTOS BY BENJAMIN BENSCHNEIDER

BEAUTY



RELATIVE BEAUTY



In Bryant's "maritime rustic" home, COR-TEN panels contain a fireplace and media center within the stone mass wall focal point. Open tread cantilevered stairs lead to a library overlooking the living and dining area, while the upper clerestory windows look toward the water.

"When it was time to say, 'What are we going to do with this property?' there was never a time we thought, 'Let's put it on the open market,'" Laury says. "There's so much history on this island. Our DNA is spread all over this place."

And now — what a spread.

"This is the first time we've done a project for a brother and sister," says Matthew Coates, of Coates Design Architects. "There were some unique challenges designing and constructing two projects at the same time. We fit both houses with common interests and particular needs. We worked with each of them to find aesthetic preferences, and cohesive and harmonious materials and scales."

Bob and Laury found common ground — in addition to the common ►

Each sibling's home plays with a palette of stone, concrete, wood and metal — complementing one another, yet defining the subtle differences in personal tastes. Manlowe's family wanted a definite "wow" feeling in the main living space.

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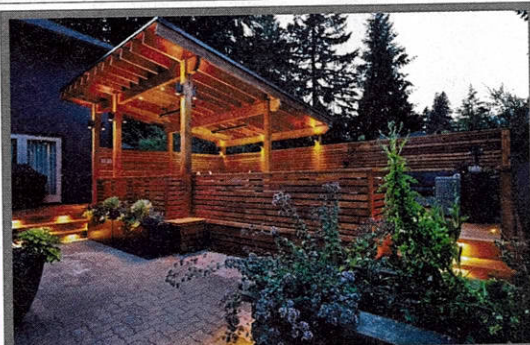
ground on which they were building — all over the place: Each home's basic geometry begins with a "solid, crunchy foundation and grows up from there," Coates says, with prominent chimneys and similar stair railings, windows and exposed Glulam structures. A stone mass wall in each home separates its private and public spaces, and a common palette of stone, concrete, wood and metal echoes through both homes while defining their subtle differences.

Laury says she and Bob knew they wanted their "companion" homes to look alike, and decidedly *not* like her home on Queen Anne, where she lives with her husband, Bill, and their four kids, or like Bob's on Mercer Island.

"We had to come together on Northwest contemporary, clean lines, reflecting the earlier homes here, open to the outside," she says.

Bob and his wife, Jayne, who have three girls, took "open" to lovely extremes in their living area, where a corner bifold door system opens completely to the patio ("literally no barrier," ▶

Manlowe says he "really got into lighting" and picked all the lights except these shell-like pendants in the kitchen. "My wife said, 'The kitchen is mine,'" he says.



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By anchoring Manlowe's lower home into the hillside and installing a green roof system, the roof form blends into the landscape, Coates says, and does not compromise the view from Bryant's home.



Bryant's 2,600-square-foot home has a pathway that leads to the beach. "My house will always be referred to as 'the cabin,'" she says.



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