

# Merle Thorpe Architects

*presents*

A WATERMAN'S COTTAGE ON IRISH CREEK  
Royal Oak, Maryland

A Waterman's Cottage on Irish Creek  
and a number of our other projects  
can be seen on our website:  
[MerleThorpeArchitects.com](http://MerleThorpeArchitects.com)

*Merle Thorpe brings over 25 years' experience as a practicing architect to his diverse projects. Recognized for excellence in custom residential design, his work has received numerous awards for distinctive residential architecture, including an Award for Excellence from the DC Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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## A WATERMAN'S COTTAGE ON IRISH CREEK

### Royal Oak, Maryland

This project is an example of a renovation that allows the property's greatest asset – its proximity to water on three sides – to take precedence in defining the building design. Before the renovation, the only advantage of a preexisting, 1960s-era rambler was its location within 100 feet of the Chesapeake Bay's protected shoreline buffer zone. The clients wanted to preserve the original house footprint, but live in a house that resonated with the vernacular traditions of Maryland's Eastern Shore. They also wanted a house that was easy to maintain and hospitable to their casual family lifestyle. The final design satisfied these requirements. It has its roots in the style of a traditional waterman's cottage, which is prevalent throughout the Chesapeake Bay region.





PHOTOGRAPH BY CHARLES RUMPH















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