

ARCHITECTURE: ALEXANDER GORLIN

BREAKING WITH TRADITION
IN SEASIDE, FLORIDA



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The pastel-coated Florida panhandle town of Seaside sits just behind the dunes of one of the country's most exquisite beaches. From the start Seaside was intended to invoke the idea of an old-fashioned resort: Quaint and sweet, the nascent community recalls a more innocent era in architecture. And although Seaside has a renowned plan and a complement of rigorous buildings by architects ranging from Walter Chatham to Leon Krier to Steven Holl, the dominant motif is that of vernacular cottages with

"Seaside reminds me a bit of San Gimignano, with all the towers jostling for views," says Alexander Gorlin of the Florida beach town where he designed a Le Corbusier-inspired retreat for himself and his wife, Debby Solomon. LEFT: A stairway leads to the main entrance of the cube-within-a-cube structure. OPPOSITE: Dramatic stair forms animate the open-plan living room. ABOVE: The crow's nest, the tallest tower in Seaside, is "pure circulation, free of any architectural frame."