

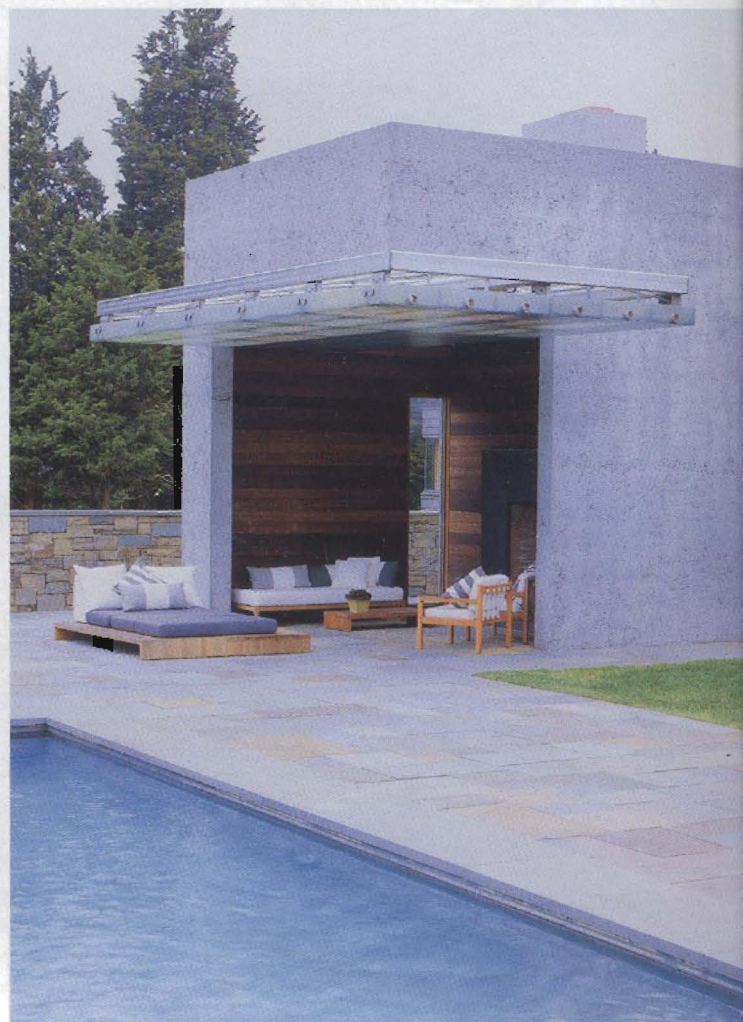
# POOL DAYS

POOL HOUSES OF THE PAST WERE SIMPLE CABANAS DESIGNED FOR CHANGING OUT OF A BATHING SUIT. TODAY, THEY SERVE AS PARTY HOUSES, BOATHOUSES, HOME OFFICES OR A LITTLE OF EACH. THEY ALSO PROVIDE AN ARCHITECTURAL OPPORTUNITY TO HARMONIZE WITH THE HOME, OR TO BREAK AWAY FROM IT ALTOGETHER. HERE, HC&G VENTURES INTO FOUR EAST END POOL HOUSES TO SHOW THE POSSIBILITIES

**NOVOGRATZ POOL HOUSE** "For most people, poured concrete may not be the first choice for a pool house," architect Matthew Baird admits about the structure he built for Michael and Sukey Novogratz. But the rough trap rock aggregate plays off the stucco Arts and Crafts main house, which was part of the 1910 Devon Colony in Amagansett. (The colony's five original owners used concrete from their own plant to build their homes.)

While restoring the Mediterranean Revival-style home, Sukey gave Baird two directives: The structure must have a flat roof and it must not be "some cute miniature version of the original house." Liberated from architectural nostalgia, Baird created a sharp contrast with an austere, geometric expression of concrete, resin and steel, but he softened the look with horizontal mahogany planks and custom teak furniture.

To accommodate large parties, Baird deconstructed various functions of a single pool house to allow guests to flow from one discrete area to the next. Near the structure, visitors find a juice bar of the same aggregate as the pavilion. In the warm weather they can lounge under the cantilevered resin-and-steel canopy, which gently diffuses the sunlight, and in the chill air cuddle up to the massive fireplace with its unpolished bronze screen. Weathered mahogany shingles wrap the nearby "outhouse," and in back two outdoor showers of mahogany and fieldstone have glass doors opening to the cedar-lined changing room.



**Archean Revival** | William Proctor of  
Gamble originally commissioned this  
one (OPPOSITE LEFT) in the early 20th  
**Geometric Expression** | To soften the  
lines of the concrete pavilion (THIS PAGE  
SITE RIGHT), architect Matthew Baird  
used oak furniture. A plunge pool sunken into  
the bluestone pool deck (THIS PAGE)  
is flanked by a wall of Pennsylvania fieldstone capped  
with limestone. See Resources.

