

# DESIGN + DECOR

CONNECTICUT  
NEW JERSEY  
NEW YORK

## THE *ARCHITECTS* ISSUE





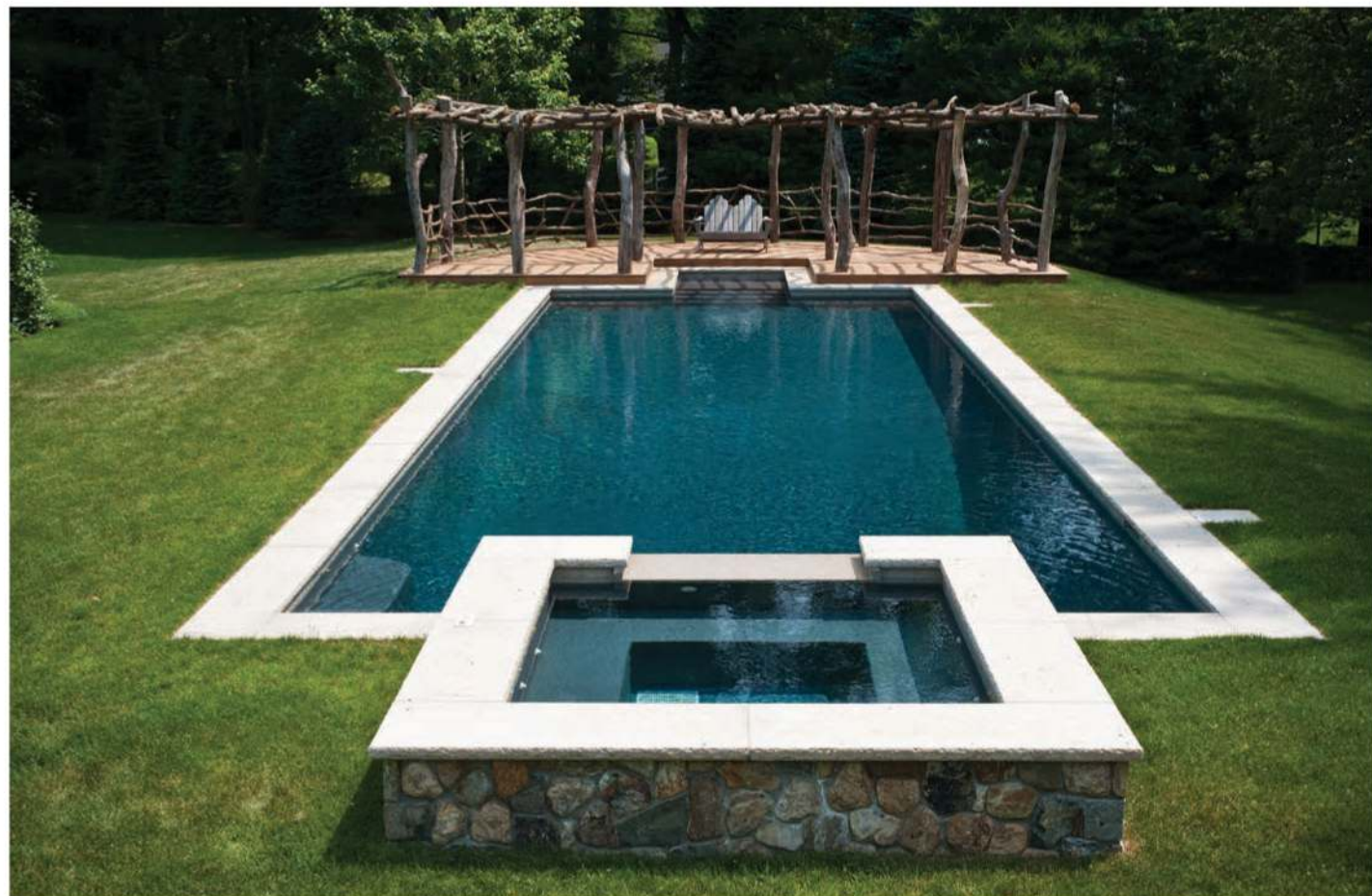


A new home in Connecticut that embraces architectural features from another time also capitalizes on a beautiful lot with stunning views. According to Scott Raissis, owner of Thompson Raissis Architects, using the concepts of biophilic design is “inherent in the design process, no matter what. It’s the mindset of a lot of homes we do because many of the homes are directly connected to nature.”

In designing this residence, Scott’s primary charge was to capture the views and, he says, “open up the house to the site.” The owner is a master gardener so, according to Scott, “It was important that the house be sited well on the property.” With two acres of land to work with, he and his design team took advantage of the natural contours of the land and sited the house appropriately without disturbing some of the key features, such as the rolling backyard and stone outcroppings.

Both the interior and exterior features of this home practice the concept of biophilic design. This shingle-style home with a European flair showcases timber and wood throughout the property. Scott says the client wanted a “rough look” to some of the





design elements, which include an outdoor wooden pergola made of twigs. His team also designed “a timber bed frame for the client’s son, with a timber frame ladder to the loft, using wrought-iron metal for the handrails.” Each of these design elements helps to bring the outside in, as do the large windows throughout the home. The client also worked hard to choose the right exterior color to fit the style and surroundings; Scott says the final selection was “conducive to the environment.”

While the concept of biophilic design is important in all homes, when working with views such as these, the process of bringing the outside in becomes even more critical. Scott achieved his greatest goal in building this new home with an old spirit because “it hit all our marks with regard to the design agenda” and his client was very pleased with the result.

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