



OPPOSITE ABOVE LEFT: Two buildings were added to the existing farmhouse, to create a new symmetry on the plot. Joined by glass breezeways, the central stone section was inspired by Midwestern barns, while the new bedroom suite mimics the original farmhouse building on the other side.

OPPOSITE ABOVE RIGHT: The glass breezeways that link the three structures allow light to spill into the interior.

OPPOSITE BELOW: The outdoor dining area at the rear of the house has a stone fireplace to allow entertaining whatever the weather.

ABOVE RIGHT: The pool house has crisp white barn doors and window frames – a contrast to the weathered cedar shingles that cover the exterior.

RIGHT: Interior walls and ceilings are clad in reclaimed mushroom wood.

Located on magnificent Shelter Island, the quiet and charming oasis that is positioned between the north and south fork of Long Island, this sophisticated farmhouse was originally intended as a beach house and weekend getaway for a family based in New York City. However, midway through the process of transforming the simple farmhouse structure into a modern but rustic hideaway, the owners decided to move there permanently.



ISLAND FARMHOUSE



The owners did not want to create a huge house nor to overwhelm the existing farmhouse building, which dated back to the early 1900s. However, at the same time they wanted a home that could comfortably accommodate family, work and social life. So, together with architects Schappacher White, they decided to create a collection of buildings inspired by Midwestern American barns. The result is a beautiful combination of rustic, easy living and modern, gallery-like entertaining spaces.

The house is made up of three distinct structures that meld harmoniously into one. Floor-to-ceiling glass breezeways seamlessly connect the original farmhouse with the new components. A new stone building is home to the central living area, which also acts as a gallery space for a collection of work by the owner and other artists. This is flanked by the original farmhouse on one side and a new



ABOVE AND LEFT: The main living area, which opens onto the outdoor dining space, has flooring of reclaimed elm wood that has been laid with traditional rose nails. Ceilings and beams are reclaimed mushroom wood, and the central fireplace is built in the same stone as the exterior of this section of the house.

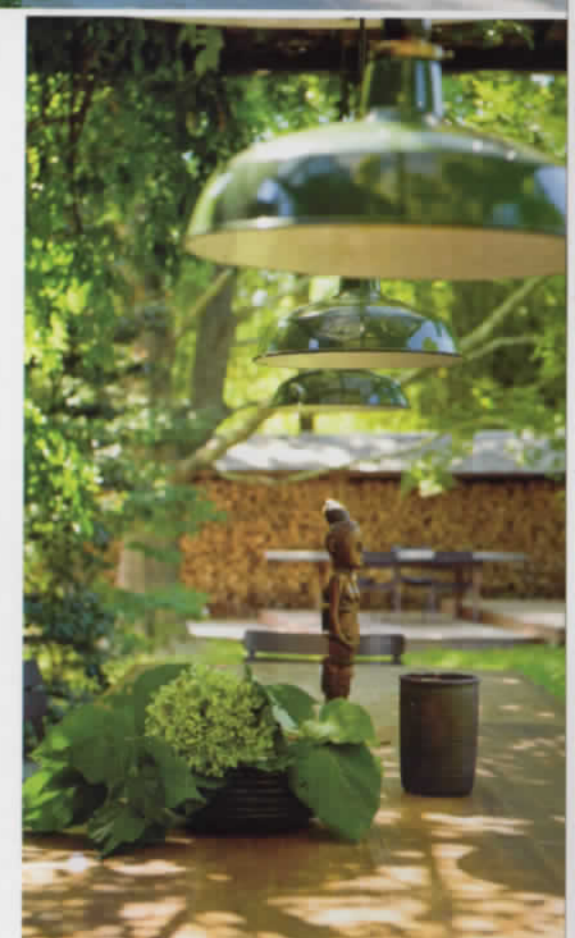
OPPOSITE ABOVE AND FAR RIGHT: A freestanding pergola is constructed from powder-coated metal, with aircraft cables forming the top section. A large table was made from leftover elm wood from the living-room floors. Three industrial-style enamel pendant light fittings hang overhead.

double-height bedroom suite on the other, the exterior of which reflects the earlier building in happy symmetry.

The original two-storey farmhouse was augmented with a galley-kitchen extension and a wraparound porch. The porch is unusually deep and was designed to provide both shade from the sun and protection from the rain. Its wood-panelled ceilings are fitted with large fans to create a breeze in hot weather. It is an inviting space to escape to in the heat as well as a much-used entertaining area in bad weather.

A large outdoor dining area at the rear of the house is effectively another room. The ceiling is a wonderfully high, wisteria-covered pergola and its focal point is a large, double-sided stone fireplace, which is mirrored in the adjoining living room. It is flanked by floor-to-ceiling glass panels that connect the outdoor dining room with the indoor living room. The beautifully considered flow from inside to out is a great advantage when entertaining guests. The large outdoor dining table seats 14 and classic bistro chairs have been painted a deep caviar colour to match the steel work in the area. Large bluestone pavers define the floor area in the living room and glass breezeways, and this carries through to the pergola area to give a sense of one continuous space.

The original pool house still stands and has a boathouse feel. Large barn-like doors open at the front and back and it doubles as a guest room.





LEFT AND BELOW LEFT: Wooden sash windows run the length of the narrow galley kitchen, overlooking the back garden and outdoor dining area. Caravaggio light fittings and a zinc countertop give a contemporary feel that is tempered by the warm hues of the massive ceiling beams.

RIGHT: The pretty pool house now doubles as a guest bedroom.



The centrally positioned bed, adorned with a breezy mosquito net, is reminiscent of colonial homes in hot climates.

The property backs onto a Long Island bamboo plantation, which provides a stunning backdrop to the swimming pool. A stone retaining wall and hedge of hydrangeas was added to create privacy as well as a picturesque border. Oversized sunbeds are dotted around the pool, giving an air of beach-club glamour.

Warm natural shades have been used throughout. The owners' interest in materials and their selection of finishes has led to a wonderful combination of textures and contrasts. Floors are made of reclaimed elm, and ceilings and exposed collar ties are made of specially sourced mushroom wood, while Pennsylvania stone lines the façade of the main building and the massive central fireplace. Cedar shingles are in keeping with the architecture of the area, and copper roofing and gutters withstand the harsh coastal weather conditions and complement the greyish tone the shingles take on over time. Zinc countertops in the kitchen and soapstone fireplaces add to list of natural materials used.

This house is a collection of traditional barn buildings, interlinked by modern glass connectors, which provide a backdrop for easy family living and entertaining. The clean lines and generous proportions coupled with dreamy landscaping and reclaimed materials create a pleasing juxtaposition of traditional and modern.

ABOVE: The tranquil swimming pool area is an oasis of calm, surrounded by lush mature planting and a wide stone surround that has ample room for sun loungers and other seating.

ABOVE RIGHT: Mosquito netting and white linen create a breezy, summery feel in the self-contained guest bedroom.