

THE ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS AND CANADIAN HOUSE & HOME



RESIDENTIAL DESIGN AWARDS

BY BARBARA MACKAY

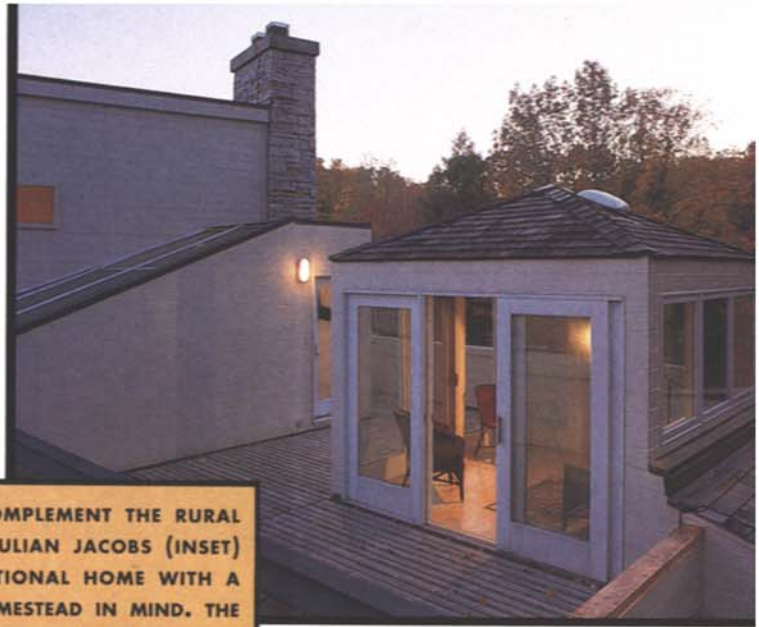
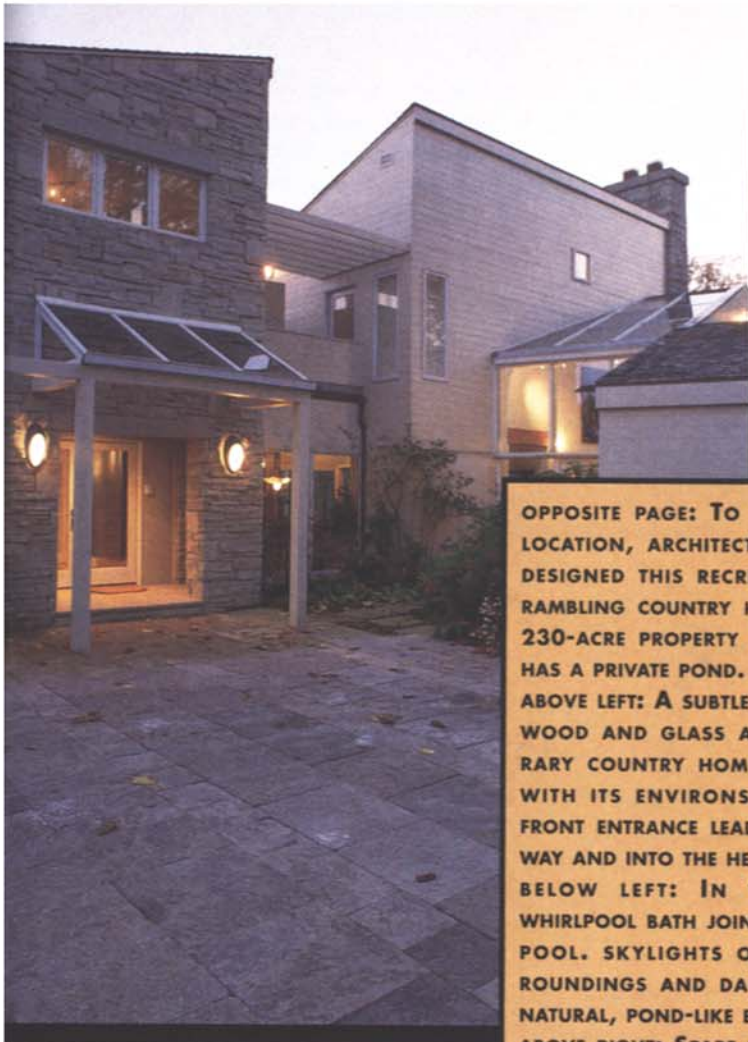
Because an appreciation of excellence in residential design is a given at *House & Home*, we were particularly proud to be co-sponsors of the 1989 Residential Design Awards program with the Ontario Association of Architects (OAA). Jurors Witold Rybczynski, professor of architecture at McGill University and author of *The Most Beautiful House in the World*, architect Macy DuBois, of the DuBois Plumb Partnership Architects Inc., and Jane Dupère, editor of *House & Home*, sought quality of design and execution. They found it in abundance among the entrants in the six design categories.

What distinguishes each of the winning entries is a sensitivity to the client's needs, coupled with an imaginative use of the settings. This holistic approach to residential design places architects among our most valuable environmental resources. As George Popper, Public Information Chairman for the OAA, explains, "The architect stands back and takes an overview of a situation. Where an individual may have a good grasp of the specific details, the architect's role is to come up with the comprehensive solution."

Hiring an architect to design a home sounds like an expensive proposition. But, as these winners demonstrate, virtually any scale of project can benefit from the professional eye and technical expertise of an architect. The initial cost is commonly recovered in the process, Popper points out. The architect ensures that costs are competitive, and that the client's money is well spent. "In and of themselves, expensive materials don't guarantee value," he says. "They have to be used in thoughtful and effective ways."

"Thoughtful" and "effective" are indeed the words to sum up this year's winners.





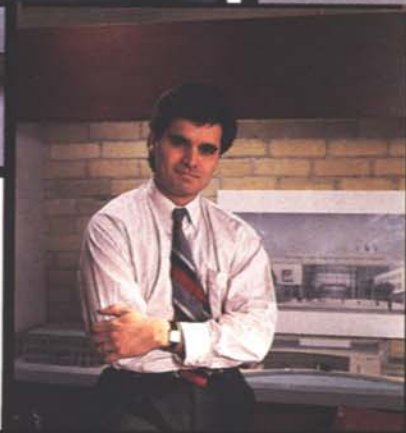
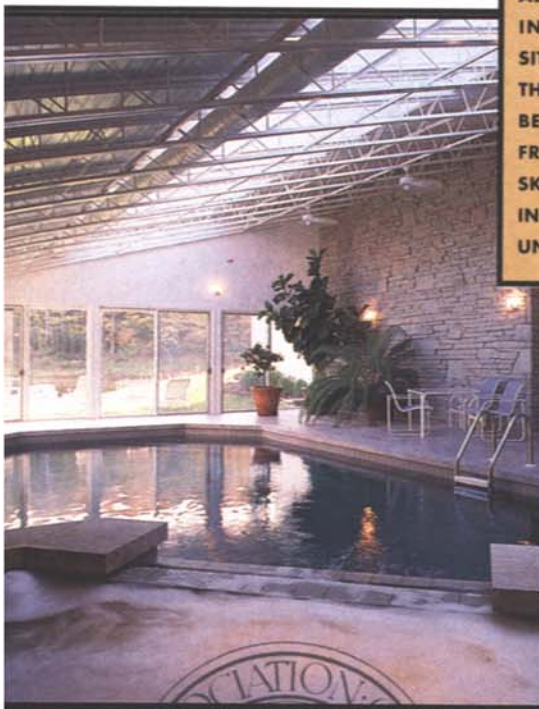
OPPOSITE PAGE: TO COMPLEMENT THE RURAL LOCATION, ARCHITECT JULIAN JACOBS (INSET) DESIGNED THIS RECREATIONAL HOME WITH A RAMBLING COUNTRY HOMESTEAD IN MIND. THE 230-ACRE PROPERTY NORTHEAST OF TORONTO HAS A PRIVATE POND.

ABOVE LEFT: A SUBTLE COMBINATION OF STONE, WOOD AND GLASS ALLOWS THIS CONTEMPORARY COUNTRY HOME TO BLEND BEAUTIFULLY WITH ITS ENVIRONS. A WIDE, WELCOMING FRONT ENTRANCE LEADS OFF THE STONE DRIVEWAY AND INTO THE HEART OF THE HOME.

BELOW LEFT: IN THE FOREGROUND, A WHIRLPOOL BATH JOINS THE GENEROUS INDOOR POOL. SKYLIGHTS OVERHEAD, STONE SURROUNDINGS AND DARK POOL TILES EVOKE A NATURAL, POND-LIKE ENVIRONMENT.

ABOVE RIGHT: SPARE IN FURNISHINGS BUT RICH IN CONTEMPLATIVE QUALITIES, THE CUPOLA SITTING ROOM IS A FAVOURITE HIDEAWAY FOR THE OWNERS.

BELOW RIGHT: SEPARATING THE LIVING AREAS FROM THE SLEEPING AREAS, THIS STAIRWAY AND SKYLIGHT NARROW TOWARD THE TOP, PROVIDING YET ANOTHER INTERESTING ANGLE TO THIS UNIQUE COUNTRY HOME.



SINGLE FAMILY HOMES - NEW

JULIAN JACOBS ARCHITECTS

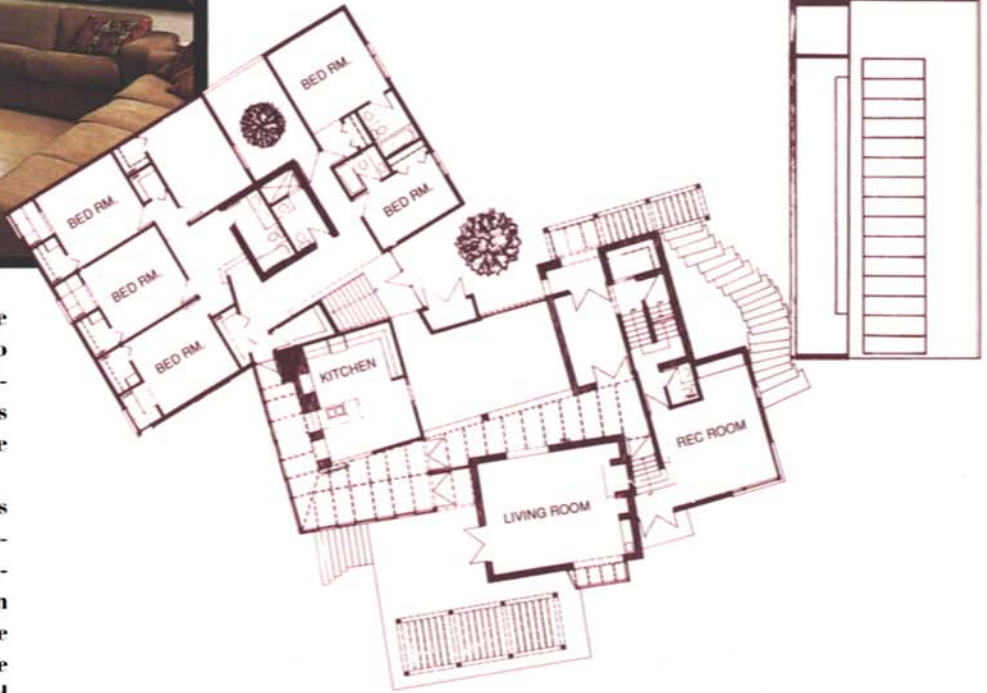
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LEFT: EXPOSED PINE BEAMS AND A STONE WALL SET THE FARMHOUSE TONE FOR THE LIVING ROOM. THE ENTIRE HOUSE WAS DECORATED BY THE OWNER. BELOW: THE DINING ROOM, OPEN TO BOTH THE KITCHEN AND THE LIVING ROOM, RESEMBLES THE PIAZZA OF A TOWN, WITH ITS CENTRAL LOCATION AND OVERHEAD SKYLIGHTS.

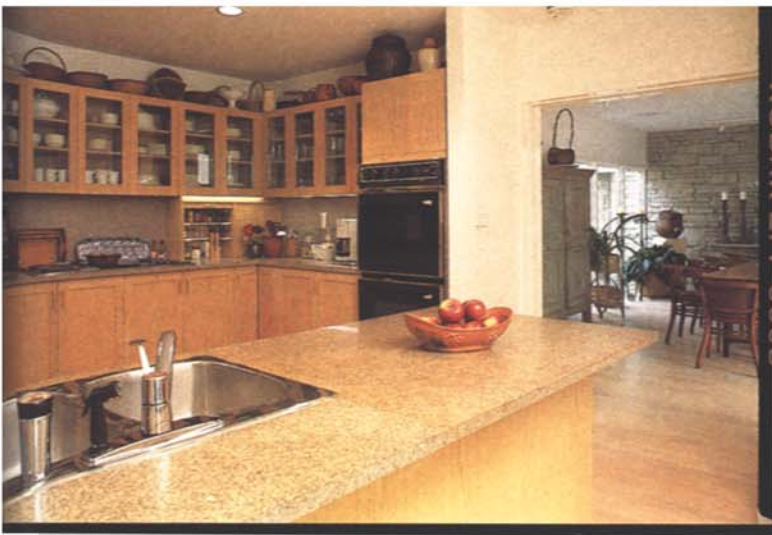


To harmonize with the natural landscape and to bring the beauty of the outdoors into the home were two important goals for architect Julian Jacobs when he designed this recreational country home on a 230-acre property northeast of Toronto.

"I'm also a landscape painter," Jacobs says, so it was with an artist's eye that he designed this large home to complement the immediate landscape and the rural Canadian Shield countryside. The grounds around the home were landscaped to enhance both the views and the access to the private pond and the surrounding areas. His artist's eye can



OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP LEFT: GLASS-FRONT KITCHEN CUPBOARDS AND NATURAL MATERIALS SUCH AS WOOD FLOORING AND GRANITE COUNTERTOPS ADD TO THE FARMHOUSE FEEL OF THE COUNTRY KITCHEN. TOP RIGHT: A RUGGED AND RUSTIC STONE WALL FEATURES A BUILT-IN HEARTH. THE COUNTRY LOOK IS FURTHER ACCENTED WITH DECORATIVE BASKETS AND FOLK ART.



also be seen in the way that many of the windows frame exterior views. "The dining room, for example, looks out on a landscaped forecourt and planting area in a kind of 'cove' of the building," he says.

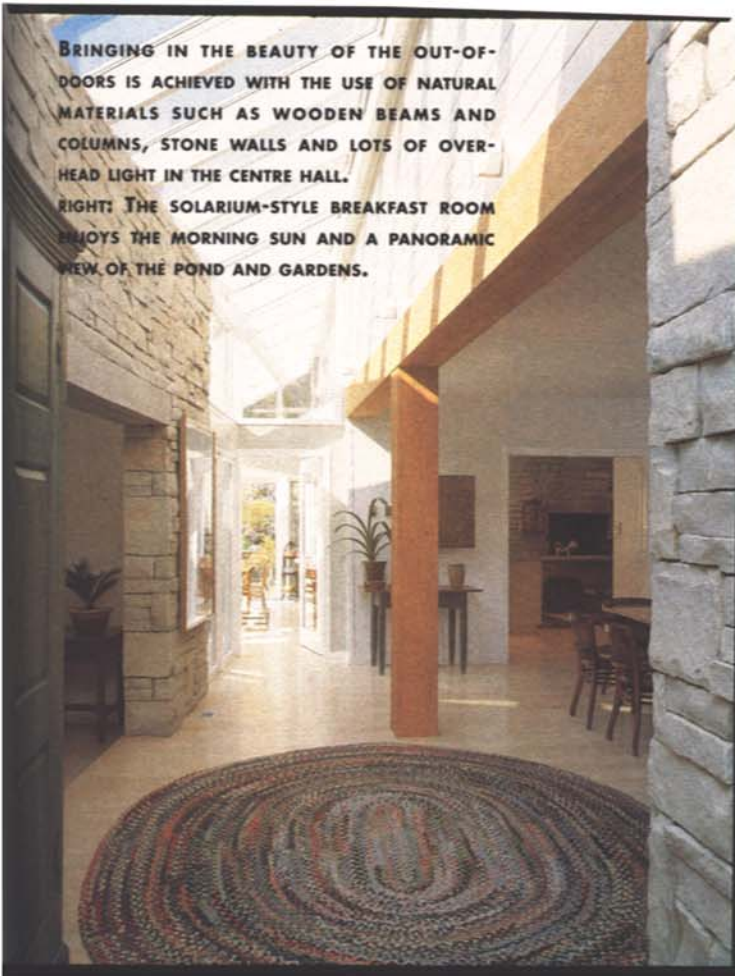
Although the design is definitely modern, Jacobs sought a rambling farmhouse feel in the flow of the rooms. The house is basically composed of three sections connecting at different angles. "When I was designing it, I started working with different kinds of angles, what I call minor shifts," he says. The unique geometry of the house didn't result in

any odd-shaped rooms because the angle shifts occur in the spaces between the habitable rooms. The technique also helped to remove any long corridors. "We eliminated hallways by having a room itself, for example the dining room, resemble the piazza in a town," Jacobs says.

Large and numerous windows and many overhead skylights bring the outdoors — both views and natural light — into this home. "One of the nicest feelings in any space occurs when there is natural light coming in and a view out and yet you're protected," Ja-

cobs says. It is this feeling of being in a protected yet open space — the piazza — that Jacobs attained in the dining room with its overhead windows and central location.

The country home atmosphere was also enhanced by the architect's choice of building materials, as he selected materials that would suit both indoor and outdoor applications. Stone, for example, a familiar farmhouse material, was used on the exterior walls and on several interior walls, most notably in the living room. Other natural materials, such as pine beams and columns add to the theme.



BRINGING IN THE BEAUTY OF THE OUT-OF-DOORS IS ACHIEVED WITH THE USE OF NATURAL MATERIALS SUCH AS WOODEN BEAMS AND COLUMNS, STONE WALLS AND LOTS OF OVERHEAD LIGHT IN THE CENTRE HALL.

RIGHT: THE SOLARIUM-STYLE BREAKFAST ROOM ENJOYS THE MORNING SUN AND A PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE POND AND GARDENS.

