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A BRICK-CLAD EXTERIOR AND OPEN-PLAN INTERIOR

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family comes first

new traditional



Top left: The distinctive elevation has a columned portico, steeply pitched cedar shingle roof, and 17 dormers.

Center & bottom right: The rear of the house includes three sets of French doors leading directly in the great room.



WRITTEN BY JILL CONNORS

IT SEEMED LIKE A SIMPLE ENOUGH REQUEST: JUDY & BILL BAUTZ JUST WANTED A HOUSE with “enough room for everyone to sleep and eat.” But then the numbers came into play: They had four grown children, all married, and nine grandchildren. Counting Judy and Bill, that meant room for 19 people, if everyone came at once. And that’s precisely the point of the 5,500-square-foot house the Bautzes built in Westhampton, New York. With seven bedrooms and four baths, everyone can come at once—for summer vacations, holiday gatherings, weekends throughout the year. No one is happier with the end result than Judy and Bill: “The rooms are a nice size, we’re a mile from the beach so the kids can bike there if they want, and there’s a country feel to the place,” says Judy.

The 30-month, start-to-finish building project began when the Bautzes purchased a one-acre lot in Westhampton. Admiring two new houses built near their lot, the Bautzes found out they had been designed by a Sag Harbor architect named Doug Moyer, so they met with him in early 2000 to start the design phase. “Judy Brought lots of clips with her,” recalls Moyer, “which is something I encourage all my clients to do. I also like to walk around and measure rooms of existing houses with my clients, because you really get a sense of what spaces are important to them.”



Left: The Mahogany front door was custom-made by the builder

Right: French doors lead from the great room to the backyard

HEIGHT & LIGHT

The main living area of the house look and feel spacious and bright. Several factors in the design and building of the house contribute to this result:

Ceiling heights throughout the first floor are 9 feet, whereas many houses are built with 8-foot-high ceilings. Says architect Doug Moyer: "To go to nine feet is well worth it because you get a lot more sense of height."

Nine-foot ceilings made it possible to add transoms above all the French doors which are a standard 6-foot, 8-inch-high units. "The transom concept allowed us to get a little more natural light into the rooms," says Moyer.



From the start, the Bautzes knew they wanted a traditional-style house, and they liked the idea of a steeply pitched roofline with dormer windows, says Moyer.

Inside, the Bautzes' tastes ran traditional as well. "They knew they wanted such architectural details like moldings and columns fairly simple, but they didn't want a bare, contemporary look at all," says architect Moyer. And they also had a few specific requests for the rooms. "I wanted a dining room that could easily hold a table for 10, a kitchen that was workable for a couple

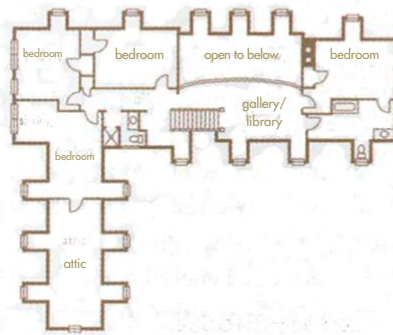
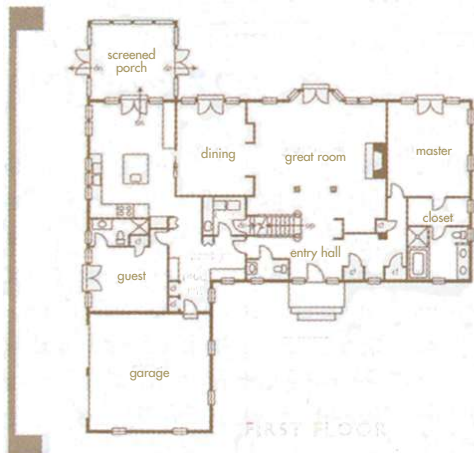
of people at a time, and a living room with a fireplace, a corner for reading, and a corner for a desk," says Judy.

The open floor plan that resulted is centered around a 24-by-26 foot great room that is flanked by the dining room and kitchen on one side, the master suite on the other. A stairway and upper level balcony overlook the great room; French doors lead from the great room to the terraced backyard and a swimming pool beyond. Even the entrance to the great room is distinctive: Two columns mark the passage from the front entry hall into the room itself.

AN ARCHED, SOUTH-FACING WINDOW LETS THE SUN SHINE IN



new traditional



Above: The 16-by-18-foot master bedroom includes French doors leading to the backyard. Transform windows atop the doors take advantage of 9-foot high ceilings.

Left: The floor plan shows a central great room on the first floor; the majority of the bedrooms are clustered on the second floor.