

he ocean is exciting, but in The Hamptons there is a location that betters the sea. Sheltered from the Atlantic by a narrow sandbar, Georgica Pond is a coastal lagoon west of East Hampton village. Life here offers tranquility you won't find elsewhere. Rich in bird life, including swans, herons, and osprey, and blessed with an almost magical quality to the light, "the Pond" began attracting artists in the late 19th century.

"Residents speak of living with the pond," says Peter Turino of Brown Harris Stevens of the Hamptons and North Fork, an affiliate of Christie's International Real Estate. "The light and colors shift from moment to moment." Little wonder, then, people are loath to leave. Commanding one of the best locations on Georgica Pond, and one of its largest plots, Briar Patch Estate has been home to just three families over nearly 85 years.

From the compound's quarter-mile of shorefront, residents can push out a sailboat and enjoy the pond undisturbed by motorcraft, while nearby wood trails, surfing, beachcombing, and golf provide bountiful leisure options. Then there's East Hampton itself, where there are culinary arts and entertainment in abundance. East Hampton Airport, with private transport by helicopter and jet, is a mere 10-minute drive away.

The house itself was designed by Arthur C Jackson in 1931 and renovated in the 1990s by acclaimed architect Peter Marino. The main residence, Shepard





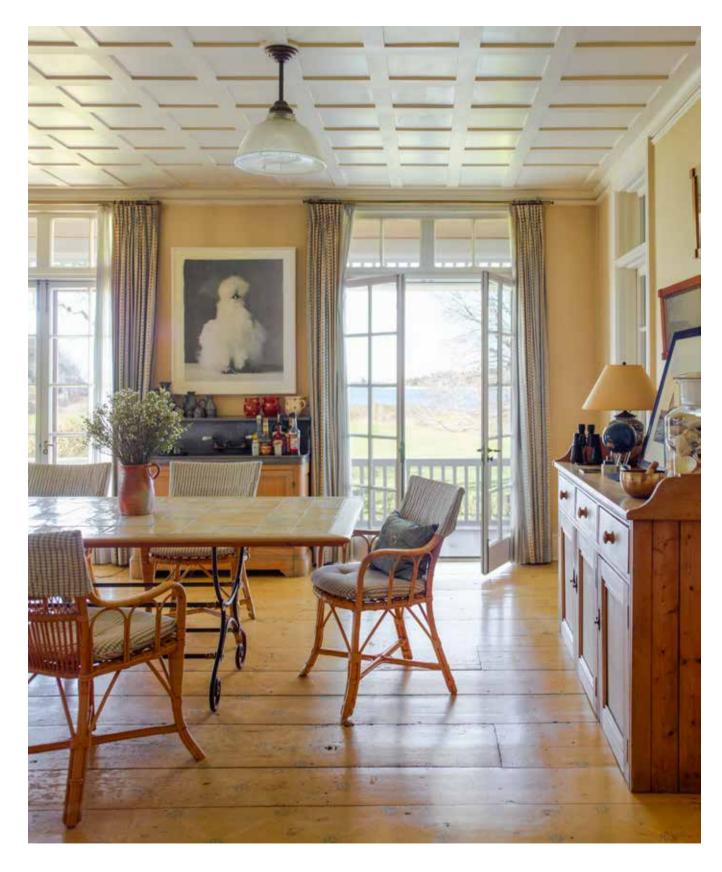
Krech House, is a six-bedroom, cedar-shingle mansion of 10,300 square feet built in the Georgian Revival style, and firmly deserving of its place on the National Register of Historic Places. First impressions are of handsome architecture on a grand scale and a shimmering glimpse of the water.

Through the welcoming foyer, past the sweeping staircase, is the centerpiece of the house – a threestory living space with extraordinary views of the pond and the ocean beyond. A sunken library with coffered ceilings, two kitchens, and a third-floor gym are just some of the other standout features, while high-quality details are everywhere. "Loving restoration formed a huge part of the renovations," says Turino in reference to the fireplaces, reclaimed floorboards, handmade wallpaper, and hand-stenciled ceilings. "The word 'estate' gets kicked around a lot, but Briar Patch is truly worthy of it," he concludes.

The package includes an additional 3,500-square-foot four-bedroom house, 11.2 acres of landscaped grounds, 1,156 feet of waterfront, a 50-foot swimming pool, and a tennis court. The property is divided into two parcels, offering valuable potential for expansion. If you're looking for fine architecture, utter privacy, and stunning views, then Briar Patch is an opportunity of distinction.

Discover more about this special property, including further photography, at www.christiesrealestate.com





Fine-quality details and original finishes are everywhere, while full-height windows and wide porches beckon you to linger over panoramic vistas and sunsets.







