

# THE WAITE RESIDENCE

WHERE WHITE IS THE ORDER OF THE DAY

TURKS & CAICOS

"THERE WAS NOT MUCH OF AN OPTION WITH THE STRUCTURE'S PLACEMENT ON THE SITE. THE SITE IS LOCATED ON THE LEEWARD CANALS WITH ACCESS TO BOTH THE ATLANTIC AND THE CARIBBEAN. THE OWNER'S ARE AVID BOAT PEOPLE. WE FOCUSED ON CONNECTING THE PROPERTY TO THE BOAT.

THE LINEAR POOL TERMINATING AT THE CANAL ACCOMPLISHES THIS."

ARCHITECT RON SHAW



A WATER WALL CASCADING FROM THE SECOND FLOOR SEPARATES YOU FROM THE CUBE GARDEN BEYOND.



## THE WAITE RESIDENCE

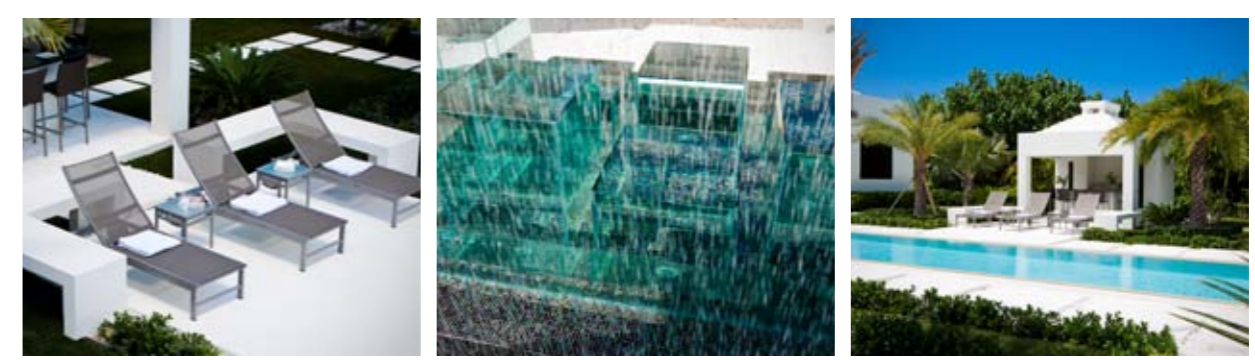
Architect: RON SHAW

The concept focused on creating building elements and details that extend beyond traditional function while at the same time provide stimulating geometric forms that intrigue and tickle your senses.

A consistent theme of "square" resonates throughout the house. Buildings, rooms, ceilings, wall features, exterior pathways, decks, and all roof lines form pyramids over square structures creating "peaks" of varying size and height. At one point the Owner's considered calling it "Nine Peaks".

Second focus in the schematic development centred on water. The property located on the canals spilling out into Leeward Going Through, a natural cut connecting the Atlantic Ocean on the north to the Caribbean Sea to the South, steered the concept to include water features both inside and outside the home.

The ideal tropical climate and perfect exterior environment allowed equal focus to interior and exterior living spaces. The swimming pool starts at the front entry, ventures under the house, continues to the back of the house and terminates with an infinity edge at the canal. Clear Glass floor panels over the pool in the Living Room, truly exonerate the feeling of walking on water. ▶





■ THE OWNERS WANTED CONTEMPORARY  
NO COLOUR (OTHER THAN WHITE)  
THE FOCUS WAS ON VERY SIMPLE AND DOMINANT  
GEOMETRIC SHAPES AND FIGURES.

THE BUILDING INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR IS WHITE  
BLACK TINTED GLASS THAT ABSORBS 90% OF THE  
NATURAL LIGHT FROM LINEAR WINDOWS,  
SOME TOWERING TWO STOREYS IN HEIGHT.

#### HOUSE SPECS

**Main House** - 5,992 sf under roof 4,015 sf air conditioned  
3 bedrooms.  
4 ½ baths.  
Pool Length 150lf ( 55 lf under the house).  
Water wall cascades from the second floor at  
the front entry.

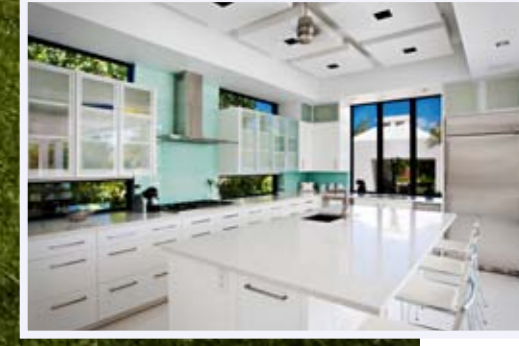
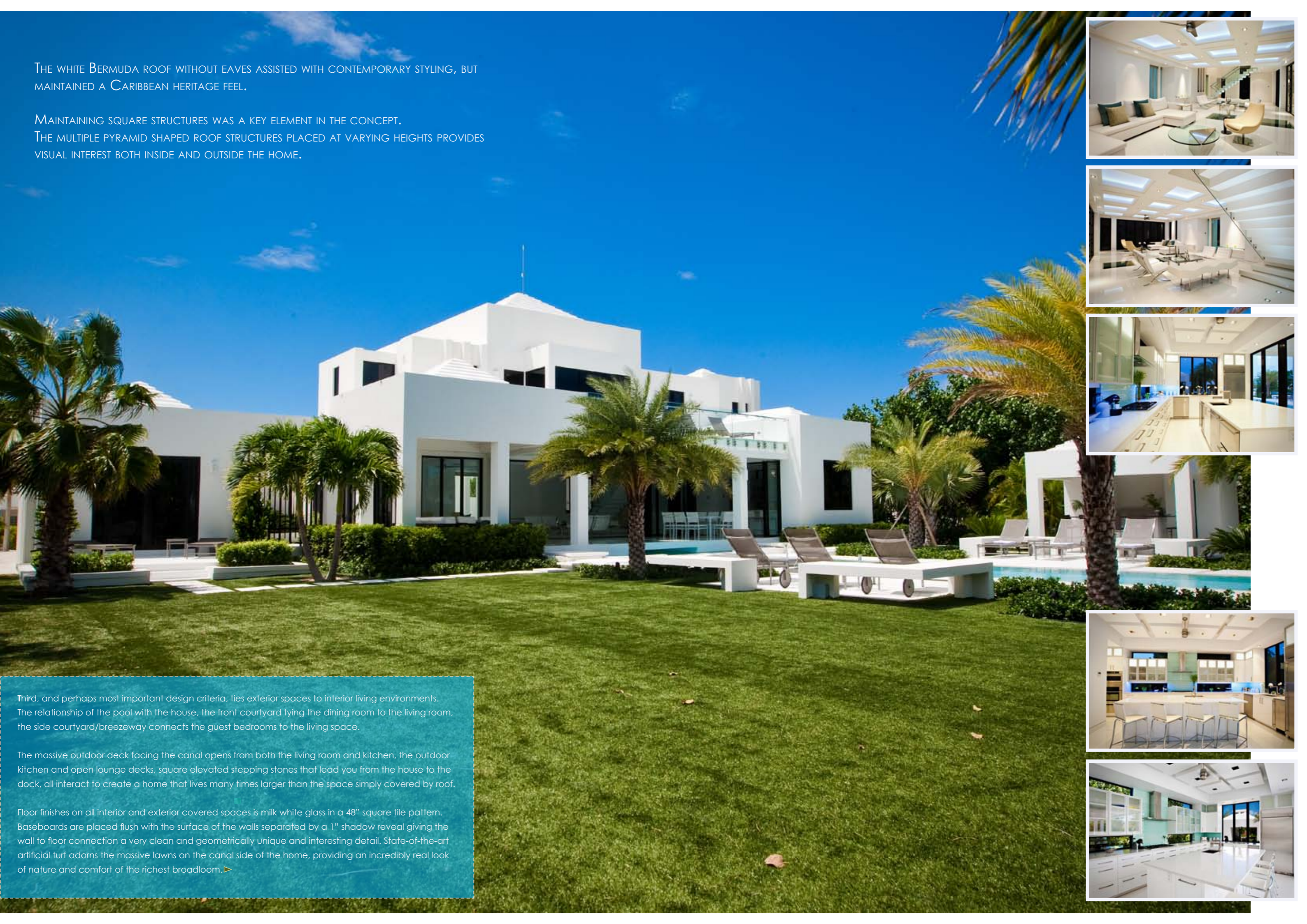
**Guest House** - 750 sf air conditioned  
2 bedrooms.  
Single bath.

#### Other Amenities

Two car garage  
Outdoor kitchen  
115' dock  
Travertine paved driveway  
Crestron electronic audio/video/lighting  
control system

THE WHITE BERMUDA ROOF WITHOUT EAVES ASSISTED WITH CONTEMPORARY STYLING, BUT MAINTAINED A CARIBBEAN HERITAGE FEEL.

MAINTAINING SQUARE STRUCTURES WAS A KEY ELEMENT IN THE CONCEPT. THE MULTIPLE PYRAMID SHAPED ROOF STRUCTURES PLACED AT VARYING HEIGHTS PROVIDES VISUAL INTEREST BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE HOME.

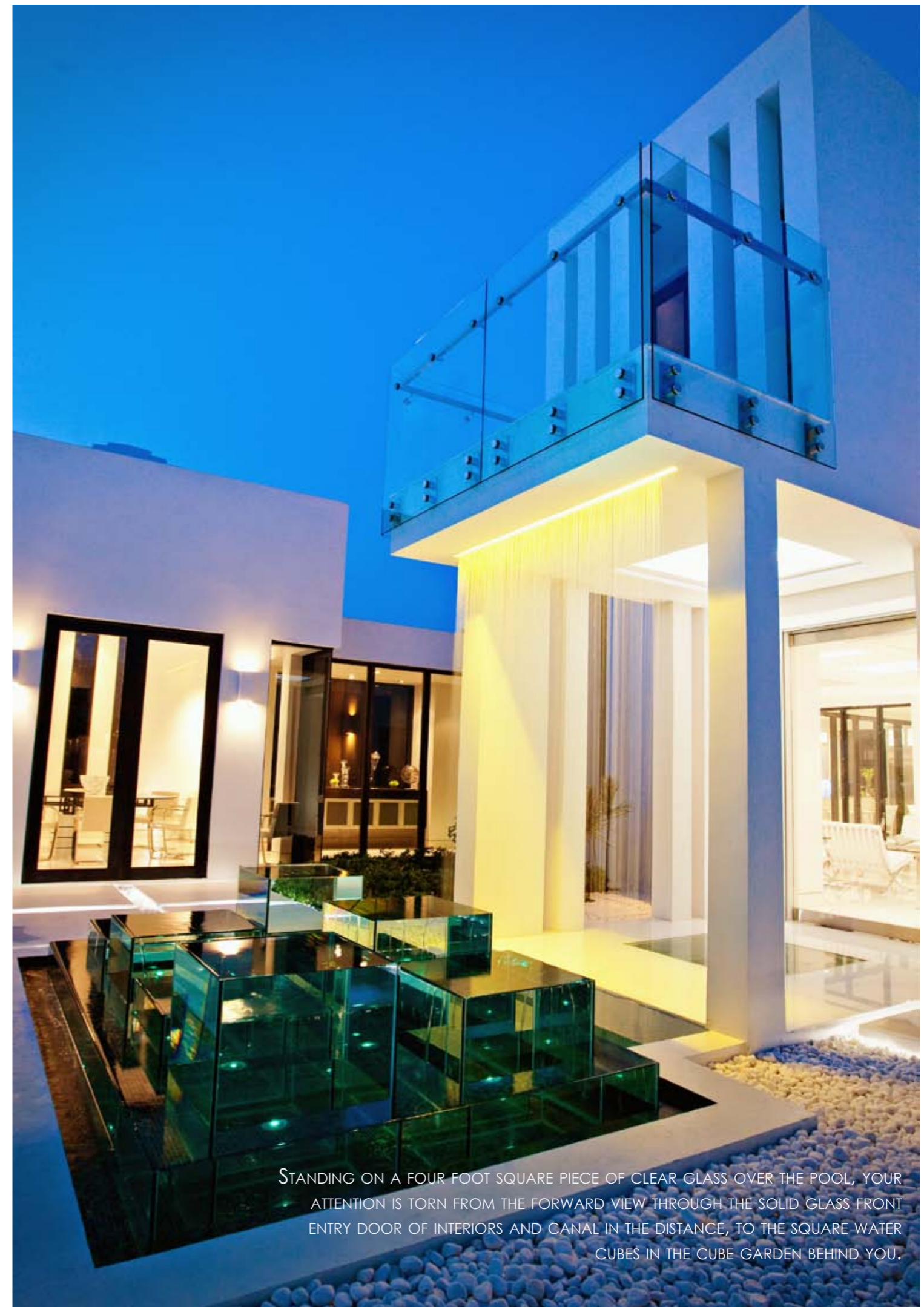


Third, and perhaps most important design criteria, ties exterior spaces to interior living environments. The relationship of the pool with the house, the front courtyard tying the dining room to the living room, the side courtyard/breezeway connects the guest bedrooms to the living space.

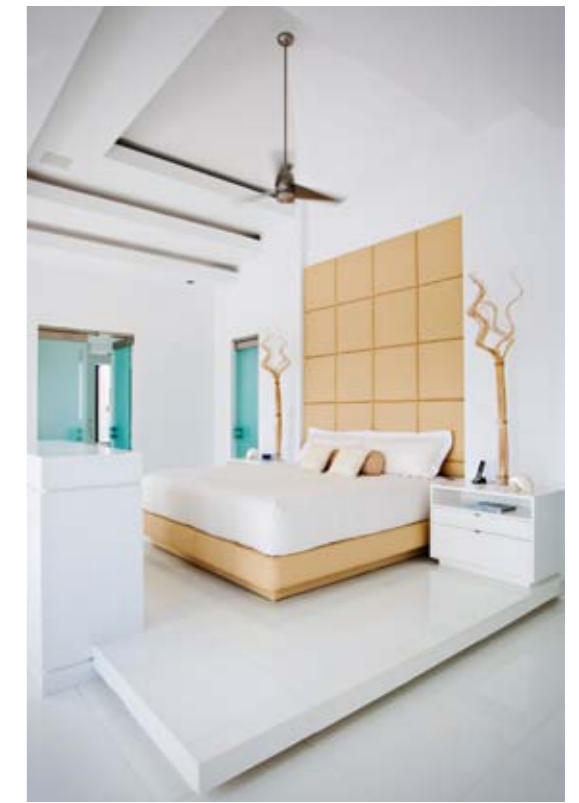
The massive outdoor deck facing the canal opens from both the living room and kitchen, the outdoor kitchen and open lounge decks, square elevated stepping stones that lead you from the house to the dock, all interact to create a home that lives many times larger than the space simply covered by roof.

Floor finishes on all interior and exterior covered spaces is milk white glass in a 48" square tile pattern. Baseboards are placed flush with the surface of the walls separated by a 1" shadow reveal giving the wall to floor connection a very clean and geometrically unique and interesting detail. State-of-the-art artificial turf adorns the massive lawns on the canal side of the home, providing an incredibly real look of nature and comfort of the richest broadloom.▶

THE STRUCTURE IS UNMISTAKABLY CONTEMPORARY WITH VERY CLEAN LINES, UNIFORM SHAPES, AND UNCOMPLICATED FEATURES. THE CLIENTS WERE VERY FOCUSED AND CLEAR IN THEIR DESIRE TO BUILD A CONTEMPORARY HOME.



STANDING ON A FOUR FOOT SQUARE PIECE OF CLEAR GLASS OVER THE POOL, YOUR ATTENTION IS TORN FROM THE FORWARD VIEW THROUGH THE SOLID GLASS FRONT ENTRY DOOR OF INTERIORS AND CANAL IN THE DISTANCE, TO THE SQUARE WATER CUBES IN THE CUBE GARDEN BEHIND YOU.



The devil is in the detail. No two ceilings are the same. Contemporary coffered ceilings with hidden linear LED strip lighting in the living contrast to reverse coffers in the kitchen. The eighteen foot high ceilings in the dining room begin with concentric steps that give way to coffers at the top. The pyramidal nature of this square room forces the attention to commence with the custom designed circular table (one of the only circular elements in the home) and naturally leads the interest up the vertical 3-gang linear windows, concluding at the unique and visually stimulating stepped ceiling topping the room.

There are a number of outstanding features in the Master Bedroom, but perhaps the most outstanding is the 12 feet ceiling at the Master Closet. Maximizing space, cabinets extend to the ceiling. A rolling "library" ladder provides access to those cabinets that are out of reach.

This property is unmistakably contemporary with very clean lines, uniform shapes, and uncomplicated features, a welcomed contrast to the otherwise familiar. ☺



TROPICAL LIVING IS PARAMOUNT. ALTHOUGH THE ENTIRE STRUCTURE IS AIR CONDITIONED WITH STATE-OF-THE-ART ZONE CONTROLLED DAIKEN AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEM, THE HOUSE IS MOST EXCITING WHEN ALL DOORS AND WINDOWS ARE FULLY OPEN.



# PROFILE

## RA Shaw Designs Ltd



RA Shaw Designs Ltd. commenced business in the Turks & Caicos Islands in 1998. Although we do some commercial work, our focus is on custom residential. 60% of our clients are from the UK and Europe. Balance is mostly North American. Although we have projects on other islands in the Turks & Caicos, our office is located on Providenciales. We have done work on projects in the Bahamas, British Virgin Islands, and Mauritius. Our bread and butter comes from off-island Owners developing second homes in paradise that often enter the short term tourism rental market.

We take pride in thinking outside the box and creating homes that truly leave visitors with a tropical living experience that you will not find in northern climates. Our average home is in the 3,000 to 6,000 square foot range. Our largest is the Emerald Cay project at 30,000 sf.

In the Turks & Caicos Islands, I discovered that maintaining a reasonable level of quality construction is very difficult on a small island so I created Design Build Associates Ltd, a general contracting firm that builds most of the projects we design. We have a staff of 10 in the design office, but many of my detailers serve as site managers overseeing the construction. Aside from the benefits of continuity, this instills tremendous pride and dedication from the staff as they take total responsibility from concept to completion.

I have been designing and building homes in the Turks & Caicos Islands since 1998. Prior, I delved mainly into the commercial/industrial sectors in a design build capacity in Southern Ontario Canada. I am a product of the Ontario College system, graduated from Niagara in 1980. I am a Certified Quantity Surveyor, and although I have studied architecture, I have no architectural accreditation, and yet my entire career has been design. It is my passion. My education in quantity surveying, and construction in general, along with a minor in architecture has proven very valuable to my career.

I am passionate about single family residential design and consider myself blessed to have been able to establish a successful architecture practise here in the Turks & Caicos Islands, where I have focused on the design and construction of some pretty incredible residences. It is more about client relationships and building their dreams than it is about making money. I find this to be a stark contrast to commercial industrial design work that filled the earlier days of my career.

