

PHILADELPHIA MAGAZINE'S

# HOME

& GARDEN

40+ pages of inspiring area homes

Collecting Spectacular

## ANTIQUES ART + DESIGN

The Best  
in New Jersey,  
Chester County  
and Philadelphia

Our ultimate  
fix-it guide

PLUS

THE BRIGHTEST  
LAMPS, SHADES  
+ CHANDELIERS

FALL 2006 \$4.95  
DISPLAY UNTIL NOVEMBER 5, 2006







## FEATURES

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### ON THE COVER

Tyson Boles small Blade light and medium Ribbed light; St. Charles mercury glass table lamp by Jamie Young Company with red silk retro drum shade; and Tyson Boles Grate light. Photographed by John Romeo; styling by Lauren Kozakiewicz; assistant styling by Avery Osborne and Holly Donaldson. Turn to page 140 for additional shopping information.





# a natural fit

TAKE A RURAL CHESTER COUNTY LANDSCAPE, THROW IN A FEW CURVES, AND A MODERN HOME BLENDS RIGHT IN

**By Stacey Tillilie**

**Photographs by Jeffrey Totaro**

Standing at the highest point of a rolling hayfield in Chester Springs is a house that could have been built just to capture the view, a sweeping tapestry of lush green hills and endless blue skies. And while the home does justice to the scenery that inspired it, it looks nothing like the traditional Chester County farmhouses that dot this sprawling countryside.

The difference is entirely intentional. The Philadelphia couple who built the home were drawn to the natural country setting, but they didn't want a country home. They wanted a modern house, one that embodied the sophistication of city living without spoiling the natural beauty of the Chester County landscape they fell in love with. They found the balance they sought in the land itself, and let its natural curves and views guide the spaces and surfaces of the home they built there. Working with a small team of architects and artisans, the homeowners took special care to make the home flow naturally into the long open stretches of undulating hills, and to allow nature to reign inside as well as out.

*(continued on page 125)*





## CURVES AHEAD

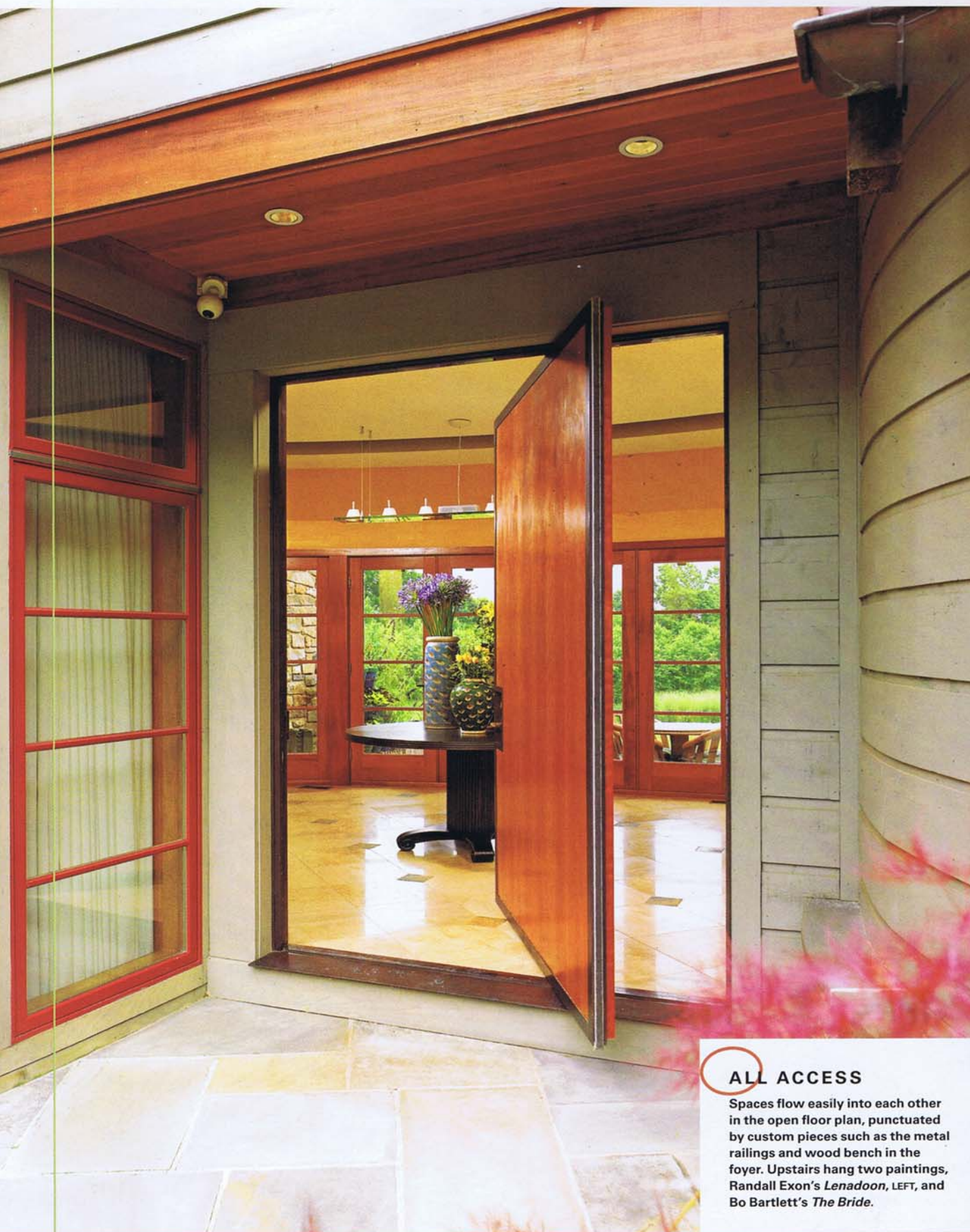
A cutout in the ceiling follows the semicircular sweep of the foyer, one of the many curved elements that make the home flow naturally. Burt, one of two resident Jack Russell terriers, takes in the view beyond the Venetian-plaster walls. OPPOSITE: Alone on an almost nine-acre hayfield, the modern house stands out from Chester County's traditional farmhouses.





## KNOCK, KNOCK

Princeton metalworker Ron Lessard used an offset pivot to make the cherry front door, which seems to float in its frame and swivels to reveal the foyer. The midcentury Persian pottery on the table came from a California winery.



## ALL ACCESS

Spaces flow easily into each other in the open floor plan, punctuated by custom pieces such as the metal railings and wood bench in the foyer. Upstairs hang two paintings, Randall Exon's *Lenadoon*, LEFT, and Bo Bartlett's *The Bride*.









## MADE TO ORDER

*The Empress*, a painting by Bo Bartlett, hangs on a Venetian-plaster wall in the master bedroom above a sleigh bed made from a single sheet of steel, TOP LEFT; another Bartlett piece, *Hanukkah*, rests on the mantel of the hot-rolled steel and copper fireplace in the living room, BOTTOM; and a gently curved, T-shaped wooden catwalk between the master bedroom and home office, ABOVE, has slim cutouts to let light sift through from the floor below.

## OUTSIDE VIEW

A two-story wall of windows brings light and an ever-changing view to the living room, OPPOSITE, and the catwalk on the second floor. Heated birch floors supplement the fireplace in cooler months.











## LIGHT MOOD

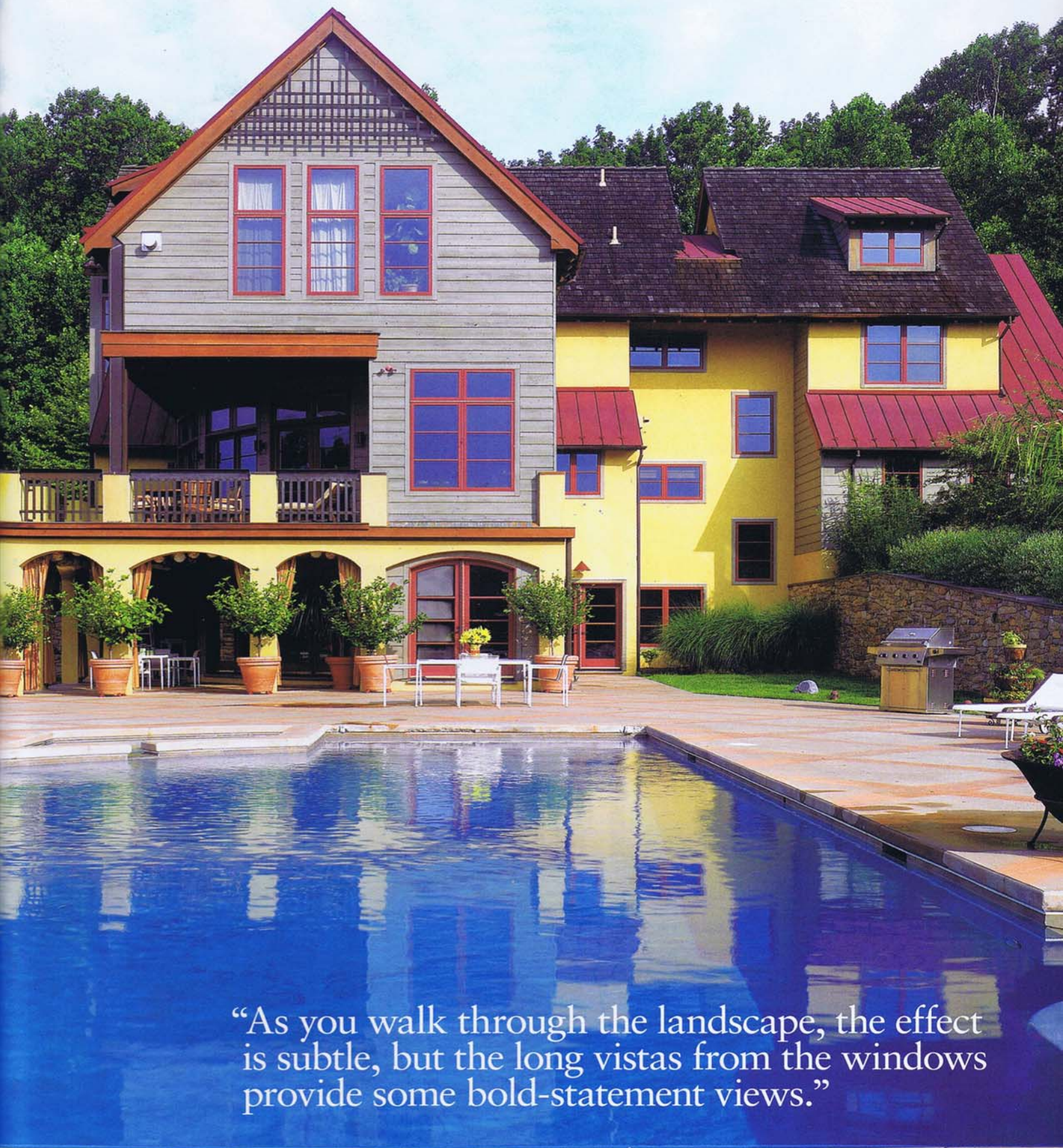
The columned alfresco dining area, BELOW, is set for entertaining a crowd, which happens often in warm weather; the kitchen has a modern vibe with honed black counters by Absolute Marble & Granite, touches of stainless steel, frosted glass cabinet doors and Flos lighting above the island.

## BACKYARD LIVING

A two-level deck, OPPOSITE, hosts outdoor gatherings of all kinds, either on the railed upper portion or beneath 10-foot archways hung with curtains and lights below. A vanishing-edge pool shimmers like a crystalline oasis beyond the house.







“As you walk through the landscape, the effect is subtle, but the long vistas from the windows provide some bold-statement views.”