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HAPPINESS ON THE HUDSON

Edgewater Colony home offers panorama, pool and more

WRITTEN BY CINDY SCHWEICH HANDLER PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF PROPER CINEMA



The Edgewater Colony home of builder Ben Winikoff embraces its nearness to the Hudson. It has glass walls on the east-facing side for views on all of its four levels. A natural spring feeds a retention pond beneath the foundation that Winikoff pumps to street level so it can flow down as a waterfall on its northern side. But the best way to get across its proximity to the river may be this: When the tide rose during Hurricane Sandy, it brought water over the patio. When the tide receded, it left behind a fish.

The home on Annett Avenue, with its unique copper and limestone exterior, is one of seven that Winikoff, a self-described pioneer in Edgewater Colony, has constructed in the riverside hamlet. After buying the lot for his home in 2007, he dug 50 feet down in the granite and stone to shore it up. The back wall is more than a foot thick, he says, and the structure is concrete. He constructed the stone walls surrounding the house to make beds for trees and plantings. Approval to install a dock on the property is imminent. "It's tough to build here, but once you get it done, it's magical," says Winikoff. >



POOL BY THE SHORE

The lowest level of the property is home to a heated pool about 30 feet long that has a glass-tiled infinity edge and glass bead interior finish completed by B&B Pool and Spa Center, with Derek Bagin as head of construction. A hot tub above the pool empties into it, and a sand-colored "beach area" holds water a few inches deep for wading or pulling up a chair. Above the pool, the ceiling has been faux-painted to look like the sky. "At night, the movement in the pool reflects on it so it looks like the clouds are moving," says Winikoff. Glass blocks wrap around a full bath. The travertine marble floor continues onto the open patio seen at right, which is accessible through sliding glass doors; as part of the Crestron Home Automation System that runs throughout the house, a screen can descend from the ceiling for summertime use. >

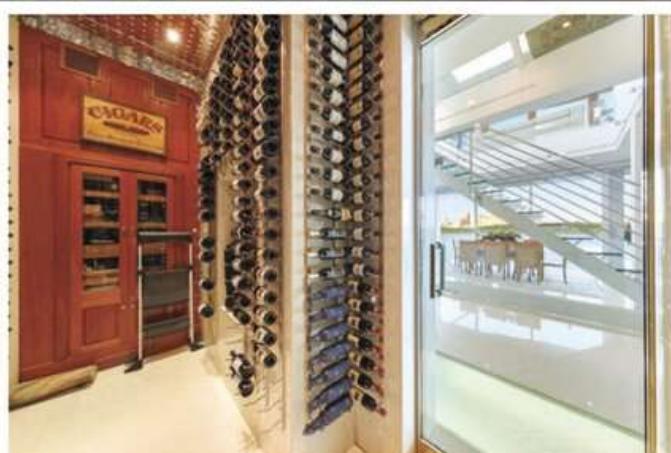


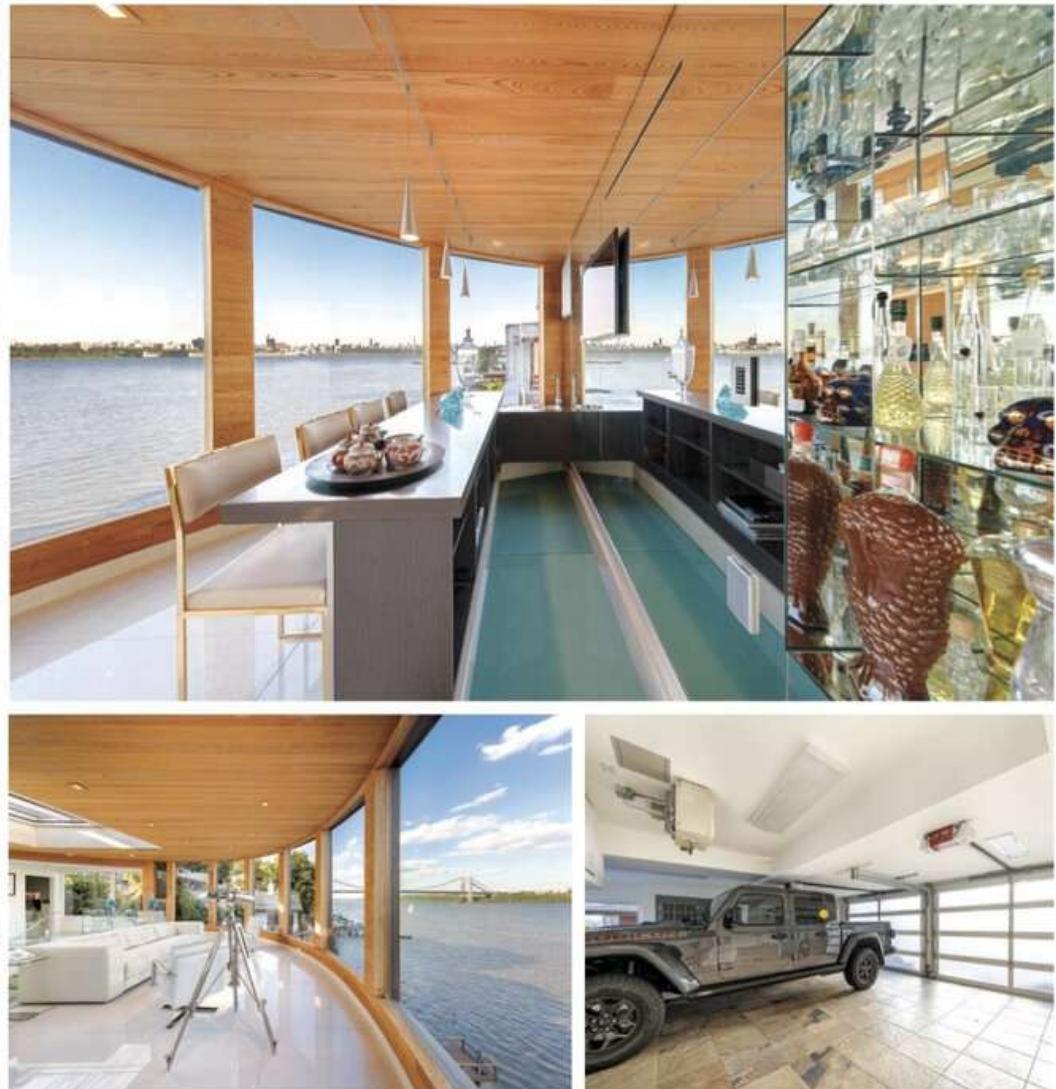


LUXURY ACCOMMODATIONS

An elevator travels between all four floors, including the next one up, which includes the guest bedroom (seen at left), and offers a view of the George Washington Bridge. The master bedroom suite, laundry room and linen closet are also on this floor. Glass on the staircase wall affords a view of the pool below. The porcelain floors, as they do throughout the home, provide radiant heat. (Right, clockwise from top) The master bathroom includes a Jacuzzi tub with jets and lights that rotate to cast different colors, as well as a European-style Durabit double vanity wall unit. The master bedroom ceiling has fiber optic capabilities, and can show shooting stars; the leather bed frame has bolsters that extend for extra comfort. Wood cabinets in the walk-in closet are connected to the smart home technology, and can be opened automatically. >







(UN)COMMON AREA

(Left, clockwise from top) On the level below the top floor, the Italian-made Pedini kitchen is defined by a circular island with a glass top, sinks and ranges. A bar wraps around it; the height of its stools can be adjusted. Oak wood cabinets, a Sub-Zero refrigerator, Dacor oven and microwave and Miele dishwasher line the corner wall, and are topped by a pottery collection. The living room area has a swiveling fireplace suspended from the ceiling so heat can project towards the opening glass doors. The wine cellar has enough capacity for 1,500 bottles, and is kept at 58 degrees. In the dining area, leather seats surround a glass-topped table. (Above) The top floor, which is entered at street level, has a cypress wood ceiling and a bar area with a seamed glass floor that lights up. The fully stocked bar seats four and is located across from a sitting area with a couch, two chairs and a binoculars stand. A Range Rover SUV rests comfortably on the porcelain floor of the garage, which has a 10-foot by 10-foot skylight with retractable shades. ■

