

# renovation



DOUGLAS VANDERHORN ARCHITECTS

## Expanded Vision

Not every architect gets the opportunity to revisit one of his own designs to apply a broader scope and function to the initial concept. In this case, when a large residential property was subdivided, the main house's elaborate Colonial pool cottage became part of a new lot. Its owners gave the original architect, Douglas VanderHorn, the assignment to transform what had been an accessory structure into a full primary residence.

Enlarging the concept of symmetrical massing that had made the cottage so compact and attractive, the reworked façade updated and refined its appearance. Removal of the original dark shutters lightened and contemporized the front elevation. A new second floor over the structure's central core and the addition of two new intermediate side wings provided the extra space needed to expand the living space for use as a home. This strategy did not disrupt the rear of the house, which faces the pool.





**left:** The reimagined rear elevation keeps the structure's profile and landscape intact. **above:** Restrained details and symmetrical massing define the front façade, and the extended cottage continues all of the original materials, trim and detailing. **right:** The former pool house interiors were transformed into gracious living spaces, including the light-filled great room.

## PROFESSIONALS

### Architect

Douglas VanderHorn, Principal  
David Milliken, Project Manager  
Douglas VanderHorn Architects  
Greenwich; 203-622-7000  
vanderhornarchitects.com

### Interior Designer

Isabelle Vanneck  
Davenport North  
Greenwich; 203-629-9181  
davenportnorth.net

### General Contractor

Gatehouse Partners  
Greenwich; 203-532-9486  
gatehousepartners.com

### Landscape Architect

Rutherford Associates  
Old Greenwich; 203-637-2718

PHOTOGRAPHS BY GUS CANTAVERO (AFTERS) AND DOUGLAS VANDERHORN ARCHITECTS (BEFORE)

Projecting rear wings with curved corners remained intact and retained their function to enclose the outdoor entertaining space. The result is a home that has a modest and traditional style yet does not sacrifice the functionality expected in a larger home. The floor plan provides sight lines from the front entry to the pool and from the kitchen into the living space. Upstairs, the second floor, brightened with new pediment dormers, has been designed as a dedicated and spacious master suite.

