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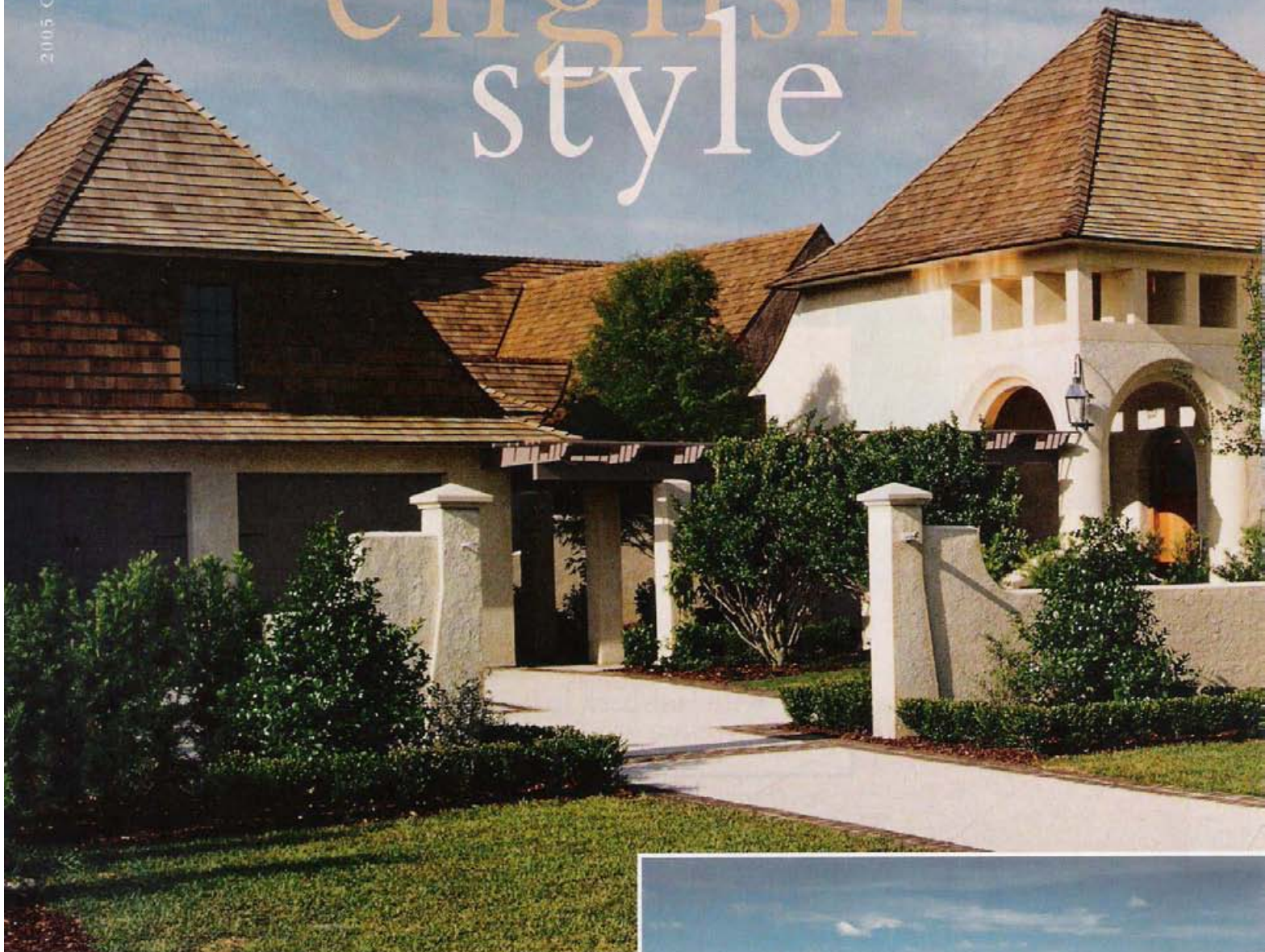
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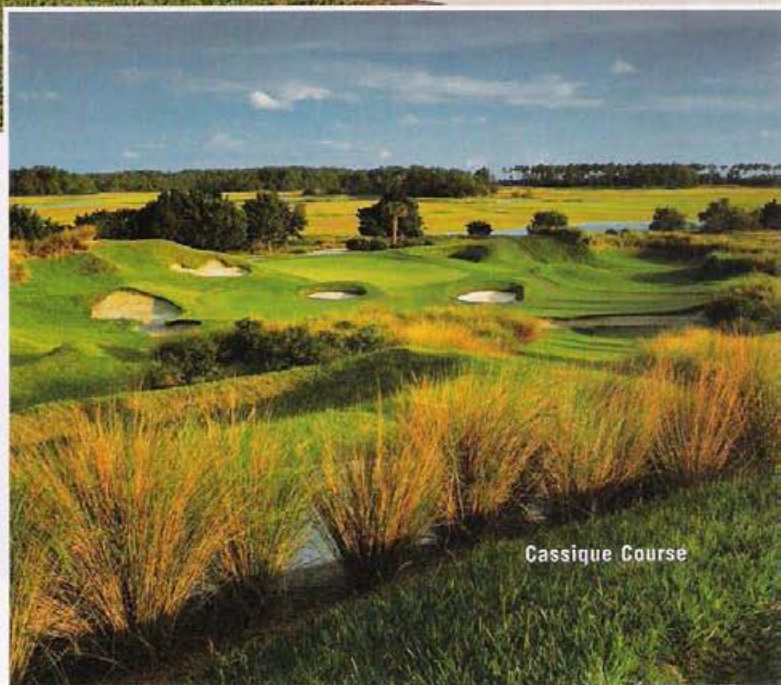
# island life, english style



Charleston, South Carolina, may be known for historic architecture and world-class restaurants. But one of its best-kept secrets lies just 21 miles south. Deep in the Lowcountry, a secluded barrier island called Kiawah (KEY-uh-wah), crowned with a resort community of the same name, nestles among

native marshlands, winding tidal creeks, saltwater lagoons, and miles of ocean surround. We have chosen Cassique, a Kiawah Island Development, as the site for our 2005 *Coastal Living* Cottage Retreat.

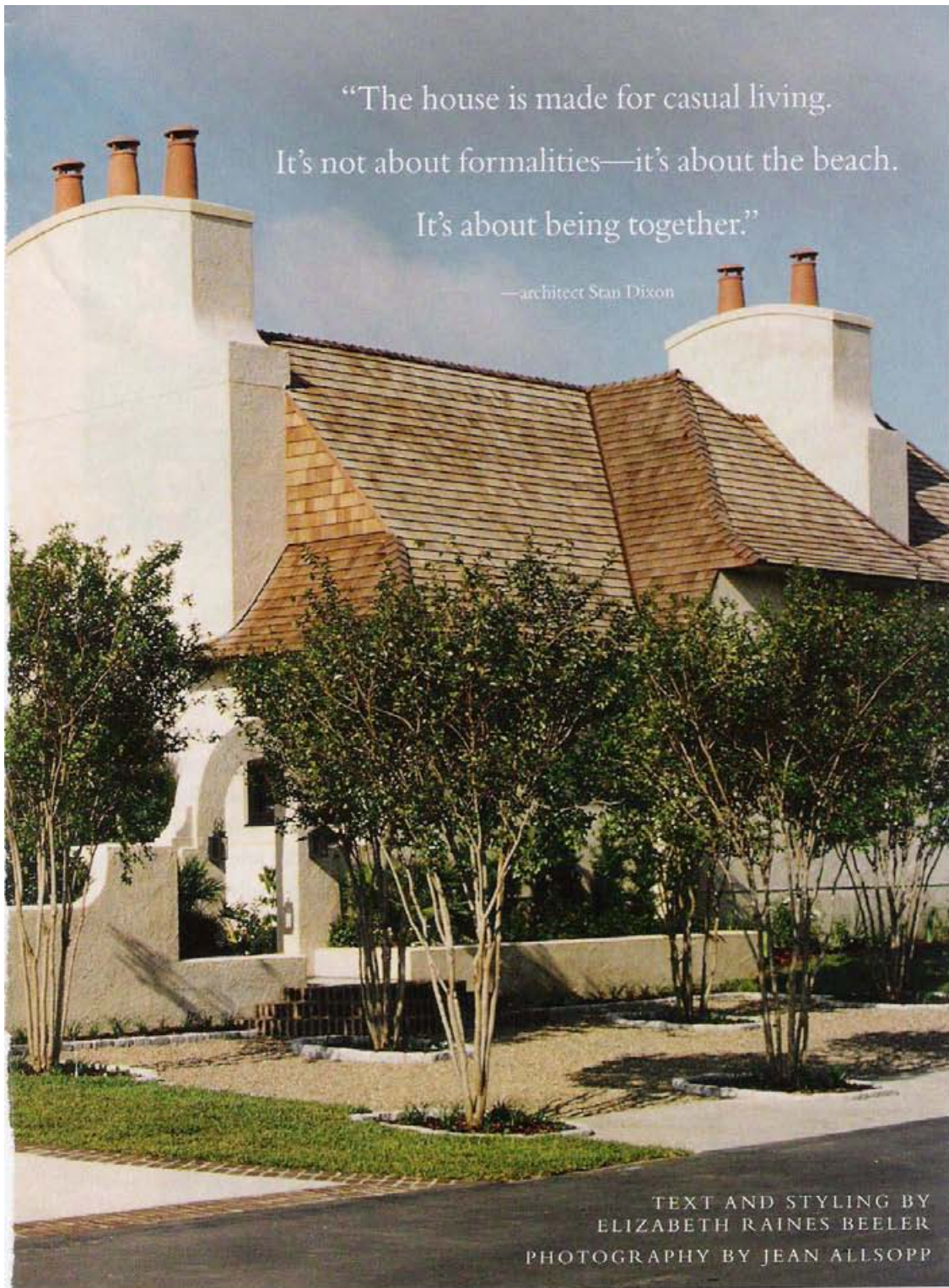
The Cassique neighborhood enjoys all of the amenities of Kiawah Island's resort community, including



Cassique Course

“The house is made for casual living.  
It’s not about formalities—it’s about the beach.  
It’s about being together.”

—architect Stan Dixon



TEXT AND STYLING BY  
ELIZABETH RAINES BEELER  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JEAN ALLSOPP

In Cassique, individual residences surround a large clubhouse. “The goal was to establish a neighborhood. It’s the village around the big house,” says chief architect John Haley. In an effort to transplant the look of an English village to the South Carolina coast, the developers raised the land 7 feet and 4 inches above sea level to accommodate the architectural style and avoid building on stilts.

10 miles of beaches, 20 miles of hiking trails, and 30 miles of bike paths. The island also boasts 10,000 acres of unspoiled vegetation with more than 250 diverse species of wildlife.

“I think Kiawah is probably best known as having very dense vegetation and an almost forestlike feel,” says

Buddy Darby, chairman and chief executive officer for Kiawah Development Partners, the company that purchased the land 18 years ago and created its master plan. The home sites, divided into 26 neighborhoods, tread softly on the land. “From an

environmental standpoint, we’ve maintained existing vegetation and landscaped with indigenous plants,” says Leonard Long, Kiawah Development Partners’ executive vice president.

As befitting a resort community, neighborhood pools scatter throughout the island. Tennis players choose from 28 courts. A dozen restaurants serve everything from fried oysters to braised snapper, and a new oceanfront hotel delivers five-star service. Nearby, an upscale village meets shopping and entertainment needs. But the most identifying aspect of Kiawah Island is golf, with seven courses designed by legends such as Pete Dye, Tom Fazio, Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Gary Player, and Tom Watson.

Cassique is built around a private club and a links-style course. When completed, the development’s 39 homes will emulate English country houses. “We are creating an entire community that will have the sensibility of being in the countryside and yet still right here on the island. It will give you the best of both worlds,” Buddy says.

Owning a Cassique home first requires a membership at Kiawah Island Club, which grants privileges to two private golf courses, a spa, The Beach Club, and a planned sports center. “If you own a house in Cassique, you have access to the best spots,” says Karen Bacot, director of marketing for Kiawah Development Partners.



## GREAT ROOM

"This house is all about form and proportion, not fancy detailing," Norman says. "It's gutsy." The great room serves as a central gathering space and the cottage's architectural stronghold.

The design team used a variety of building materials indicative of the English style. Tongue-and-groove poplar boards and white-painted beams add coastal character to the room's vaulted ceiling. Textured stucco walls meet French limestone flooring. "The design is not meant to



To set off the light-colored furnishings, Jackye painted the walls mocha. The dark hue brings sophistication to the cottage appeal. "I didn't want it to look cutesy," she says. Beneath the tall, stately window, a separate seating vignette (inset) provides a comfortable reading spot on a rainy day. • Drapery fabric: Robert Allen

be fussy, which is why you don't see moldings. It's about the surfaces," explains Clay.

Painted windows recall leaded, metal versions that originated in Europe. "Having windows on at least two walls allows light to come in from opposing directions," explains Clay. "It changes the way the room looks during the day and adds a layer of complexity to the space." On the 10- by 8-foot window, the panes are small, a trademark of English style. "We enlarged them as we approached the courtyard to give the space a greater



The great room makes for a study in contrast, mixing light and dark hues and soft lines with angular ones. Light floods the entire space through seemingly infinite panes of glass. • Windows and exterior doors: Henselstone



connection to the outdoor room,” says Stan of the alternating French doors and tilt-turn windows. For draperies on one wall, Jackye pieced two linen fabrics together

horizontally, creating a striped, cabana effect. “Solid fabric would have lost its impact,” she says. “If the stripes were vertical, it would have made the window look even taller.” She reversed the theme for the

opposite wall’s roman shades, giving them vertical stripes.

To complement the overall architecture, Jackye looked to the beach. “The approach was to feel the coast: the boats, the shells, the water,” she says. Opting for a neutral scheme, she developed the great room interiors around distressed white wood furniture with light beige, cream, and white upholstery. “The new pieces look like you had them forever and just painted them,” says Jackye. Mixing designer pieces with antiques further added to the home’s period look.

The placement of the furnishings and accessories defines the areas within the

large room. An antique model ship divides the living area and dining space, where a honey-finished table softly contrasts nearby whitewashed pieces. The round table introduces curves into the linear space, and upholstered dining chairs echo the movement with undulating lines.

Living area furnishings—a sofa and side chairs, and an antique coffee table—circle in front of a wood-burning fireplace (see page 74). Identical chests lend symmetry to the arrangement. To make the furniture layout flexible, Jackye centered the chandelier in lieu of traditional placement above the dining room table.



The kitchen's 12-inch-deep, stainless, commercial-grade sink easily handles unwieldy pots. The satin nickel faucet with side spray offers graceful style and restaurant efficiency. Above the range, a convenient wall-mounted faucet fills the large vessels required for Lowcountry boils. Right: In the bar area, open shelving takes the place of upper cabinets and displays glazed ceramic dishes and deep-blue stemware. Beneath, the task sink's faucet features a built-in purifier that eliminates the need for a separate filter. • Sinks and faucets: Franke

## KITCHEN

The kitchen's lowered ceiling sets it apart from the rest of the great room. To give the space a sense of history, Jackye topped an antique dressmaker's table with granite to serve as an island. "It's simple elegance," says Linda McLain, a certified kitchen designer. Details are understated: plain inset cabinet doors with recessed panels, satin nickel pulls, and honed granite countertops. Industrial stainless steel pairs nicely with custom, painted cabinets. For all its charm, it's still a working space: "This kitchen is about featuring



main appliances instead of hiding them," says Rick Broome, a Charleston-area sales manager who represents upscale appliances.



## MASTER SUITE

The master bedroom presents a refreshing, sea-inspired palette and exemplifies classic, timeless beauty. The custom canopy and headboard are dressed in the same pattern as the window treatments, lending softness to the dark wood furniture. "Rather than put the fabric on the chairs, I thought, 'Let's do the curtains and the whole bed out of it,'" Jackye says. The fabric's pale trim reiterates the wall color. "It feels like water," she says.

Instead of the popular club chair and ottoman, Jackye

opted for a round oak table in an ebony finish. Slipcovered in loose, gauzy material, the side chairs counteract the table's rich tones and solemn facade. "I put a table in the corner because there is a lot of space. If you had guests, you could have your own coffee here, or late at night you could write letters," Jackye explains.

The adjoining master bath boasts a similar scheme. Light blue interior shutters and Egyptian-cotton bath towels underscore the room's ocean appeal. Casual café curtains hide supplies beneath dual vanities, placed on opposite walls. Above, shell mirrors



The scale of the master bedroom becomes evident upon entry. Floor-to-ceiling curtains set off a seating area adjacent to the handsomely tailored bed, which is intentionally offset. "It's tucked back so you can leave the door open while taking a nap," Jackye says. Woven wood shades filter glare during daytime slumber. Luxurious hemstitched linens and an antique rug display the range of sand and sea tones found in the room. • Shades: Hunter Douglas • Furniture: Nautica



serve as reminders of a day on the beach.

The design team selected horizontal boards for the wainscoting in the master bath. The humid climate of the Lowcountry "will cause the wood to expand and contract over time and bring another layer of interest into the room," says Clay. The treatment, indicative of English proportions, extends above standard chair-rail



height, greeting high-set windows that respect privacy and offer additional brightness. At night, matching sconces with contemporary shades softly light the room.

A soaking tub and a walk-in shower provide spa indulgences. The tub rests on a river-rock inlay. "I thought it would be fun to have the pebbles so that the tub looked like it was sitting on a different surface. It's a pebble rug," Jackye says. Smooth walls line the shower, where a built-in bench and versatile, practical fixtures promise a relaxing rinse.



Plush towels lie within easy reach of the master bath's freestanding tub. Shell mirrors, bud vases, and woven baskets provide natural touches. In the walk-in shower, an adjustable bar allows the hand shower to be set at any desired height. The wall-mounted showerhead features varying spray options. • Towels: Lands' End • Bath and Shower fixtures: Grohe





A do-it-yourself alternative to artwork, lavender and gray shells circle a round, wood-framed mirror in one guest room (left). Below: In the guest bath, the hand-planed, distressed cherry vanity commands attention. A streaked, white marble top emphasizes antique steel hardware and polished chrome sink fixtures. • Vanity: J. Tribble Antiques



alabaster drapery piped in playful flounced trim.

Featuring paneled head- and footboards finished in weathered white, a king-size bed invites guests to relax after a day on the beach. Custom-built, straight-skirted side tables sport antique mirrored tops. Tear-shape mercury-glass lamps cast a glow on nighttime reading and reflect light from the adjacent courtyard during the day.

The marsh-green guest bedroom (left) dons a misty blue ceiling and provides relaxing accommodations. A custom-made linen bed tent swathes the honey-finished four-poster bed. A reproduction vintage luggage piece and a rope-wrapped glass fishing float anchor the room in its island setting.



## GUEST ROOMS

The guest bedrooms follow Jackye's design strategy for the home, which was to keep the living room neutral and apply color to the bedrooms. She chose delicate hues for one country cottage-style room. Soft pink walls envelope the cozy space. "I love the iciness of this pink. It's cool; it's feminine," Jackye explains. Adding an unexpected twist, the pale blue ceiling matches the adjoining bath's tile work. Mulled windows form a dark gridlike backdrop for



Made of cellular PVC, the “beaded board” on the loggia ceiling and soffits (left) has the look and feel of real wood but requires less maintenance—perfect for harsh, seaside climates. The lanterns feature an antique finish and seeded glass. • Loggia ceiling: AZEK • Outdoor lighting: Charleston Gas Light • Outdoor furniture: Laneventure • Outdoor fabrics: Sunbrella

## COURTYARD

Interiors flow easily into the home’s courtyard, where a lap pool and comfortable seating make the area a sanctuary. Simple, cast-stone columns and pilasters direct the eye to a porthole-style window that looks into the master suite’s vestibule. Copper lanterns line the loggia’s ceiling, providing ambience for entertaining after dark.

The presence of water refreshes and cools the

courtyard on warm days. “The size of the pool complements the space,” says Spencer Nash, landscape architect for Kiawah Development Partners. “It’s just large enough to get in but not so small that it feels like a fountain.” Three water features produce a soothing sound that mutes distractions and invites friends and family to relax. Teak furniture and large, mattresslike pillows,



made to survive inclement weather, welcome lounging. Outdoor fabric and trims in sea-blue colors endure season after season, despite direct sun and afternoon showers.

Jackye mixed two styles of furniture to add variety and make the courtyard feel like a room. Straight-lined teak pieces contrast the loggia's curvilinear aluminum tables. A dining table hosts candlelit dinners serviced by a nearby outdoor kitchen.

Spencer chose mosaic glass tile for the pool. "I wanted to use something that would tie into the pool but would also throw a splash of color into the gardens," he

says. Surrounding foliage reflects the house's style. "The textures of the grasses and the colors of the flowers are consistent with what you would see in Europe," Spencer says. "I wanted to hold true to landscape design during the Arts and Crafts era."

The raised brick planter beyond the pool provides a platform for landscaping and also scales down the high exterior wall. "I saw the brick as an opportunity to mix in a different material," explains Spencer. The darker color of the brick breaks the space up and coordinates the stucco tabby wall with poolside paving.

## DESIGN TEAM

**1. Kiawah Development Partners, Inc.:** Leonard L. Long, Jr., executive vice president; Charles P. Darby, III (Buddy), chairman and CEO

**2. Development Team:** Patrick W. McKinney, principal/president, Kiawah Island Real Estate; Townsend P. Clarkson, COO/CFO, Kiawah Island Real Estate; Mark A. Permar, consulting planner; Scott Jones, director of construction; Robert Crawford, Kiawah Island Club general manager; Bill Hindman, community PR consultant; Raymond Pantlik, director of development; Charles Arrington, director of design and planning; Karen Bacot, director of marketing

**3. Landscape Architecture:** Spencer Nash, Kiawah Development Partners, Inc.

**4. Simonini Builders of South Carolina:** Chris Keach, builder; Joel McLain, project manager; Tricia Buckley, project manager; Rick Mullin, area manager

**5. Architecture and Interior Design:** Anne M. Maguire, principal, McKellar & Associates Architects; Stan Dixon, project architect, Norman Davenport Askins, PC; John D. Haley, chief architect, Kiawah Development Partners; Jackye Lanham, Jacquelynne P. Lanham Designs, Inc.; Norman D. Askins, Norman Davenport Askins, P.C.; Clay Shackelford, McKellar & Associates Architects

## SPECIAL THANKS

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