DEN BOROWSKI

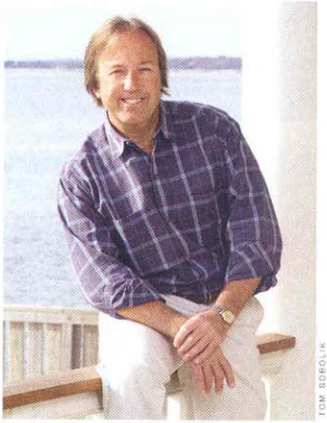
BUILDING & CRAFTSMANSHIP

The Tools of Success

With skillful planning and moral aptitude, an East Falmouth man turns his passion for construction into a solidly built career.

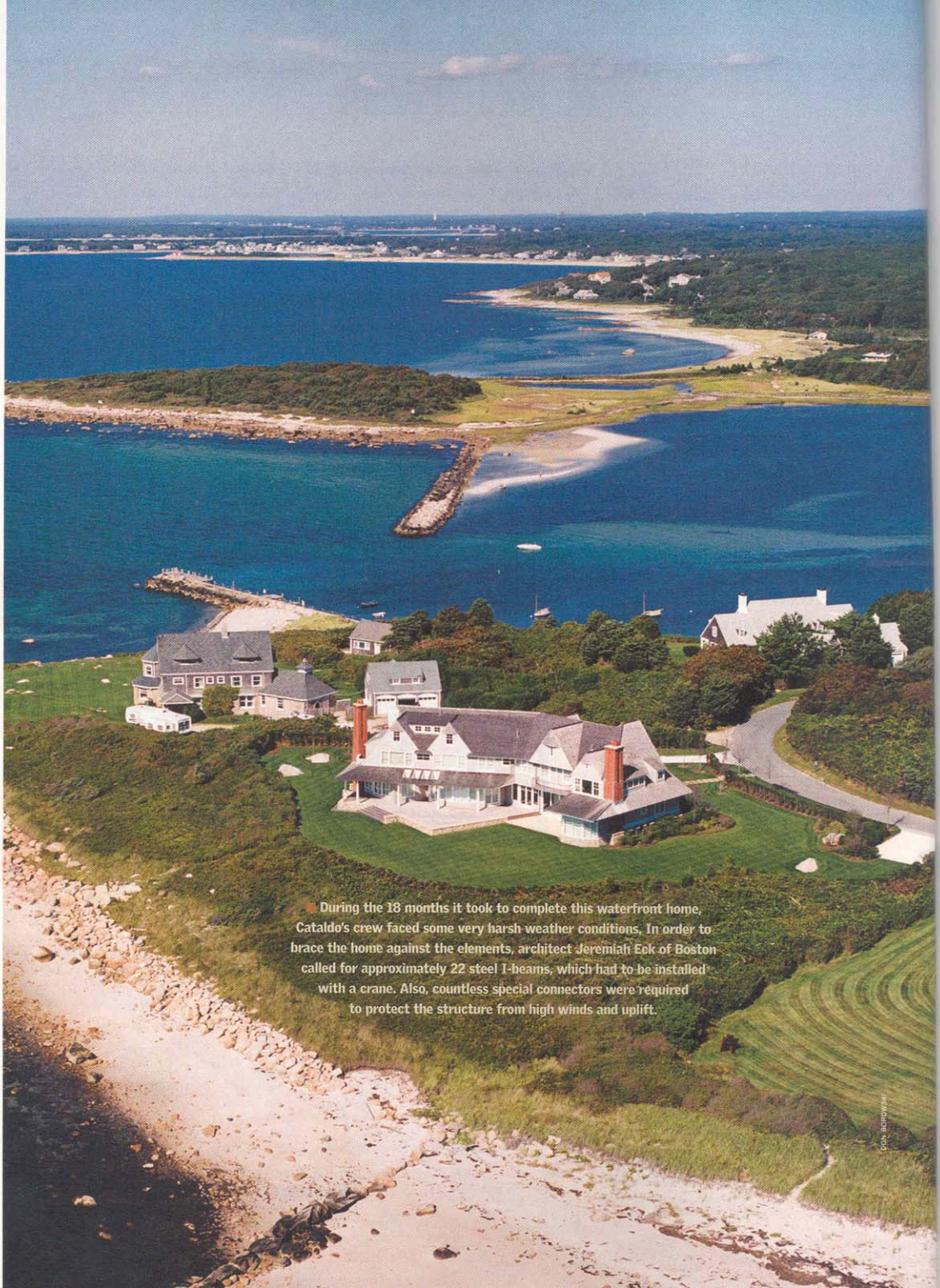
INTUITIVE AND BLESSED with the discernment of an engineer, Ralph Cataldo could always connect the dots. As a gifted project manager for Wang Laboratories in Lowell in the early 1980s and earning a heady corporate salary, he saw the handwriting on the screen. The computer industry, at least as it related to Cataldo's job—overseeing high-volume manufacturing lines that produced 22,000 circuit boards a week—was about to implode. Smaller computers meant less space, and less space meant hundreds of layoffs.

BY GREG O'BRIEN



TOM SOBOLIK

Ralph Cataldo, principal of Cataldo Custom Builders, has over 20 years of experience building on Cape Cod. To ensure a smooth construction process for this intricately designed home (seen from the water, opposite, and from the street, top), Cataldo notes, "We had a great project team that met regularly on-site."



During the 18 months it took to complete this waterfront home, Cataldo's crew faced some very harsh weather conditions. In order to brace the home against the elements, architect Jeremiah Eck of Boston called for approximately 22 steel I-beams, which had to be installed with a crane. Also, countless special connectors were required to protect the structure from high winds and uplift.

DON HORSWELL