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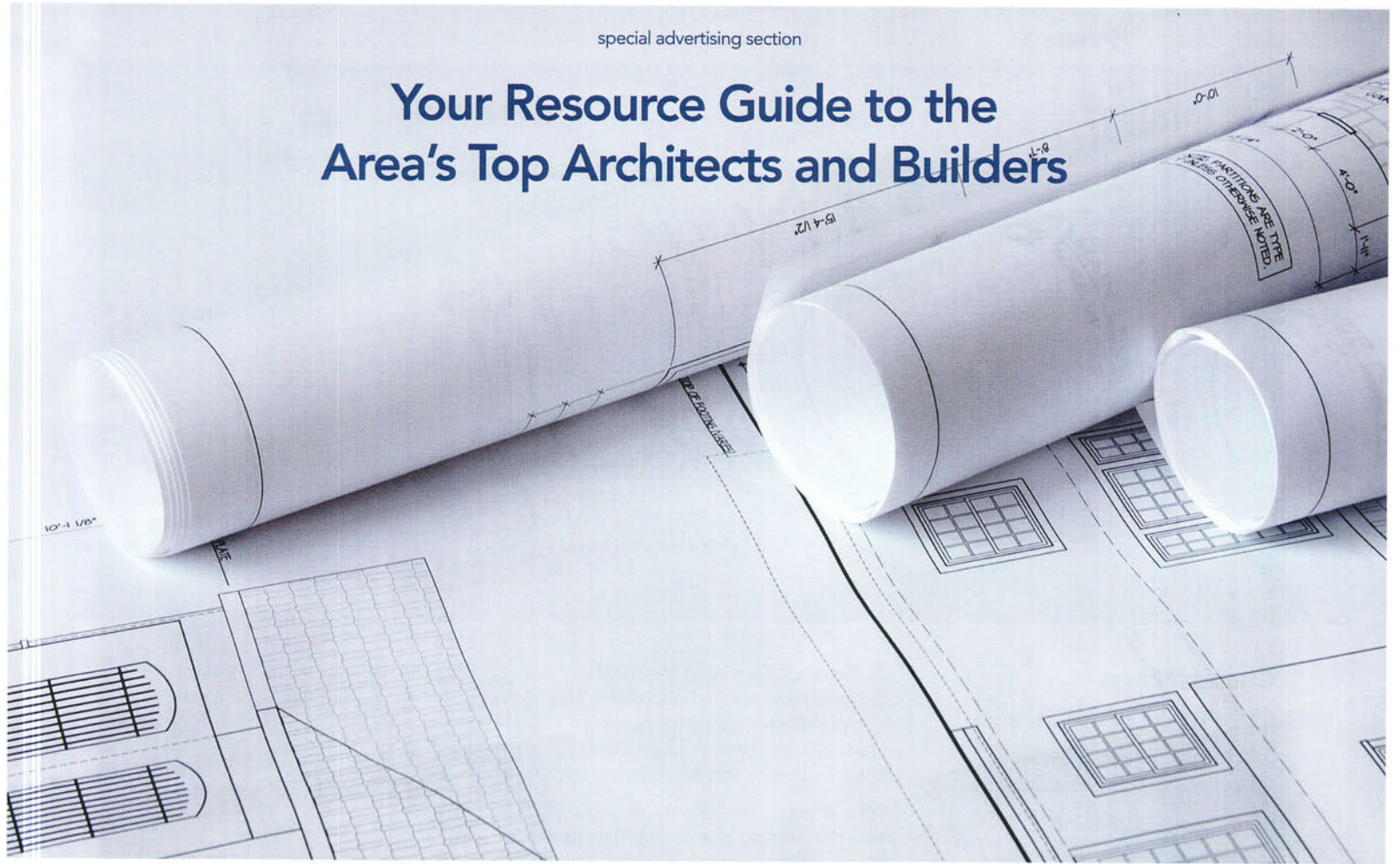
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# Your Resource Guide to the Area's Top Architects and Builders



## DESIGNER INSIGHT

A Q&A with Design Professionals



Beautiful homes provide the structure and flow for interiors, as well as the volume and proportions of a space that create an ideal setting for furnishings and finishes. It's a kind of magic for which architects are known and commissioned. On these pages, you'll find perspectives and advice from some of our area's best residential architects. Each of these professionals has a distinct voice, and one of them may resonate with you, to bring the dream home you've been contemplating to life.





## Charles Hilton Charles Hilton Architects

170 Mason Street, Greenwich, CT  
203.489.3800 | hiltonarchitects.com

### Describe your signature style.

We have never tried to develop a "signature style," choosing rather to create designs that are individualized and focused on the personalities of our clients and the uniqueness of the project sites, and that are thoroughly modern in their amenities and technologies. If I had to sum up the results, I would say our work represents refined and comfortable traditional design.

### What sets your business apart?

One thing is our extremely talented and hardworking team. Another is the breadth of our vision and the depth of our focus. We believe the best results come from the design and detailing of all built-in elements of the project including millwork, tile hardware, plumbing fixtures, lighting, mechanical and electrical systems, etc. We enjoy the collaborative process and are accustomed to coordinating our work with that of the landscape designers and interior decorators, among many others. Our construction

documents are among the most thorough you will find anywhere. This comprehensive approach results in unusually competitive pricing and overall superior construction results.

**Who is your ideal client?** We do well with demanding clients who have big dreams and the commitment to see them through.

### What's the biggest challenge you've come across in your work?

**Time.** In this day and age when instant gratification is readily available in so many places, it is a constant challenge to get clients to understand the time needed to do a project right.

### You have been practicing for over thirty years. Please tell us about some of the fun structures you have created over this time.

I have designed a number of wine cellars, garden buildings, pool houses, an indoor basketball court and am now working on a natatorium. I love designing homes on the water. These provide the opportunity for many creative and fun spaces.

**The architect Edwin Lutyens once said, "There will never be great architects or great architecture without great patrons." Tell us about a memorable patron of yours.** We have been fortunate over these many

years to have had a number of repeat clients that I would characterize as patrons. We have designed their starter homes or first real family house, then their vacation house or a pool house, or maybe some accessory buildings, and eventually their final dream home. There is a level of familiarity, trust and respect with repeat clients that makes the projects that much more interesting and enjoyable.

### What is the best thing about your job?

Getting to help people build their dreams. A home says a lot about its owner's dreams and aspirations. It is incredibly fulfilling to help people realize their most deeply held visions.

