

Maximum Exposure

A city family's Montauk retreat stays open to the elements.

BY WENDY GOODMAN

When the weather is right, the sliding-glass pocket doors remain wide open, letting the living room, dining area, and kitchen double as a breezy porch; when it's not, the home is heated and cooled through a geothermal system.

The house, clad in cedar and concrete panels, sits on a six-acre site, which has ocean views and is located at the end of a long private drive in Montauk's Hither Hills.



GREGORY AND VICTORIA MASI PRYOR'S second home in Montauk is a far cry from the fishing cottages and sixties prefab A-frame houses of their childhood summers on the East End. But it is a classic beach abode in one regard: It lets a whole lot of the outside in. "We wanted to open up the house and make it like one big screened-in porch," Victoria says. "Our children [two boys, ages 11 and 13] can be indoors and outdoors at the same time here." The transition from interior to exterior is especially seamless on the ground floor, with 36-foot-long glass pocket doors vanishing into the walls, and the living room's walnut floors ending right where a gravel-and-bluestone path begins. The overall effect is of a very modular—and luxurious—hilltop campsite.

For more views of the Pryor home, go to nymag.com.

The home was built by Victoria Masi Pryor's brother, Paul Masi, of Bates Masi Architects, who wanted to capture the indoor-outdoor feeling of family campouts during his and his sister's youth.

Masi tried to disturb the landscape as little as possible. Portions of the construction took place off-site, and the house was assembled in pieces over a bolted concrete foundation.

Photograph by Paul Masi