

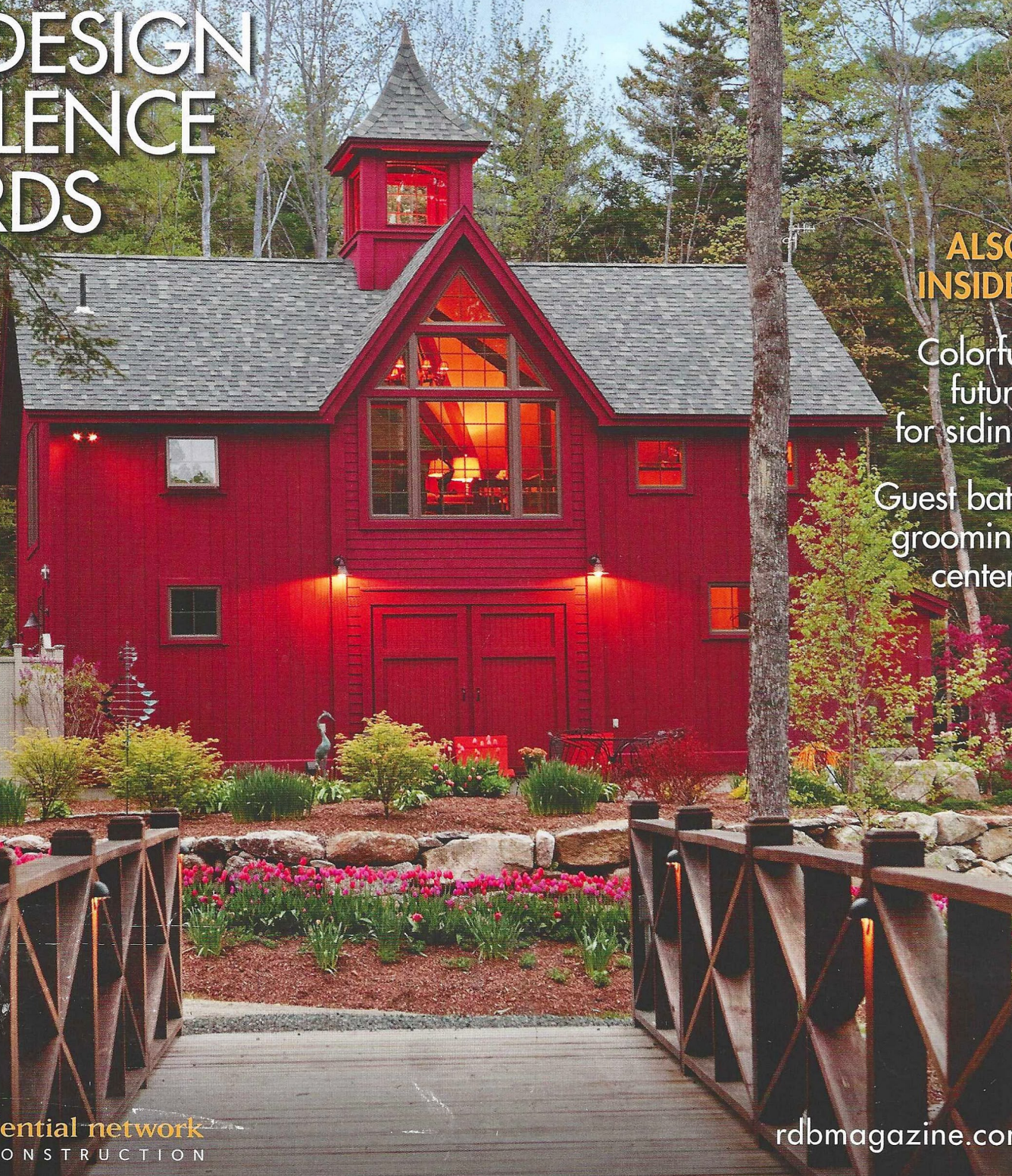
# residential design & build

inspiring architects and custom builders

July/August 2010

## EXCLUSIVE: 2010 DESIGN EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Winners named  
in 18 categories,  
including this  
New Hampshire  
post-and-beam  
barn-style  
detached  
garage/guest  
house



ALSO  
INSIDE

Colorful  
future  
for siding

Guest bath  
grooming  
center



**STEPHEN HANS NUETZEL ARCHITECT**  
Pasadena, Calif.  
nuetzelarchitect.com

Project name: Pasadena Pool & Pavilion  
Project location: Pasadena, Calif.  
Square footage (finished): 650 s.f.  
Total project cost (not land): \$375,000

# Challenging Lot

native landscape beyond. These distinct elements conspired together as the most difficult project challenge team members had ever encountered.

Challenges included: The narrow ridge crest with a steep slope on either side presented a difficult topography; an L-shaped lot with an unusual interior corner at the location where the new pool/pavilion structure were to be located; and a strictly regulated hillside development ordinance requiring every proposed project in a hillside zone — in addition to all other zoning regulations — to obtain a hillside development permit, similar in nature to a conditional use permit.

A friction pile/grade beam foundation system with a series of 12 30-in. diameter shafts was excavated manually to a minimum depth of 20 ft. Steel cages were placed in the shafts, and concrete was pumped from the driveway below uphill 150 ft. The city was persuaded to reconsider the long interior



portion of the L which is more than 100 ft. from the street a side yard rather than a front yard. This was crucial because the new pool house structure then could bend around the interior corner without conflicting with setbacks, thus conforming with the zoning code. The sensitive, low-impact approach to the site design secured necessary approvals and eventually led to project success. ▀

The owners wanted a new 12-ft. by 44-ft. lap pool and entertainment pavilion along the narrow crest of their 4-acre hillside lot. The new structures were to be integrated, and bookend the new detached garage on the far side of the recently renovated main house. The entire composition would utilize a common structural vocabulary of concrete columns, concrete block pilasters and glu-lam beams.

The new pool and pavilion were positioned to take advantage of site conditions, including spectacular views, prevailing breezes and southern sun exposure. The pavilion structure also serves as the transition to the

