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# D'Apostrophe Design

WINNER RURAL HOUSE



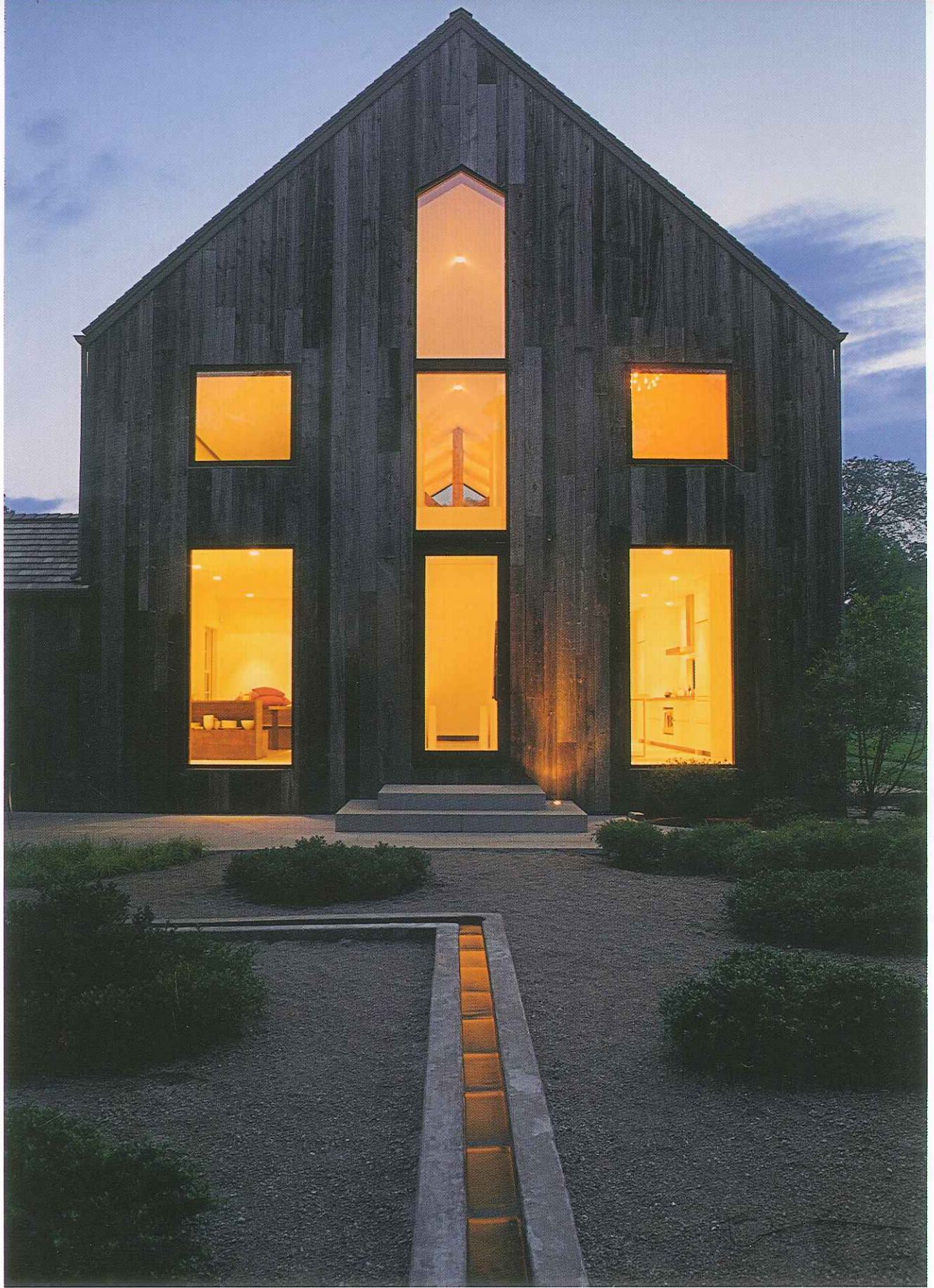
## WEEKEND HOUSE, REMSENBURG, NEW YORK



**Clockwise from left:** The living room's existing beams were enlarged by recladding them in oak salvaged from a 300-year-old Canadian barn. The floorboards as well as the staircase treads and risers are wide-plank Douglas fir. The designer added new aluminum-framed windows and doors. The staircase's angled balustrades are painted drywall. The exterior was upgraded with cedar planks salvaged from a 200-year-old barn.

D'Apostrophe Principal Francis D'Haene met Vincent Herbert, the Le Pain Quotidien bakery chain's CEO, when they were growing up in Belgium; both later moved to New York. Herbert's young family now spends weekends in a sleepy hamlet, in a faux barn built in the 1980's but clad in 300-year-old siding. D'Haene left most of the reclaimed planks intact but added hemlock and white pine around new doors and windows. The dialogue between old and new continues with the windows' plain glass and simple aluminum frames—replacing mullioned versions on all but the front facade—as well as a 5,500-square-foot interior that verges on monastic. He demolished walls to establish a loftlike sweep culminating in a 28-foot-high living area, where he bulked up the skimpy ceiling beams by applying antique barn siding of Douglas fir, spruce, and pine. From the living area, a staircase with balustrades folded origami-style ascends to three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and an open-plan master suite. The suite's bluestone flooring is the quietest of inside jokes: It's Belgian.





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