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GREG WARNER
& MORE

CAPTURE

MAGAZINE
\$9.00



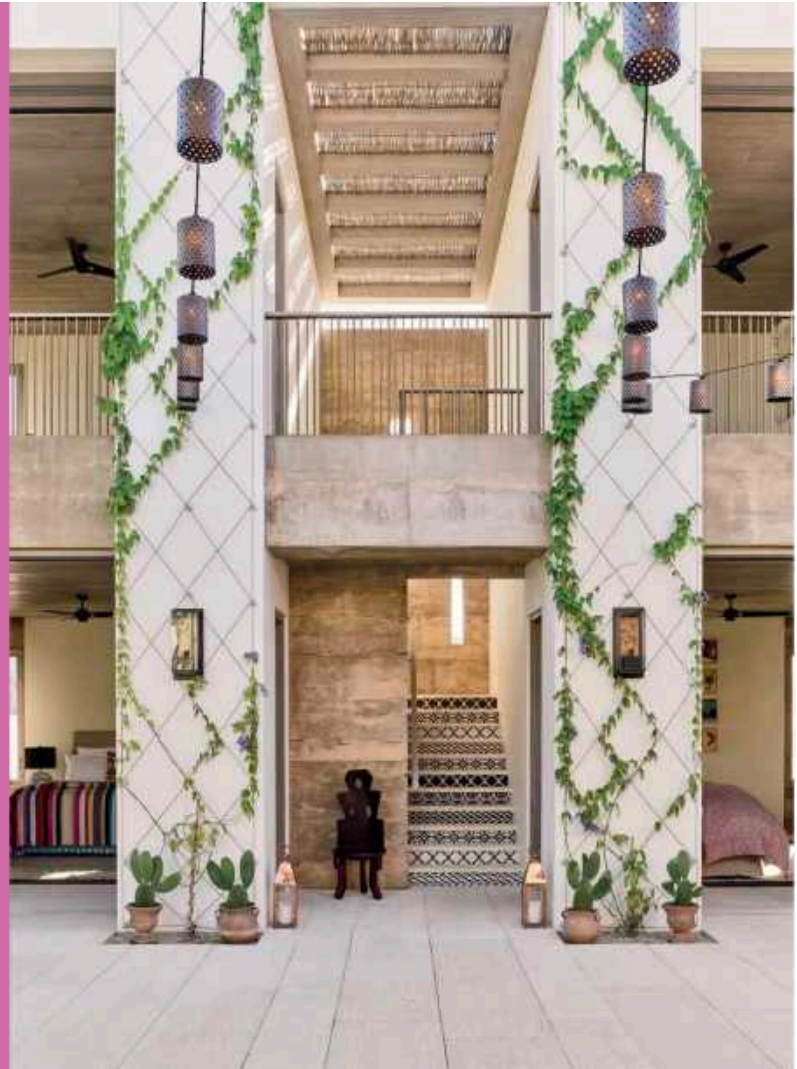
DESIGN DESIGN

GETAWAY ON THE BEACH

Water Street Architects
Principal Greg Warner
Senior Partner
Photo: Douglas Friedman

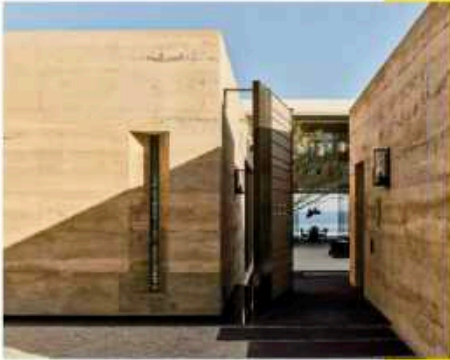
CAPTURE: What were your thoughts when you visited this location for the first time?

GREG WARNER: It's a little bit like being on the edge of the earth, which is a feeling we often experience working in Hawaii. However, since we're regionalists, we want our buildings to be authentic and Mo'orea wasn't an area we were familiar with. So we went back in time for a more rural vernacular, taking inspiration from Mexican modernists like Luis Barragan and Ricardo Legorreta to complement the site and create an indoor-outdoor living experience.



C: How did tropical storms and hurricanes factor into your choice of exterior materials?

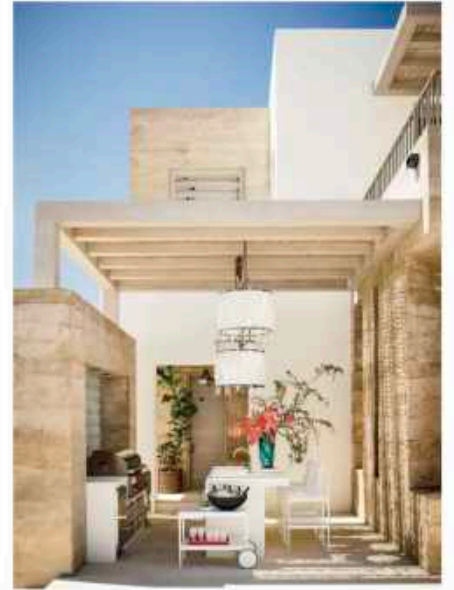
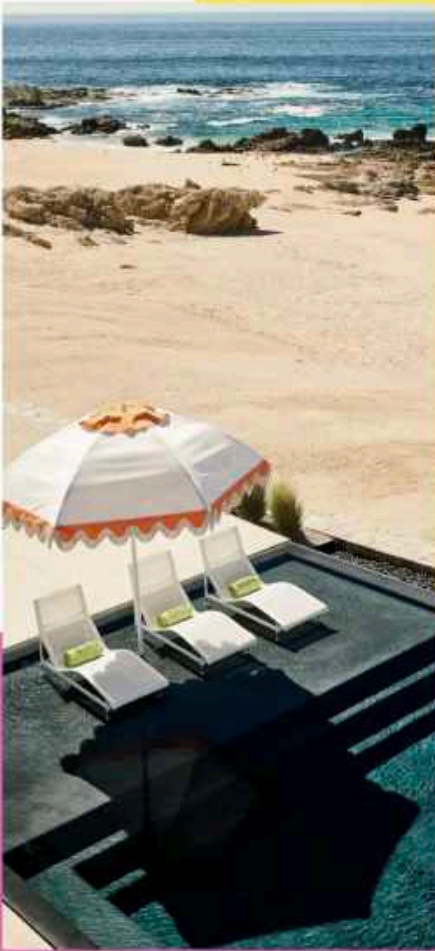
GW: I knew we needed to take our inspiration from local, traditional design, which meant choosing materials that endure, such as the textured concrete used throughout the volumes. These materials acknowledge what nature will do to them over time, and can withstand such forces as tropical storms or extreme heat and sun.



C: As an eclectic beach house, how did you introduce both entertainment and function into the architecture?

GW: The courtyard concept gave us the opportunity to control all of the variables, such as access to the ocean, views, neighbors, the road, sun, wind, and so on. The clients needed as many bedrooms as possible and common areas for gathering with family and friends. In instead of wasting out the square footage, we created a series of smaller buildings that form the courtyard and allow entrance spaces to open to each other and to the outside.





C. What do you love most about this house?

DW: What I like most about the home is its connectivity to the surroundings—it feels a part of its place, it's also a balance between the pursuit of perfection and the willing embrace of imperfection, resulting in a place that's both informal and casual, a place in which to relax.





C. Vacation –
mountain or beach?

GW

Beach

