

SPECIAL ISSUE

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# Cladding

From wood to steel to glass to cement boards, we give you the inside track on the materials and techniques needed to make your facade sing.

Photo by John Horner  
Story on page 60

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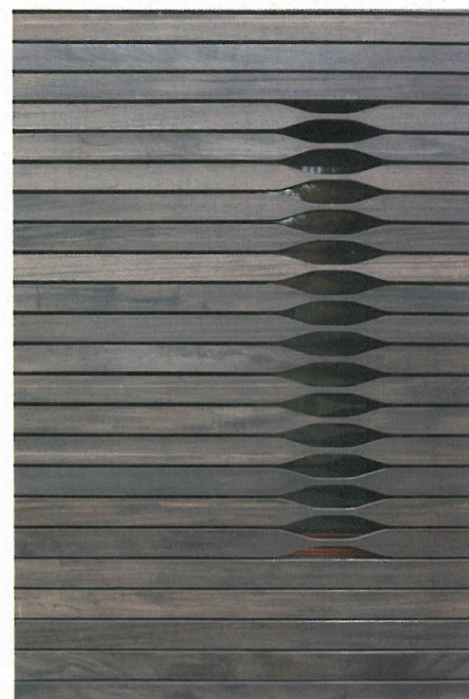
# Good Wood

*"The cladding on the renovation emphasizes verticality and the cladding on the pool house is a play on horizontality."*

—Architect Nader Tehrani

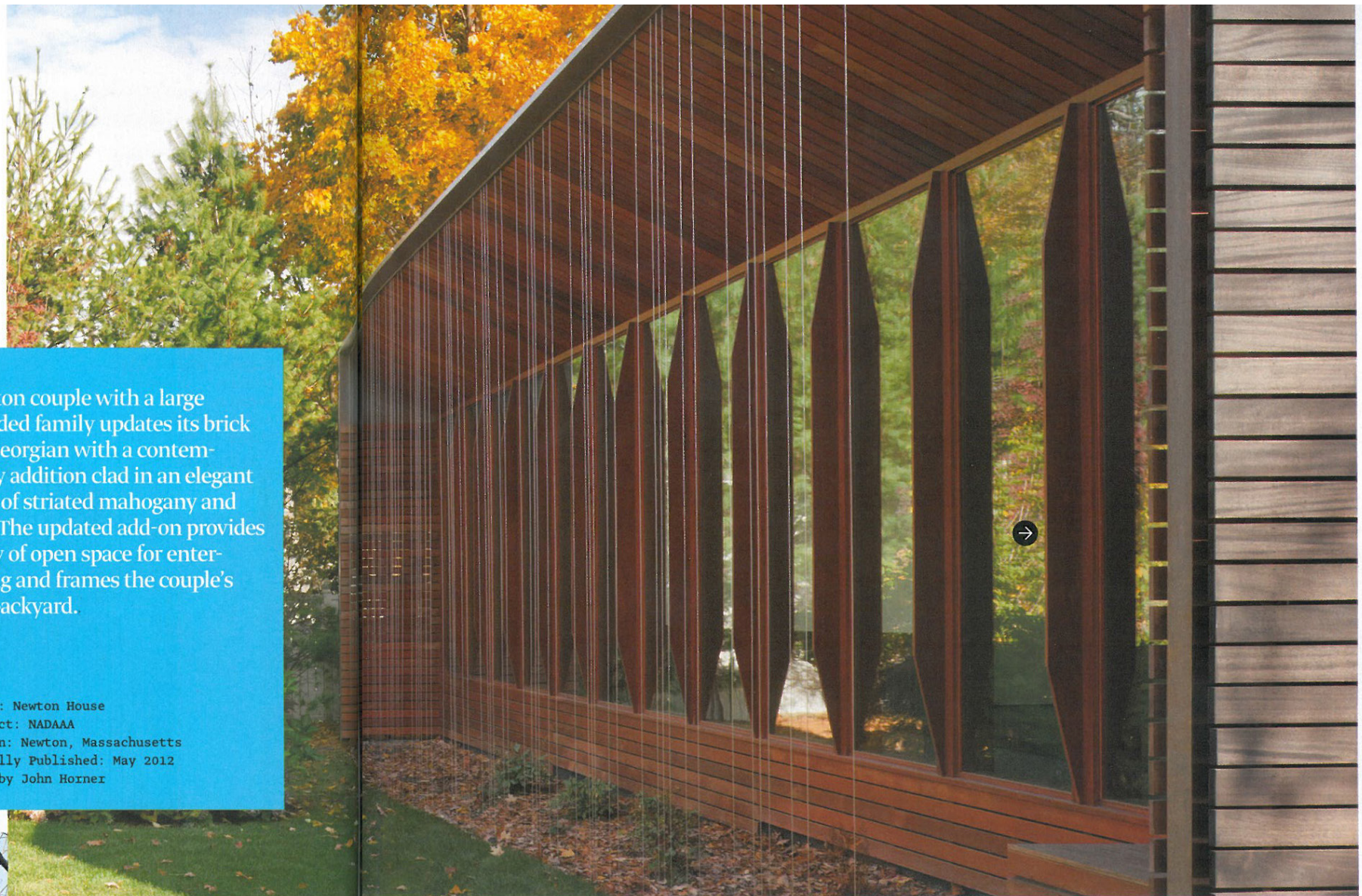
A Boston couple with a large extended family updates its brick neo-Georgian with a contemporary addition clad in an elegant series of striated mahogany and glass. The updated add-on provides plenty of open space for entertaining and frames the couple's lush backyard.

Project: Newton House  
Architect: NADAAA  
Location: Newton, Massachusetts  
Originally Published: May 2012  
Photos by John Horner



[dwell.com/facade-focus](http://dwell.com/facade-focus)

Read up on further explorations of innovative facade materials.



## Spectacular Vernacular

Keeping in theme with the neighborhood, the cladding on the main house (left) and pool house (detail, far left) reference New England architectural traditions (board-and-batten and shiplap siding, respectively) without replicating them. General contracting for the project was done by Delta Design & Construction in nearby Medford, Massachusetts. [deltaconstruct.com](http://deltaconstruct.com)

## Preservation Nation

When adding onto a formal house in a tony town like Newton, Massachusetts, local historic district commissions may have an opinion. "We had a lot of back and forth to explain that the level of detailing we were doing was comparable to the level of detailing in a 150-year-old home. It's aesthetically different because of the time period," says project architect Harry Lowd, "but the high quality is the same."

## Pooled Resources

The architects encased the addition in African mahogany cladding with the help of millworker Walter Lane. The walls of the rear kitchen and living space, from Dynamic Doors & Windows, are virtually all glass, allowing sight lines to the gardens and new pool house. [walterlanecabinets.com](http://walterlanecabinets.com) [dynamicwindows.com](http://dynamicwindows.com)

## For the Fin

● The glass box is bookended by a series of uniform aluminum frames—the architects nicknamed them "fins"—that also mark the edge of each picture window. The effect, looking out from the new kitchen, is a framed vignette onto the backyard landscape.