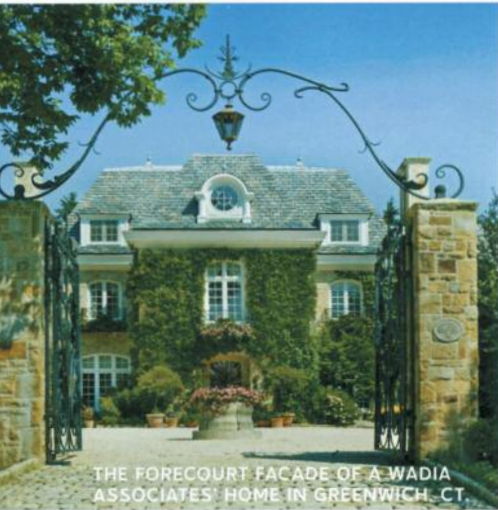


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Talks Howard,
the Hamptons
& Happily
Ever After





THE FORECOURT FACADE OF A WADIA ASSOCIATES' HOME IN GREENWICH, CT.

Room With A View

Residential planner Dinyar Wadia defines beauty—both inside and out

Dinyar Wadia has an eye for beauty. But growing up in Bombay, India, the now acclaimed residential designer—who has for the past thirty years designed and built homes of incomparable elegance and quiet grandeur—did not always pay much attention to the magnificent structures around him. “When you grow up with something, you take it for granted, and so, for many years, The Gateway of India, which was especially built to welcome the Prince of Wales when he visited, was [for me]... [just] a nice place to go roller-skating.”

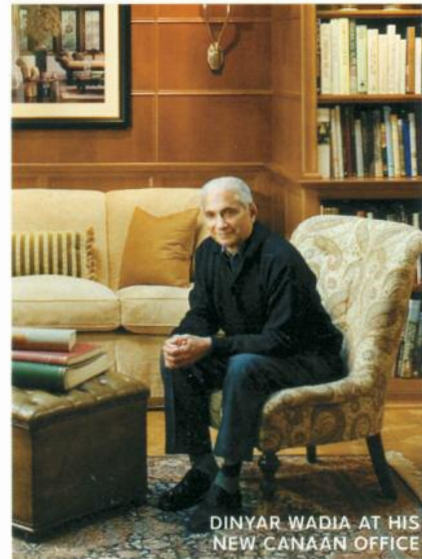
India’s distinct architectural landscape did not go unnoticed for long, and after completing his first year of college, where “they taught you to hand draw and measure historical buildings,” the young Wadia emerged a newly converted disciple of traditional architecture. Five years of architectural college followed, after which Wadia landed a job that paid him four dollars a month. Not surprisingly, he soon sought broader horizons. And so when he was accepted to Columbia in 1968, there was, in his mind, “no contest.”

With a master’s from Columbia, Wadia accepted an offer from one of his professors to work at his architectural firm in New Canaan, Connecticut. Having gone from one of the world’s largest commercial hubs to another, Wadia found New Canaan’s small town ambiance appealing. It was “exactly what I had perceived America to be,” he recalls.

Today, Dinyar Wadia’s architectural talents have only magnified the charm and refined beauty of Connecticut’s exclusive enclaves. Since 1975—when Wadia founded his own company, Wadia Associates—he has designed and constructed residences admired for their exquisite detail and stunning integration into the natural landscape. A true classicist, Wadia’s projects still demonstrate remarkable variety. From an Elizabethan manor, to French Country, to American Colonial and more, the style of each Wadia home is selected according to the client’s own taste and preferences. And Wadia is equally attached to all of his projects. “They’re all like our children. I’ve got two dogs who are my children. They each have a very different personality. They’re both beautiful, very loving, [and] they don’t talk back....I love them both, and my houses are like that.”

Seamlessly merging house and landscape is perhaps Wadia’s most impressive skill. “The Connecticut landscape is very nice because, unlike other parts of the country or the world, it’s not flat. Flat land is boring. If you buy a nice rolling piece of land, I can design a house on it for you and...it will look like it has always been there.”

Nowhere is this more apparent than in Wadia’s own home, Gitanjali—named after the epic Indian poem. Originally a guest house to a large estate built in 1870, Wadia’s now masterfully restored English



DINYAR WADIA AT HIS NEW CANAAN OFFICE

“cottage” is inseparable from its surrounding lush gardens. The gardens, which were overgrown and appeared almost “haunted” when Wadia bought the property, have been transformed into an idyllic scene that includes a brook and countless dazzling flowers from around the world lovingly tended by Wadia and his wife Gool.

The couple, who share a passion for beautiful gardens, travel extensively to some of the world’s most celebrated public and private gardens. But when the Wadias aren’t jetting off to admire the breathtaking gardens on Italy’s Lake Maggiore, they can be found dining at the Royal Automobile Club in London, or enjoying the pastoral tranquility of the English countryside. Whether vacationing abroad or savoring the serenity of Gitanjali, Wadia takes with him the essence of club life. “My home is my country club...and there are no membership fees, by the way.”

THE ENTRANCE OF A RECENTLY COMPLETED WADIA HOME IN GREENWICH, CT

