

"I've written in
a journal every
day since 1943"

—Eb Zeidler,
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NAVIGATOR

The List:

Eb Zeidler P. 74

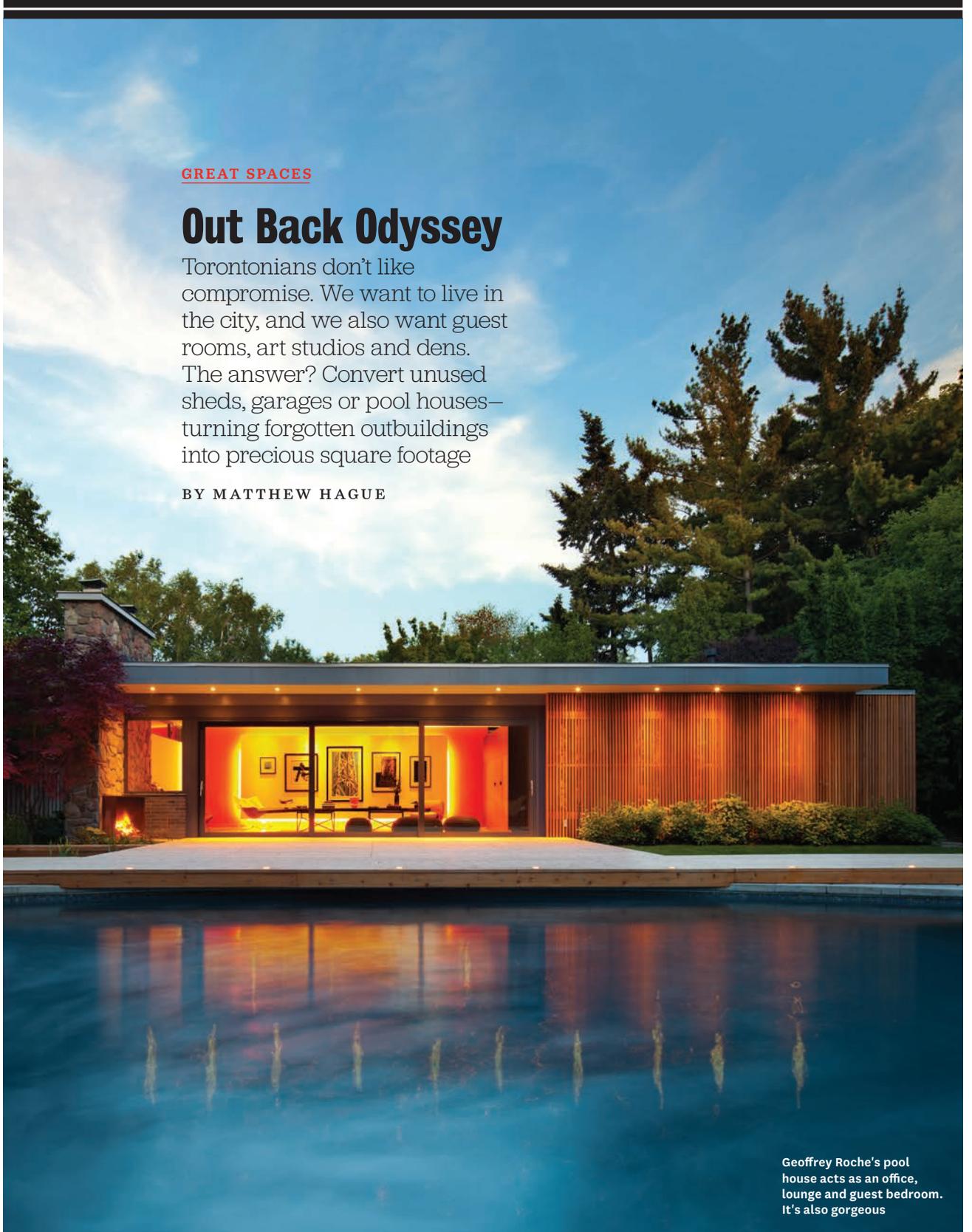
The Chase P. 76

GREAT SPACES

Out Back Odyssey

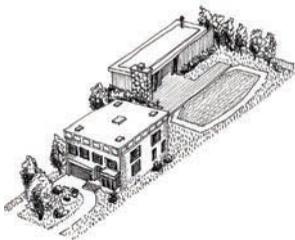
Torontonians don't like compromise. We want to live in the city, and we also want guest rooms, art studios and dens. The answer? Convert unused sheds, garages or pool houses—turning forgotten outbuildings into precious square footage

BY MATTHEW HAGUE



Geoffrey Roche's pool house acts as an office, lounge and guest bedroom. It's also gorgeous

PHOTOGRAPH BY COLIN FAULKNER



Who: Geoffrey Roche, a 60-year-old entrepreneur and former ad executive, and his wife Marie Claire

What: An 800-square-foot pool house with an office, dining area and sleeping quarters

Where: North York

For over 20 years, Roche was one of Canada's top ad executives, but in 2011 he left the business to start a social media company called Poolhouse. He keeps an office at Yonge and Eglinton but often works in his backyard pool house, which is the perfect place to hold meetings, impress clients or steal away for a few hours of solitude. When he bought the property, the pool house looked like something out of *That '70s Show*. Architect John Tong redesigned it with vibrant orange walls, two fireplaces (one inside, one outside) and a bar area, giving it the playfulness of a Silicon Valley start-up. At night, the place can be used for parties or poolside cocktails. And tucked in the back are a Murphy bed and bathroom for guests who've had a few too many to drive home.



1 The table was designed by John Tong's company, tongtong, and made by Canadian Salvaged Timber. It's a single piece of wood four metres long, retrieved from the Panama Canal. The legs aren't attached—rotating them 90 degrees raises the table to dining height.

2 A remote controlled screen descends for bathroom privacy.

