





## HISTORY RETOLD

These days, serial entrepreneur and 1stDibs founder Michael Bruno spends his free time flipping estates rather than scouring estate sales. But his vision for his latest listing—a turn-of-the-century mansion designed by world-renowned architect Grosvenor Atterburycomes with more than most buyers bargain for.

by Sarah Bray

There are plenty of houses for sale in the Hamptons. In this market, where Main streets are stacked with real estate catalogs, buyers aren't impressed by stainless steel appliances, granite countertops and fresh paint. Out here, where having a pool, tennis courts and a Michelin star-worthy wine cellar is the norm, a listing has to have something else. What is that something else that makes a property pop and, more importantly, sell for top dollar? Leave it to Michael Bruno, who disrupted the antiquated antiques industry with groundbreaking site 1stDibs (1stdibs.com) to shake up the South Fork's most lucrative industry and sell a \$12 million home like no one has done before.

If you devour decorating magazines like this writer does, you probably recall Bruno's other Hamptons homes, which have been featured in more than a few glossies. He has renovated and preserved several unique properties and, most recently, was awarded the 2018 Pillar of New York Award by the Preservation League of New York State for Valley Rock Inn & Mountain Club. For the hospitality project, he saved historic buildings to form a new destination out of an overlooked village in the lower Hudson Valley.

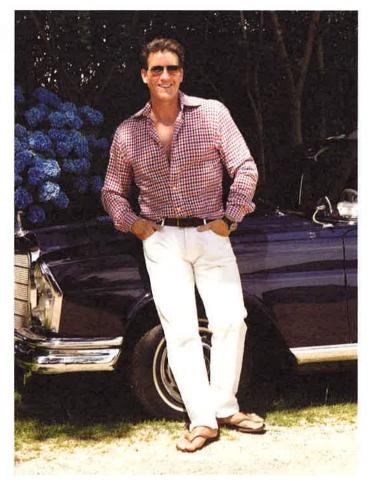
Bruno's latest project is a circa 1909 Southampton mansion designed by world-renowned architect Grosvenor Atterbury. Since the 110-year-old home was falling into disrepair far beyond what the South Fork's turnkey-

Clockwise from top left: The original home built by Grosvenor Atterbury; Michael Bruno; the house as it stands now; a rendering of an architectural option.









seeking clientele is after, Bruno, in collaboration with architect Arthur Fraser, started the work to revive it. The two teams have made the interior a construction-ready blank canvas and added a new wood-shingled roof. However, the rest of the renovation plans are intentionally not set in stone.

Bruno and Fraser have commissioned architectural and design blueprints and renderings so the buyers can best visualize the property's potential. Bruno says he sees two ways to go with the project, depending on the needs of the buyer.

Option one is to build out the plan for the 15,000-squarefoot home with a soaring two-story kitchen opening onto the garden on both sides of the house. On one side of the kitchen, a covered sunset porch faces the tennis court; on the other side, the south ocean side, will be the pool. The house has a substantial addition that was built in the '90s with extreme care to match the original brick detail.

However, if 15,000 square feet is too large, you could do option two-an 8,000- to 10,000-square-foot home. With this option, buyers not in the market for such a large home can remove the addition and put on a new family/kitchen/ garage wing where the original kitchen wing was, as seen in the black-and-white photo above.

But with views of the ocean from the third floor and farm field views from every story, either interior option will do.