



Bedrooms
Baths



First Beach House, Westhampton, L. I.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Gluck, the architect's parents, requested a vacation house that was easily maintainable, contained two bedrooms, two baths, and a large living room. For privacy, the architect separated the living room from the bedroom wing, and the latter took on the minimum dimensions and shape required by the bathroom core and bed space.

The structure is supported by 40-ft telephone poles sunk 23 ft into the ground. Floor and ceiling platforms are hung from poles, and the walls are independently supported by a ring of 2-ft-thick plywood box beams that house the cupboards, kitchen unit, and a bank of seats. The interior is finished with tongue and groove cedar boards and rosewood trim (salvaged by the architect from a local tree). "Things happen when you begin to build yourself," says Gluck. "The buttresses, for instance, turned out to be perfect storage spaces for the window shutters; from regular working drawings this would not have been obvious." One lesson learned from the parental house was how to and how not to handle the wind: The space between the two units becomes a veritable wind tunnel on a blowy day — a real chiller in cold weather — but when it is hot, it is the one cool, shady, and breezy spot on the premises. Cost: \$13,000 for 820 sq ft of interior space, 700 sq ft of deck, and — two summers of filial labor.

Photo: Maudie Derr



Living room includes kitchen (in far corner), dining area (right), and U-shaped bench wrapping around west end (foreground).

