

plum Hamptons™

*Naomi Watts
Comes Out to Play*

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
ARTHUR ELGORT



IRRESISTIBLE
FALL FASHION | NIGHTLIFE | TRAVEL

EYE-OPENERS

Talk about news you can't miss—this is it.

By NICK LEIGHTON



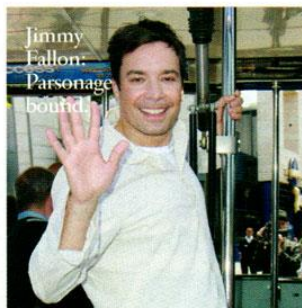
One of architect Andrew Geller's midcentury beach houses, Elkin House. Filmmaker Jack Gorst is working on a documentary about Geller's life and work.

"Jake, Andrew. Andrew, Jake."

Fans of architect Andrew Geller, best known for his midcentury beach houses of the 1950s and '60s, take note: Geller's vast archive of photos, drawings, models, 8mm films, and correspondence is still waiting to be catalogued, preserved, then studied. Fortunately, documentary filmmaker Jake Gorst has taken it upon himself to undertake the huge task, and has recently raised more than \$4,000 from midcentury modern enthusiasts (including singer/actress Patti LuPone, oddly enough) to kick-start the project. Gorst will also be filming the preservation process as part of a documentary he's making about Geller's life and work.

The Sixth Borough?

Was Bermuda too far for him? Does he want to be closer to wealthy donors for an upcoming presidential bid? Whatever the reason, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg is currently in contract to buy a house in Southampton. But not just any house, of course. For a rumored \$20 million, Bloomberg is picking up the storied Ballyshear estate, a



22,000-square-foot Georgian mansion built in 1910, with 11 bedrooms, eight bathrooms, and gardens designed by the Olmsted Brothers (a firm run by the son and stepson of Frederick Law Olmsted of Central Park fame). It was originally set on 200 acres—165 of which were sold off over the years (i.e., the property is now just 35 acres). Can't wait to run into him at Tate's Bake Shop.

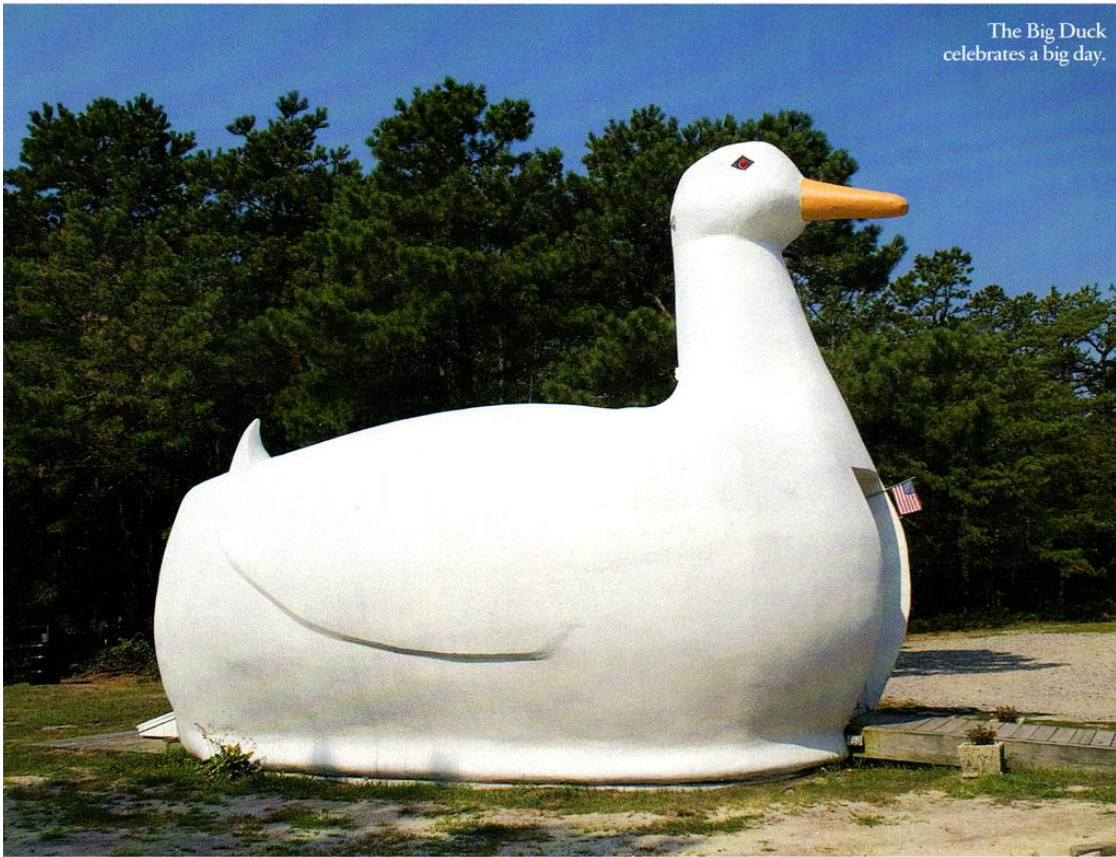
Funny Money

Jimmy Fallon is coming to the Hamptons: The *Late Night* host just bought a home on Parsonage Lane in Sagaponack for \$5.7 million. The 1850s farmhouse sits on 2.2 acres and includes six bedrooms and five and a half baths. There are also two bonus cottages, a pair of barns,

and an apple orchard. Now we wonder just how much Fallon-brand applesauce is going to sell for at Loaves & Fishes.

Welcome to the Doll House

For those who love architectural models and are looking for something to do on a lazy Hamptons day, the sweet spot in the Venn diagram is the Southampton Historical Museum, which is hosting an exhibition called "Phenomenal Places" through September 3. The man behind the models, Gary Lawrance, has been building the miniatures—which start at \$3,000, making them almost as expensive per square foot as the real thing—for more than 20 years; this show features a selec-



The Big Duck celebrates a big day.

Duck!

The inexplicably popular Big Duck (which, let's be honest, isn't actually *that* big) has just celebrated its 80th birthday. Located in Flanders on the road between Hampton Bays (aka the place where Southampton police tow your car) and Riverhead (aka the place with the outlet mall), the "literalist advertisement" was built in 1931 to help its owner sell ducks and duck eggs. Today it's home to a "roadside collector's dream" gift shop that sells an exhaustive selection of duck-themed souvenirs. It's even created a legacy: The term "duck" is now often used by architects to describe any sort of mimetic building, be it in the shape of a basket, a hot dog, or a coffee pot.

Hot in Cleveland

Turns out Randy Lerner, the owner of the Cleveland Browns, gets out of Cleveland every chance he can get. According to *The Wall Street Journal's* handy Jet Tracker database, which contains records of almost every private jet flight between 2007 and 2010, the football team was the most frequent visitor to the East Hampton Airport, presumably to shuttle Lerner to his home in Amagansett.

BIG DUCK: JACK WILGUS.

tion of tiny Hamptons homes designed by such notable local architects as Francis Fleetwood, Frank Greenwald, Preston Phillips, Kitty McCoy, and Peter Cook.

You Win Scum, You Lose Scum

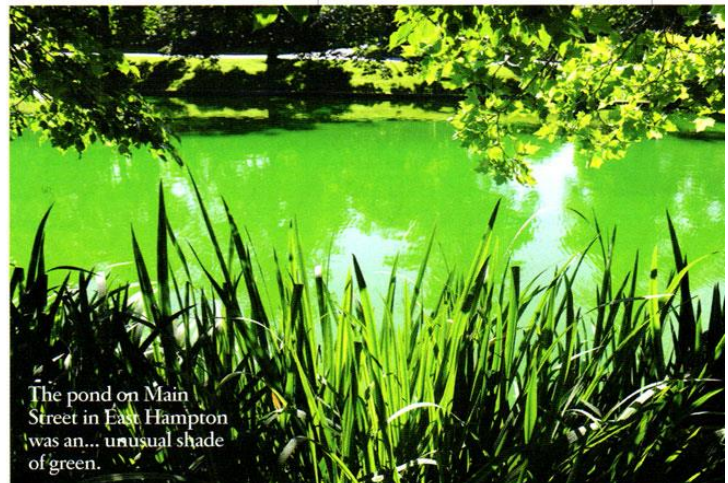
People woke up on the Saturday of July Fourth weekend to discover that the pond on Main Street in East Hampton was a horrifying shade of fluorescent green. Although initial theories included aliens, algae, and antifreeze, tests by the State Department of Environmental Conservation seem to suggest it was just a nontoxic dye. While it's vaguely possible this was unintentional, all signs seemed to point toward a purposeful prank. (A police officer is rumored to have also seen the

pond dyed purple the week before.) But unlike previous episodes of Village vandalism (remember the dollar sign burned into the field of East Hampton High School?), the green dye dissipated on its own and everything was back to normal after a few days. The culprit, if caught, could face jail time and a fine of up to \$37,500.

Ale, Ale, the Gang's All Here

The Boardy Barn in Hampton Bays (we've never been, either) sells more beer on a summer afternoon than Yankee Stadium on a game day. For example, on the Sunday before Memorial Day, around 2,000 patrons showed up at the ultra-popular bar and guzzled 600 kegs of beer in about seven hours. At about 165 servings per keg,

that's the equivalent of almost 50 beers per person. The Barn knew this was an impressive statistic when they shocked even their own liquor distributor, who said: "The place is a phenomenon... I don't think there's anything like it in the country."



The pond on Main Street in East Hampton was an... unusual shade of green.