

# dwell Outdoor

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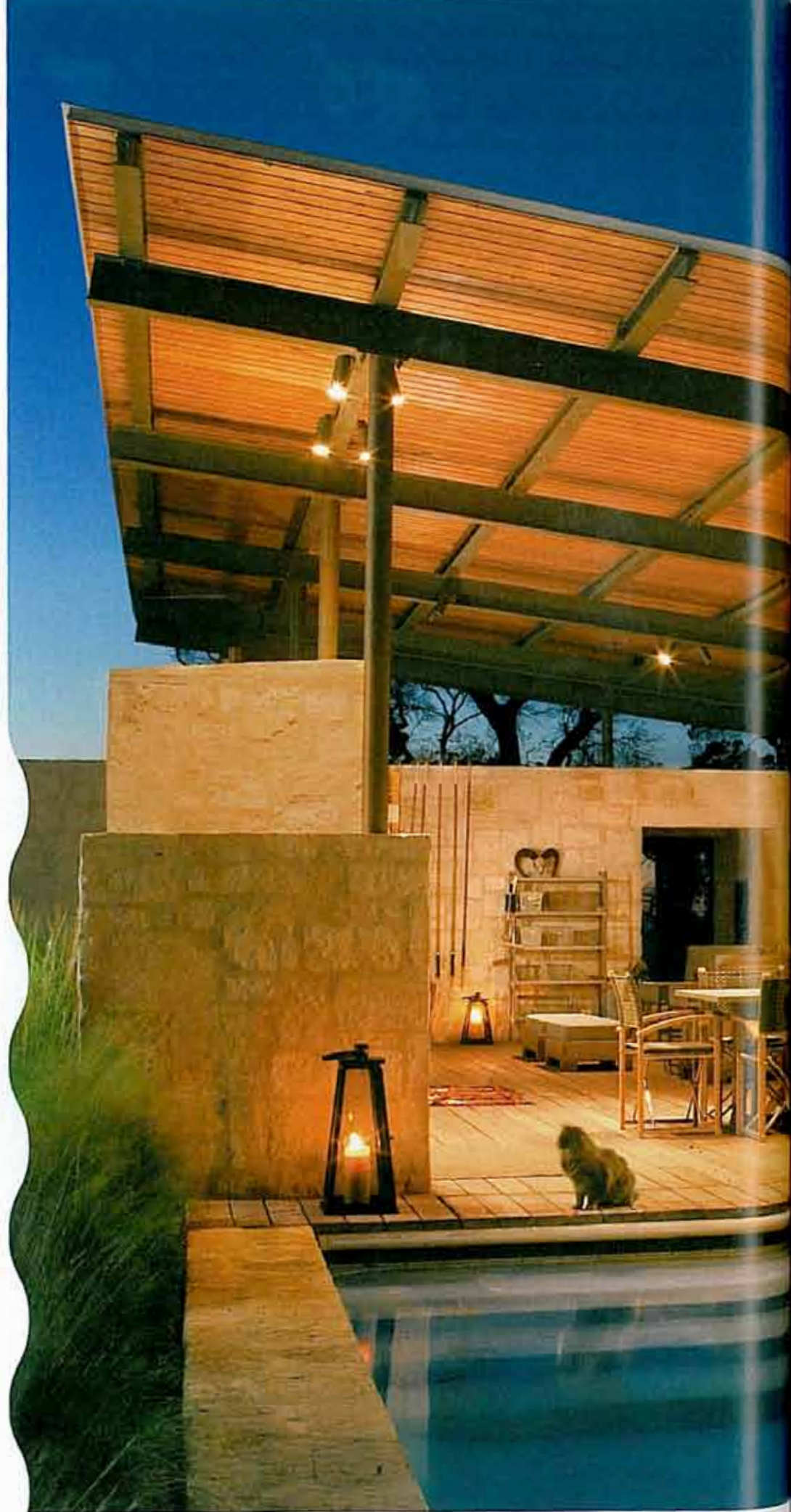
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Whether you're looking for a refreshing dip, a serious bit of exercise, or merely a place for the kids to swim in circles, these cool pools boast the best in splashy design.







**Project:** Story Pool House  
**Location:** Center Point, Texas  
**Completed:** 2010

# POOL PARTY

Constructed by Lake/Flato Architects, an open-air pool house stands amid rolling hills in the Texas Hill Country. Over a period of fifteen years, Ed and Joey Story pieced together their ranch of nearly 500 acres in Center Point, Texas, as neighboring parcels became available. About a mile's walk from their main residence, also designed by the architects, stood a lonely Airstream and fire pit that the Storys used for outdoor gatherings. After a period of years, the Storys decided they wanted something more substantial for the spot, so they again called upon Lake/Flato to create a modern pool house that would incorporate swimming, dining, cooking, and relaxing. The new steel-and-wood pavilion, where Ed Story heads to do laps every morning he's on the ranch, is now the family's "sunrise to sunset" go-to hangout location.

PHOTOS BY BRENT HUMPHREYS

Two Texas limestone "boxes" define the structure, and house a fully working kitchen, a bathroom, and storage facilities. The deck is ipe. ▶

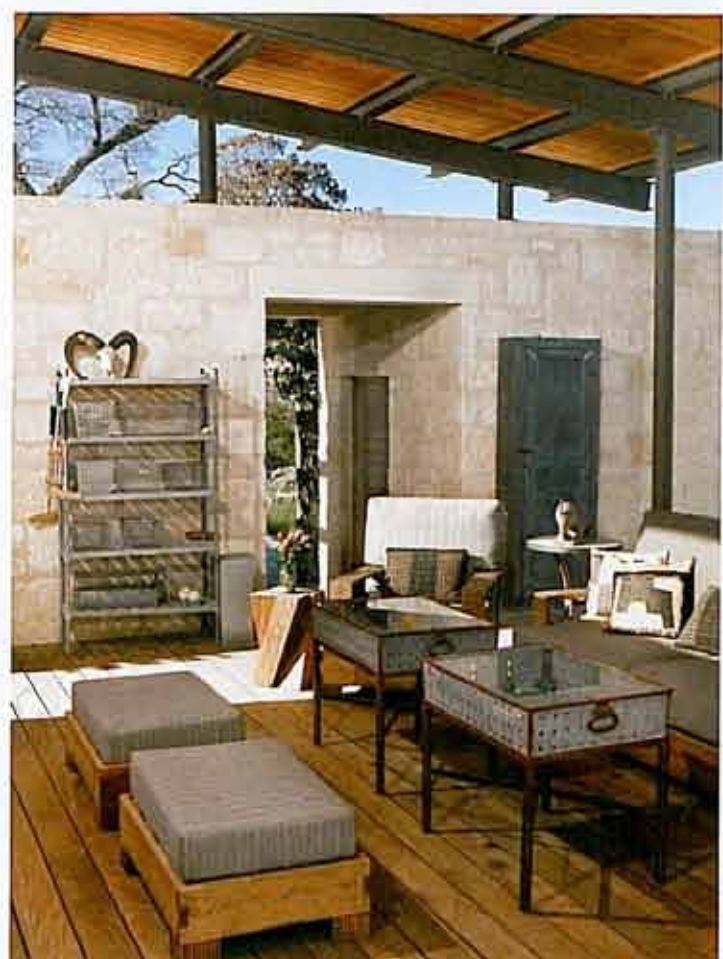




The entire structure is about 1,750 square feet; the lap pool is eight-feet-by-sixty-feet. Folding slatted doors conceal more Viking kitchen appliances. The Sutherland table is surrounded by chairs from Summit.

A back hallway leads to an Airstream and a limestone fire pit (opposite, top left and right). Perennials fabric covers the furnishings (opposite, bottom right). Apertures in the stone funnel Texas breezes. ▶







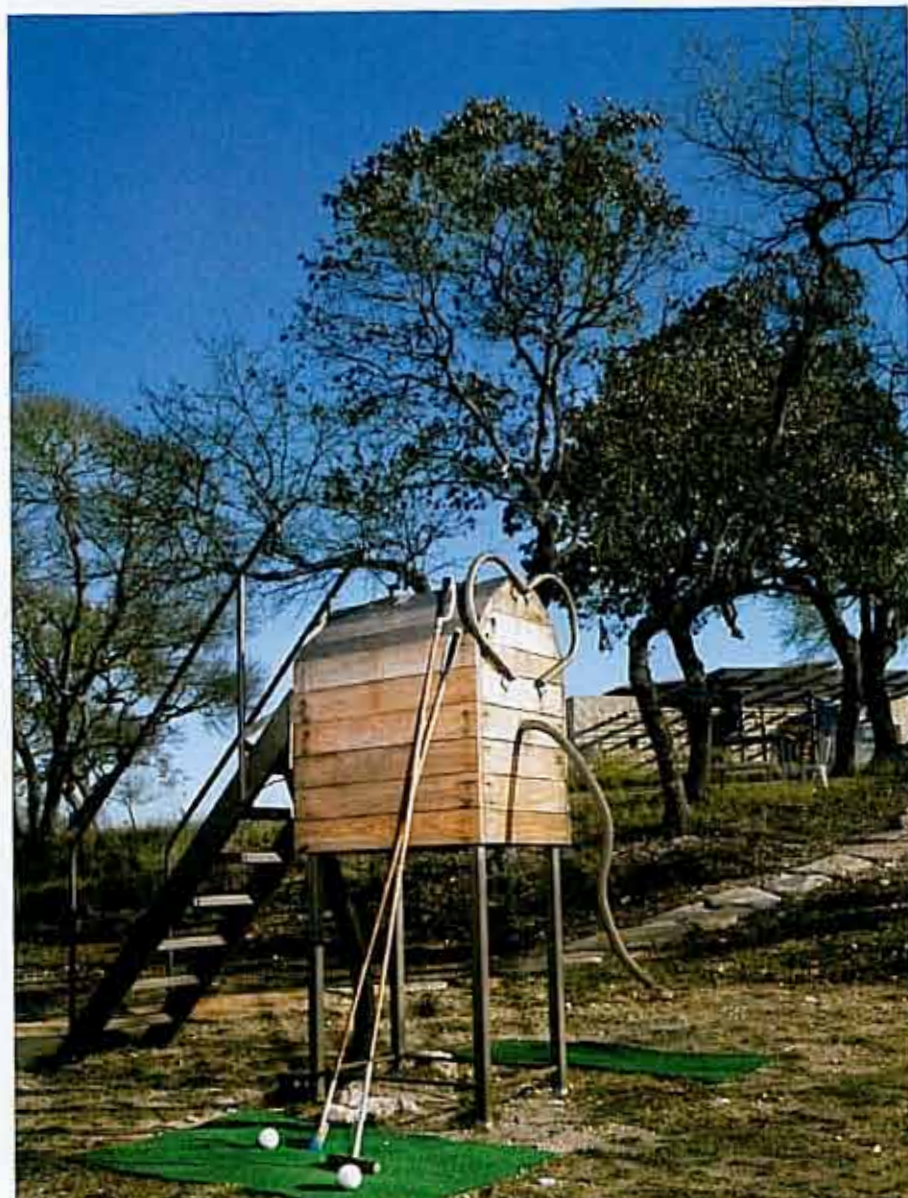
A vine-covered arbor is next to the Airstream, still sitting in its original position on the site. It's now used as a guest room, and is kitted out with recycled long-leaf pine floors and cabinetry, and leather-covered walls. ▶











Just a short jaunt from the pool house is a flat expanse where Ed Story, who is an avid player of elephant polo, climbs atop his "practice elephant" (left) to perfect his swing with his extra-long mallets (above).



