

SUMMER 2016

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Living Lavish

The One&Only Ocean Club's historic Hartford Wing gets a dramatic refresh

By Alia Akkam

Photography courtesy of One&Only Resorts

n 1962 Huntington Hartford II, heir to the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company fortune, bought a Swedish industrialist's splendid private Bahamian estate fringed in Versailles-inspired gardens. Envisioning it as a lavish marble-filled resort—complete with a cloister shipped pieceby-piece from France-he transformed it into the Ocean Club, a hideaway beloved by celebrities on the tiny island off Nassau's coast he aptly rechristened Paradise.

Long part of the One&Only Resorts portfolio, today it spans an Adam D. Tihany-designed wing, garden cottages, and villa

residences, but it's the original 52-room structure—the Hartford Wing-that is in the limelight after a massive restoration by New York-based Jeffrey Beers International (JBI) in collaboration with HKS Architects.

"It was a real honor to reconceive the style of this historic building, which is thought of as the heart and soul of the resort," says JBI principal and founder Jeffrey Beers.

Blending in with the property's overall colonial aesthetic, the revamped Hartford Wing now fuses such elements as walnut plank ceilings with white wood crossbeams. "Custom bronzed



Opposite page: The One&Only Ocean Club's revamped Hartford Wing boasts walnut plank ceilings with white wood crossbeams in the airy suites. Above: The 125-foot-long infinity pool offers stunning ocean views.

metal and glass pendant light fixtures were used for a nautical feel reminiscent of a ship's sleeping cabin, while soft, cream-colored leathers and warm light-colored stones remind guests of the Caribbean beach sand," explains JBI senior project manager Tim Rooney. Bianco Dolomiti marble and fabrics in hues of deep blue and coral red also conjure the island's natural surroundings.

Adding 110 square feet to each of the guestrooms and suites was the biggest challenge, points out Beers, but "it allowed us to create a separate living area within and open up the façade with new wall-to-wall, floor-to-ceiling glass doors to maximize the

stunning ocean views."

Outside, JBI reinterpreted the central courtyard—"without compromising character and feel," Rooney adds-as an alfresco lounge. The firm also unveiled a beachfront, 125-foot-long infinityedge pool accompanied by the Ocean Pool Grill, a casual dining concept dotted with daybeds. The pool, says Beers, offers "a seamless visual transition to the vibrant Caribbean blue waters."



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From top: Natural tones and textures create a calming respite in the wing's spacious guest bathrooms.

Owner: Access Industries Architecture Firm: HKS Architects Interior Design Firm: Jeffrey Beers International Interior Design Project Team: Tim Rooney, Nora Kanter, Elizabeth Schlotzhaue, Masako

Fukuokoa, Fabiola Troncoso, and Tatiana Damrogray Purchasing Firm: The Parker Company

Consultants: JBI, HKS, 40North, Focus Lighting, and Blum Engineering

Artwork: Kalisher, Katherine Bernhardt, and

Y.Z. Kary Fabrics and Linens: Richloom

Carpet: Sacco **Lighting:** Hallmark

Tubs and Bathroom Fixtures: Solid Source

