

ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

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Before & After Issue



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removed multiple panels on the interior doors to make way for tall, translucent pale blue glass ones.

He also restricted lighting throughout the house to coves, ceilings, skylights and niches, so as not to obstruct the water views. Not surprisingly, there are no view-challenging window treatments. "I hate curtains and rags on windows," Swedroe's wife, Rita, explains.

On the roof, two new terraces provide panoramic views of the surroundings. "This is the highest point in Surfside," says Robert Swedroe. "The Florida sunsets are spectacular, and in the evening it's a great place to look at the stars."

ing the semi-ruined house. The process, he miscalculated, would take a year. It is still a work in progress.

But Swedroe's vision was clear. The open, airy plan takes advantage of the abundant Florida light. He transformed old ventilation shafts into towering skylights and reconfigured the windows on the terraces into walls of sliding glass. He

Once Swedroe had reconfigured the bones of the house, he and his wife turned to Fort Lauderdale-based designer Toby Zack for help with the interiors. She shares the Swedroes' belief that rooms should be simple and clean, with minimal furnishings. The couple approved the brown-and-white palette that is a Zack signature.

The nautical theme is evident in the



TOP AND LEFT: In the kitchen, Swedroe and Zack installed blue high-gloss metallic lacquered cabinets, from Snaidero, and refinished the marble floor. "It's a state-of-the-art space, with a convection oven, a walk-in pantry and a marble-topped island with a six-burner cooktop," the designer points out. The pair of Toledo stacking chairs are by Jorge Pensi. Refrigerator, Sub-Zero. ABOVE: A 10-foot-long Carlo Scarpa table, surrounded by original Brno chairs by Mies van der Rohe, dominates the dining area. *Undetermined Line* by Bernar Venet hangs at rear. The Zack-designed buffet is from Poggenpohl.