

Property Development

Signature Villas Collection

Despite the recent economic downturn and upheaval among real estate development projects on Anguilla, for one local property development company, it's business as usual. Self-financed Signature Villas continues to work on a robust construction timeline on all of its projects and guarantees on-time delivery of its renovations and new buildings. The company was established in 2003 but has its roots firmly planted in Anguilla's development for almost two decades thanks to the vision of founders John and Val Barker and Ian "Sugar George" Edwards and his wife, Janine.

Originally from England, the Barkers have embraced Anguilla as their second home for more than 20 years. They conceived and thoughtfully designed two of Anguilla's first luxury villas, "Turquaz" and "Indigo" in Little Harbour, setting the bar for Anguilla's luxury property development. Their pioneering role helped to establish the island as one of the world's premier luxury vacation destinations.

The Edwards (both Caribbean nationals) moved to Anguilla in 1995 following the devastating eruption of the Soufriere Hills Volcano in Montserrat. They launched their company, Sunset Homes, with the construction of the villa "Splash!" in 1999. They cemented their reputation as one of the leading home design and construction firms with the completion of Spyglass Hill, sitting majestically on the North Hill cliff overlooking Sandy Ground and which is now part of the Signature Villas Collection.

The Barkers met the Edwards in 2003 when looking for a contractor to build "Le Bleu", the third villa in the their original Little Harbour Estates property development concept. The two couples quickly discovered that they shared a passion for Anguilla and a desire to create a company that would build the island's most prestigious vacation homes in the most desirable locations. Thus Signature Villas Collection was born.

"We saw Ian and Janine as younger versions of ourselves" recalls John. "Their enthusiasm and commitment to high standards and most of all, genuine business professionalism and ethics, attracted us to work with them".

"Val and John's reputation preceded them," Janine explains. When we met, we already knew about their excellence in property development - having built 2 of the loveliest homes on the island.". "We felt very honoured to be working with such a talented and inspired team who had built many successful businesses from scratch" added Sugar George. "We were also very pleased that they had a very deep and genuine love for Anguilla and had been committed to the island for two decades".

The mission of Signature Villas is to give each homeowner the ultimate Anguilla experience. Attention to detail, design excellence and a commitment to quality and craftsmanship blend to define how the firm creates distinctive homes. "Each property is an absolute labour of love," says Sugar George. "The care in selecting and acquiring each location and the passion put into the design captures the heart and soul of our team. We build

with the same care and passion as if it were to be our very own dream home".

"As a team, we are committed to giving our very best to each project undertaken," says Val, "Each team member is very different individually, but we are all personally involved in every detail while bringing our individual attributes to our projects...a huge benefit to our clients who thus get the best of what we all have to offer."

Signature Villas is currently overseeing six Anguilla projects ranging from construction of prestigious villas, to real estate development and property renovations. "We all have to recognize that there is a major economic downturn which has definitely affected properties worldwide," explains John. "Our view though is that there is still a market for very top end, unique and quality properties. We believe that all our properties fit into this category so we will continue to complete our projects to the very highest standards."

The crown jewel in Signature Villa's portfolio, is **The Beach House**, pictured below. Built on one acre of prime beachfront land on the powdery white sands of Meads Bay, this modern masterpiece has over 14,000 square feet living space. Set within beautifully landscaped gardens and offering 7 spacious master bedrooms and 8.5 bathrooms, the architecture is designed to capture the island's natural beauty, spectacular sunsets and ocean views. With over a dozen dedicated outdoor deck and lounge areas, there is no shortage of spaces for entertaining or quiet solitude.



The setting of The Beach House is as stunning as its design

“The Beach House is a truly special place,” Val continued. “Its concept and design came naturally, flowing from day one. All good design generally goes this way. The magnificent setting, the beach, the sea, the view all made it feel like the right decision to build. This is a truly unique house for a very special person who can appreciate all the finer details we have tried to incorporate into it.” These include a luxurious lower level suite comprised of a state of the art entertainment and leisure system allowing control of the room’s sound, light, music and overall mood. A large home theatre with surround sound lends a whole new meaning to ‘movie night’, a tennis court, fitness room, 44 ft. infinity edge pool, outdoor Jacuzzi and a games room are just a few of the many extras.

Crews are now working feverishly on the finishing touches with masonry completed and tiling and electrical systems being installed. Custom made windows and doors should be in by March as well as kitchen and bathroom fittings. Landscaping and painting are in progress with completion carefully timed for the project’s opening this Fall.

Across the island, on the southern coast, Signature Villas has recently completed a multimillion dollar renovation of **Villa Indigo**, the standard bearer for cool Caribbean elegance often cited as Anguilla’s most inviting and gracious villa property. Embodying idyllic indoor/outdoor tropical living style, it is surrounded by lush, meticulously cultivated gardens filled with palm trees, hibiscus and bougainvillea. The estate setting with breathtaking views of St. Martin and St. Barths, harmoniously blends European sophistication with Caribbean chic.

A grand, 2-storey, drive-through entrance complex and tennis pavilion are part of the villa’s extensive renovation. Two ensuite-bedrooms are on the top floor, an intimate living room and galley kitchen, gym and garage on the ground floor. A simulated grass tennis court is lighted for night play and there’s an adjoining tennis pavilion with seating.



A private inlet beach features an ocean sundeck with floating platform

“Indigo was originally designed for holidays for our large family, but our idea was also to make it a top end rental,” the Barkers explained. “Our criteria was to create a venue where people could holiday together but also be able to enjoy privacy and seclusion. It has taken some time to evolve that concept but we just completed the final part with the renovations and I think we have captured our original vision to perfection.” While Indigo is one of the premium listings in Signature Villa’s real estate sales portfolio, the property continues to be a favorite on Anguilla’s holiday rental market, and the team assures that all confirmed rental bookings will be honoured in the event of a sale of the villa.

“As a small unified team we can be very responsive and flexible to our clients’ needs,” Janine Edwards concludes. “Whereas some other property development concepts are based on standardization and uniformity, Signature Villas offers something very personal and different that sets us apart. Our stand alone residences are designed to reflect the elements of uniqueness, individuality and privacy so highly sought after by our discerning clientele”.

**Contact Sunset Homes (264)497-3666/235-3666 to visit any of Signature Villas’ sites
E-mail: info@signaturevillasanguilla.com. Website: www.signaturevillasanguilla.com**



Indigo’s large open-plan living room opens out to a patio overlooking the Caribbean.



This classic 9-bedroom Indigo complex sits on 1.41 sprawling waterfront acres overlooking the calm waters of protected Little Harbour



Indigo’s uniquely designed main lounge opens onto a large patio overlooking the spectacular freeform stone swimming pool. A romantic dining pavilion on the lower level offers the perfect spot for a dinner for 2 or a gathering of friends and family.