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LOOKS

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MUST-HAVES

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SPRING
FASHION
ISSUE!

Connie Nielsen
in Oscar de
la Renta

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BUILT TO BLOSSOM

The best architecture is born of a solid foundation, pleasing proportions, inviting vistas, strong structural delineation and the compelling interplay of spaces. It's no surprise, then, that when architects turn to garden design, these elements still come into play. Recently I talked with Philip Logan, a New York City-based architect who now works with his wife, Barbara Paca, the noted garden designer. He explained that when he takes on a design job, walls, hedges, terraces, paths and water ele-

ments come first; plants, much later. At about the same time, I read James van Sweden's new book, *Architecture in the Garden* (Random House, \$39.95; to order, call 800-962-6651), and Logan's message hit home. Van Sweden, who is also an architect and a landscape designer, has been creating gardens for twenty-six years. His book (brimming with illustrations) is a passionate primer about the need to give a garden "good bones." Successful gardens are built from the ground



A Providence, Rhode Island, garden designed by Philip Logan.

up, he says, not made through the addition of a pretty flowering plant here or a shapely shrub there. **JANE GARMEY**