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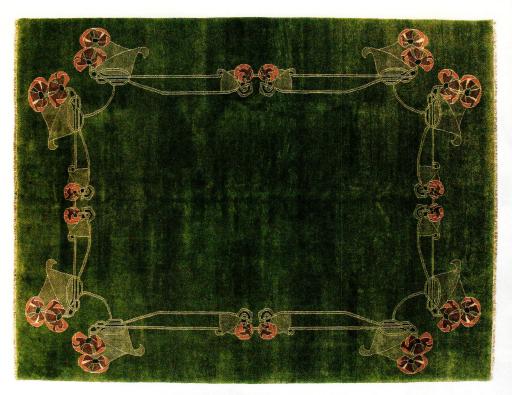
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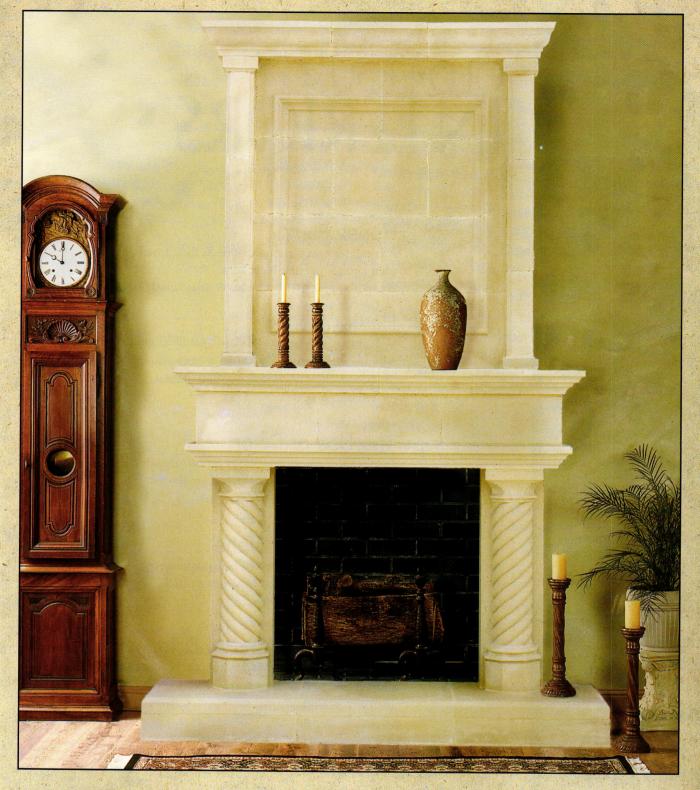


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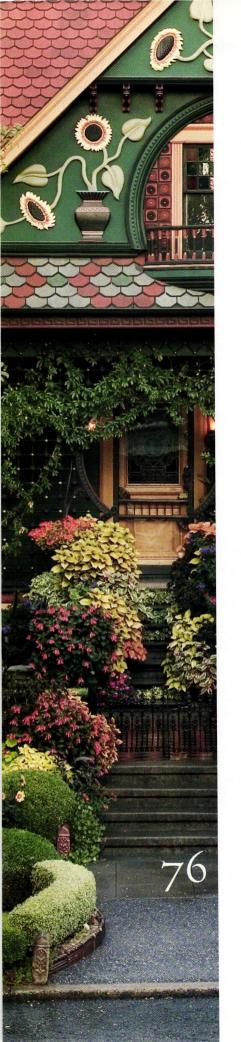


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OLD-HOUSE established 1995
INTERIORS

VOLUME XI, NUMBER 4

/ISITS

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A couple left well enough alone in their timeless farm cottage in rural New York.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEVE GROSS AND SUSAN DALEY

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ONTHE COVER: In a comfy cottage, retro wallpaper alludes to early Dutch settlement in New York. Cover photograph by Steve Gross & Susan Daley.

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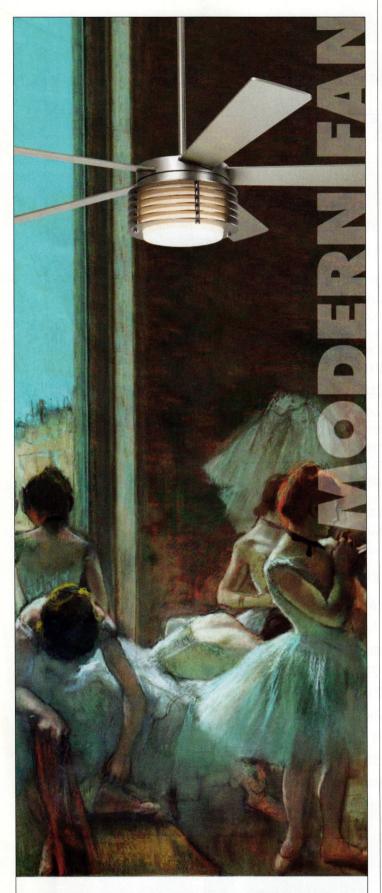












Edgar Degas, Dancers at Rest 1884-1885 Musee d'Orsay, Paris, France

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In the familiar

TOOK MY LAPTOP to bed on the night of a spring nor'easter. Bolstered against the pillows, unaware of the clock, I tapped tapped tapped out a story about an old house. Horizontal rain, driven recklessly up the street from Good Harbor Beach, pelted the new green leaves, the porch roof inches from my head, the cold window glass. I could hear waves breaking, dull and insistent, a safe distance away. The ventriloquist wind made whoo-oo sounds like a Halloween ghost. Tap tap tap. In my bed, in my room, in my house.

[The boys come home from their travails and burst through the kitchen door, a babble of news, complaint, and hunger, tossing backpacks and fleece, disturbing the old dog. They drag food from the fridge and the snack drawer, which now they must bend low to reach, and head for the little room with well-worn chairs and a peaked ceiling of orange-shellacked matchboard just the color of Peter's hair. "I am so glad to be home!" Will shouts, and then: "Mom, I love this house. You'll never sell it, will you? 'Cause it's the best."]

I thought I heard a small noise, and suddenly it was dark—only the computer screen glowed. My voice startled me when like a reflex I yelled, "Hey, knock it off, Mom's trying to finish." The lights came on. The lights went off. Disoriented by the hour and the silence beyond the wind, I got up as the lights came back. No one in the hall, bedroom doors still shut. The printer jumped to life, outrageously loud, and printed nothing on invisible paper. I felt the house move ever so slightly, a wood house shifting in a powerful gust. I went back to bed to sleep, snug in my room that faces the northeast wind.

Imagining sturdy churches and centuries-old trees, I started out to write about sacred places in our lives. But what is better than home?



Janifore

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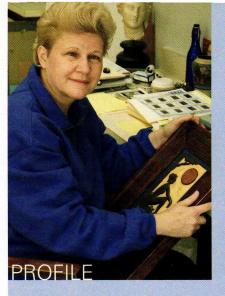
Newport Fame

The cities where 18thcentury American cabinetmakers flourished all had wealthy patrons—and seaport access to tropical mahogany. But virtuosity in furniture production belongs to Newport, Rhode Island. "Newport cabinetmakers had a tremendous ambition to do things on their own," says Morris Heckscher, Chairman of the American Wing at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. "They saw the great Boston highboys and desks—and said they weren't as coherent as they could be." . Newport's finest furniture makers were Job and Christopher Townsend, who established shops in 1729 and begat a line of craftsmen including Job's sons Thomas, Edmund, and John, and son-in-law John Goddard. By the 1780s, the accomplishments of the Townsend-Goddard group included tea tables with scalloped tops and softly undulating skirts, stunning

shell-decorated block-front desks and chests, and carved ball-and-claw feet so finely articulated, only two points of the talon touch the ball. In his career, Job labeled just one piece of furniture: a desk with a concave block-and-shell door, broad base moulding and plain ogee bracket feet, which remained Newport's standard design for the next 50 years. His son John was conscious of his surpassing craftsmanship: he signed and dated 34 pieces of his work, now the focus of the Met's exhibition. Townsend-Goddard pieces were expensive in their day, and are now. At Sotheby's in January, a ca. 1760 tea table commanded an unprecedented \$8,416,000. "John Townsend, Newport Cabinetmaker" is at the Metropolitan Museum in New York City until Sept. 25, 2005; metmuseum.org -GLADYS MONTGOMERY

From the Metropolitan Museum's collection: block and shell bureau table attributed to Newport's John Townsend, ca. 1765.





It took Linda
Witkowski two
years to perfect
the techniques
to create largescale art tiles.
"Contemplation"
is one of her
earliest designs.

A senior paintings conservator at the Indianapolis Museum of Art, LINDA WITKOWSKI was looking for an outlet for creative expression when she took a ceramics class at the suggestion of a friend in 1998. Already familiar with scenic tile compositions where smaller tiles are used to create a large landscape, she opened her eyes in the class to a new possibility: art tiles on a grander scale. "I loved the idea of looking at a landscape without the grout lines," says Witkowski, who is a Detroit native. It took Linda about two years to perfect the techniques needed to produce her tiles, which can be 10" square or more. The brilliant colors come from glaze firing at 2350 degrees F. Her HAND-PRESSED TILES are purposely made "to look as though they could be old," she says. Potential buyers seem to relate to them in personal ways. One of her first customers saw one of her rook tiles and told her he could hear the crickets chirping, and a buyer at the Grove Park Arts & Crafts show in February said that the girlish figure in "Contemplation" was calling to her. Witkowski makes all of her glazes, and frames each of her pieces herself, customstaining the wood to complement the coloration of the tile. Her production is necessarily limited, "All good things take time," says Witkowski. "Even in conservation where everything is a work of art, 'better' is the enemy of 'good.' " L.A. WITKOWSKI ART TILES, (317) 875-0467, witkowskiarttile@aol.com --MEP

When they have a choice, people will always gravitate to those rooms which have light on two sides, and leave the rooms which are lit only from one side unused and empty. 9 9 — Christopher Alexander, A Pattern Language, 1977.

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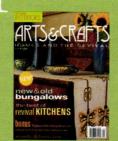
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Our Editors' New Books



Brian D. Coleman has several books to his credit (and others in the works). Recently published is Scalamandré: Luxurious Home

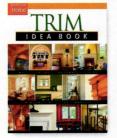
Interiors [Gibbs Smith, \$60]. The oversized volume shows rooms furnished with the fine fabrics and trimmings of that illustrious textile maker. Upholstery and draperies are lush. The color schemes are mouth-watering. A section of the

> book features such details as lamps, tasseled ottomans, and hand-embroidered valances. Sumptuous, inspiring.



Mary Ellen Polson has written a practical and eye-opening book for Taunton's "Idea Books" series:

it's the Trim Idea Book [Taunton Home, \$19.95, taunton.com] She starts with the basics and goes on to focus on specific uses and



configurations for such trim as baseboards, wainscots, crown mouldings, door and window casings, arches, ceilings, built-ins, and balustrades.

A resource appendix suggests publications and lists sources for trim and enrichments.



Famous for its concrete-block exterior with sculptural, Mayainfluenced hieroglyphics, the Ennis-Brown House in Los Angeles is considered one of Frank Lloyd Wright's masterpieces. It is also one of the most endangered. Heavy rains in southern California washed out a concrete retaining wall at

the back of the property in February, and portions of the house have been ruled off-limits by city inspectors. The national landmark was structurally damaged in a 1994 earthquake and was already on the World Monument Fund's Most Endangered Site List before the collapse.

• The facade of the Ennis-Brown House is constructed of 16" modular concrete blocks featuring geometric repeats that give the house its textural appearance. Built for Mabel and Charles Ennis in 1924, it appeared in "Blade Runner" in 1982. The nonprofit Trust for Preservation of Cultural Heritage needs to raise \$1 million before it can begin the first phase of structural stabilization, estimated at \$5 million. Tours of the house have necessarily been suspended, cutting off one source of

cash. To make a donation, contact (323) 660-0607, ennisbrownhouse.org

ABOVE: Frank Lloyd Wright's Ennis-Brown House is threatened by mudslides. LEFT: The collapsed retaining wall.





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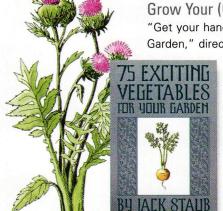
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"Get your hands on 75 Exciting Vegetables for Your Garden," directed an email from our friend Ken Druse,

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expert on vegetables and vegetable gardening style. From Gibbs Smith, \$24.95 list, through your bookseller.

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13 NANTUCKET KITCHENS **ON ORANGE STREET July 21,** Nantucket, MA, (508) 228-1387, nantucketpreservationtrust.org

Byrdcliffe at Winterthur

The fruit of an Arts and Crafts community born a century ago near Woodstock, New York, lives on in the traveling exhibition, "Byrdcliffe: An American Arts and Crafts Colony," June 11-Sept. 5 in the Graves Gallery at Winterthur, in Winterthur, Delaware (800/448-3883, winterthur.org). The show features nearly 200 examples of work from the Utopian community, including paintings, pieces of furniture, pottery, photographs, and jewelry.

Kutztown Classic

Crafts fairs have become so commonplace that every town has onein New York City, the same vendors just move from neighborhood to neighborhood. That's not the case with the Kutztown Pennsylvania German Festival, which holds forth July 2-10 at the Fairgrounds in Kutztown, PA. The event celebrates Pennsylvania German folkways with demonstrations like glass blowing and how to make a Windsor chair; the entertainment ranges from Mennonite hymn sings to German band music. Other attractions include a guilt sale and auction featuring 2,500 locally made quilts, juried crafts and antique and collectibles shows, and a Fourth of July parade. Contact (888) 674-6136, kutztownfestival.com

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- · Photographs or jpegs of your project.
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- Two or more paragraphs describing the project: the inspiration(s) for it, your intention and rationale, and the work you did.
- Your name, full street address, phone number and email address [for editor's use only], the age and style of your house.
- · A photo of your house's exterior; other photos that provide context [optional].

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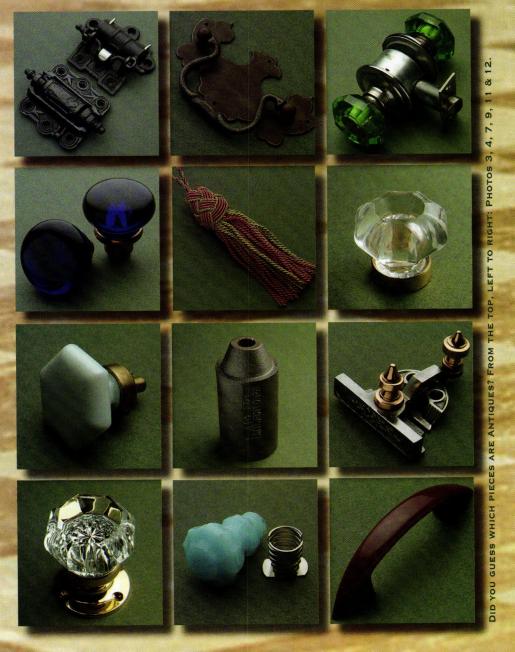
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HINGS

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Clay American Style •

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→ Deco Modern

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- Lipstick Red Evocative of the best lamp profiles of the 1960s, Robert Kuo's cloisonné Silhouette lamp in cinnabar red enamel is enhanced with a random gold netting that makes each one unique. With a pongee silk shade, it retails for \$3,105. Contact McGuire, (800) 662-4847, mcguirefurniture.com

• Shapes of the Sixties

This sculptural tile design is one of several patterns from the 1950s and '60s revived by Heath Ceramics, founded in the mid-1940s. The slightly concave six-sided diamond tiles retail for \$33 per square foot. Contact Heath Ceramics, (415) 332-3732, heathceramics.com

• Free Form

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- Whirly Bird

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flowers, the carafe-shaped Flower vase is a contemporary take on Swedish Modern (designer Anne Nilsson was born in 1953). Standing 181/4", it retails for \$375. Contact Orrefors Kosta Boda, (800) 433-4167, kostaboda.com



Sputnik Sconce

Closely modeled on a classic Fifties lighting profile, the coneshaped Aloha wall bracket incorporates starlight-inspired perforations that perfect the Retro feel. It comes in 12 finishes. The retail price in polished nickel is \$181. Contact Rejuvenation, (888) 401-1900, rejuvenation.com



Slow Release

A 1963 design by the legendary Hans Wegner, the three-legged shell chair saw only limited production until a 1997 re-release. It's handmade in Denmark of form-pressed plywood shells with laminated legs and upholstery. The low-slung chair retails for \$1,622 plus shipping. Contact Hive, (866) MODE-HIVE, hivemodern.com

Floral Palate

These boldly floral melamine trays update the Sixties TV tray with panache. Designed by Thomas Paul, the Kimono set sells for \$52 for a set of four nesting trays. Contact Elsewares, (212) 925-3858, elsewares.com





Solo Pillows

Prem Taylor hand-sews and -beads pillows from vintage fabrics, so each one is a limited edition. The teal blue pillow of circa 1930s Italian silk damask is \$350. The silk cut-velvet fringed pillow and the hand-beaded gingko pillow both sell for \$250. Contact PJ Vintage, (805) 564-0052, pjvintage.com



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OST OF US would find it challenging enough to create a single new bath in an old house, let alone five. But that's exactly what Bob and Mary Russell faced as part of their grand plan for a summer home in Vermont.

For help, they turned to designer Amy Thebault of Thebault Design in Dorset, Vermont. Usually when you design a bathroom you tie the décor to elements in the adjoining bedroom, says Thebault, whose training is as a scenic painter. In this case, most of the owners' large collection of antiques and architectural salvage was in storage for the bulk of

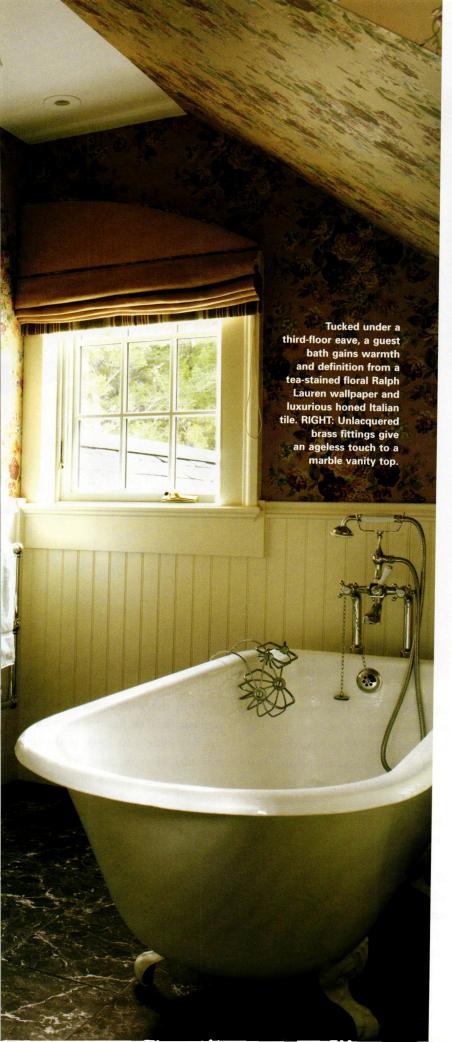
colored wallcoverings that embrace

BY MARY ELLEN POLSON

the project—a sort of great unknown, she says. That's when you improvise.

The Russell's summer getaway, designed by Manchester architect William Badger, is loosely patterned after the nearby home of Robert Todd Lincoln, Hildene, built in 1902. At first the Russells, an older couple who married just a few years ago, wanted to leave the top storey of their home







The SPECIFICS

• ARCHITECT: William Badger,

Badger and Associates, Manchester Center, VT (802) 362-2301

INTERIOR DESIGN: Amy Thebault,
 Thebault Design, Dorset, VT
 (802) 366-4990, thebaultdesign.com

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• SUBWAY TILE, all baths: Archive 3" x 6" field tile; master bath floor: Carrara mosaic hex

- SHOWER AND BATH FITTINGS: Etoile
- TUBS: Savoy clawfoot (this page); Waterworks Classic (p. 30).
- VANITIES: Two-leg Washstand by Waterworks with Danby marble tops and Etoile towel bars
- RADIANT TOWEL BARS: Universal
 electric towel warmer by Waterworks
- MEDICINE CHESTS: Advance
- WATER CLOSETS: Lyon by Waterworks
- WALL COVERINGS: Ralph Lauren

Featherbed Floral (pp. 28-29);

Scalamandré Medici Floral (p. 31); Scalamandré Hunt Party Toile (p. 30, left), Colefax and Fowler (p. 32)

RIGHT: The master bath incorporates a true water closet as well as a separate shower and tub. Wainscot-high white subway tile is capped with marble tile shaped to resemble moulding. BELOW: Both masculine and feminine, toile wallpaper and botanical prints enliven an otherwise white bath. The marble-topped pedestal washstand, a small shelf, and recessed medicine chest provide storage for toiletries.





unfinished. Then they opted to put in the rough plumbing, and the rest just followed."The bathrooms on the third floor happen to be the best rooms in the house," says Thebault, who defines her style sensibility as classic and traditional with a twist. "It's like a little penthouse up there."

To create a common thread for all five baths, the designer used flat white 3" x 6" subway tile in every bath, either on wainscot-high walls or in ceiling-height shower enclosures, or both. All of the bath fittings are from the same suite, Etoile by Waterworks. The fixtures were chosen deliberately to look as though they had been in place for a century: exposed shower fittings, pan shower heads, a clawfoot tub, marble vanity tops.

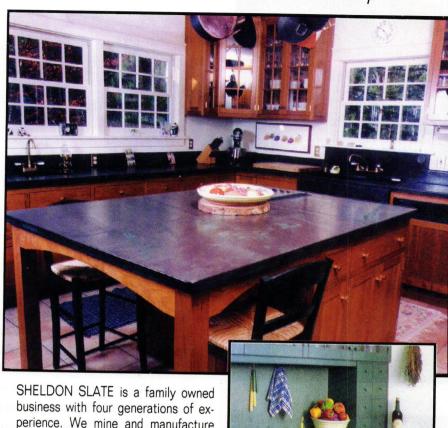
Thebault tweaked details here and there—a square towel rod under a washstand versus a round one, for example, but the key element that "makes" each bath is invariably the wall coverings and textiles, chosen as the project evolved.

POWDER Puff

Small can not only be beautiful, it also should be exquisite, says Amy Thebault, who advocates turning a tiny wash room into a jewel box. "Powder rooms are one of the most important rooms in the house for guests," she says. The idea is to envelop a visitor in an atmosphere of drama and richness with not a detail out of place. Upholstered in the same floral-on-dove-grey fabric as the tieback curtains, the walls are luxuriously padded. Carefully edited accentsa parasol-like shade on an overhead fixture, an antique table used as a vanity-create just the right mood.



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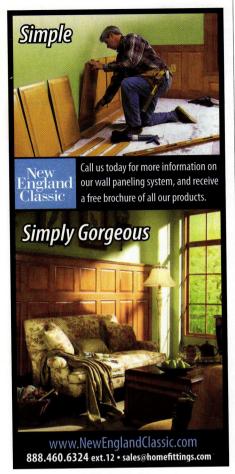
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Circle no. 17



To create a common thread for all five baths. the designer used flat white subway tile in every bath, either on the walls or shower enclosures, or both.



And the evolution was a long one. In fact, by the time the tile setters were ready to lay the brownish-red marble in an upstairs bath, the original selection had been quarried out. Simply choosing the fabrics used throughout the house required a marathon session in the couple's Florida condominium. Together, Thebault and the Russells winnowed the possibilities from about 200 down to a manageable 10 or so.

As for the tea-brown floral Ralph Lauren paper in the third floor suite, "we fell in love with it right away," Thebault says, noting that although the Russells generally prefer masculine textiles and wall coverings, the paper was the most elaborate and feminine of all the selections.

The designer also knew that adding color to the upper walls would give each of the baths a finished, three-dimensional look that was just as timeless as the subway tile and exposed bath fittings already in place.

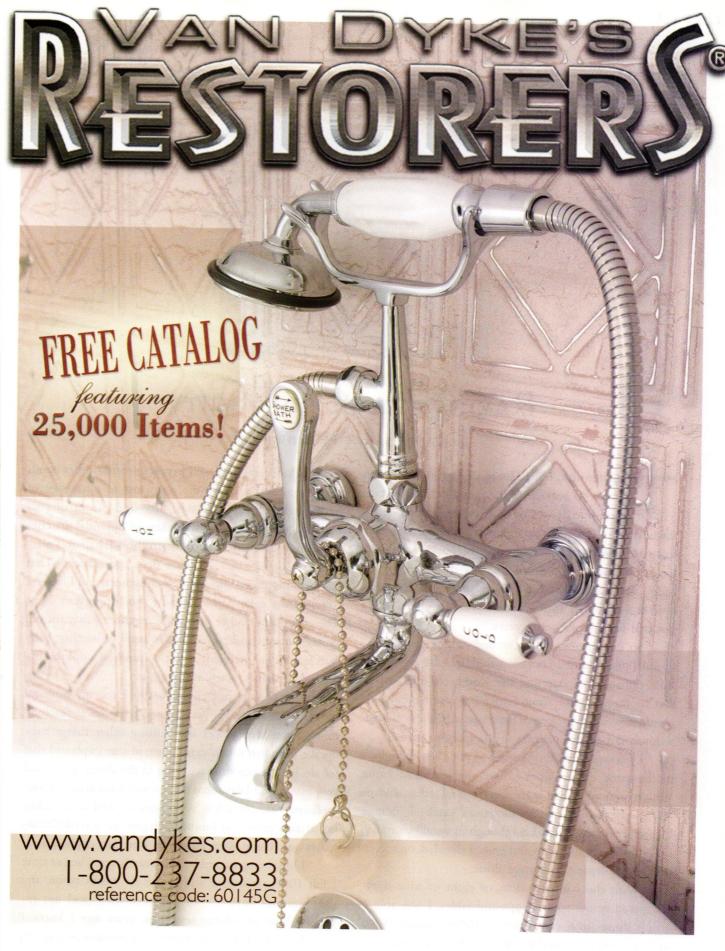
Wallpaper is especially helpful in rooms with sloping ceilings, like the one in the third floor bath.

A soft pink diamond-patterned wallcovering breathes life into this white bathroom. Variations in small details (polished nickel instead of brass on the lay fittings, a rectangular towel bar rather than round) help make this bath unique.

"When you don't wallpaper a room, it actually brings the ceiling height down," says Thebault, who admits to a preference for wall coverings over paint. "I think wallpaper defines a room. I am a person who likes prints everywhere."

Florals, toiles, and diamond patterns are classics, perennially in use in country houses for at least two centuries. While the wall coverings were intentionally chosen to be ageless, they are relatively easy to replace.

Even if the owners' preferences change, the five bathrooms in this remarkable home will always retain their classic good looks."In 100 years, these bathrooms are not going to look dated,"Thebault says. "If we had just done basic things, the house would have turned out boring. We wanted to bring it into the 20th century." +



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Ravings from the Pantry

BY CATHERINE SEIBERLING POND

HIS MORNING I had a lot of energy and not much else to do because of the rain. I decided to take apart one drawer in our kitchen, just to get to the bottom of it. Our kitchen drawers have been a wreck since we redid the kitchen seven years ago. I do put clutter on the countertop or all over my desk with papers to file and mail to sort. I like an organized drawer, however, or I go slowly mad . . . and I guess I've been doing just that for the past seven years.

So, drawer one came apart and was divided-up easily into piles: unused cocktail napkins, coasters pinched from pubs and bars around the world, cocktail stirrers, and toothpicks. Out went crinkled paper napkins, old plastic straws, and packets of ketchup gathered from halfa-dozen fast-food franchises in the past ten years.

I realized that I didn't want to put everything back in the same drawer from where the stuff had come. Within minutes I had torn apart several other drawers ... even the dreaded one, my husband's "catch-all" drawer. Incredibly, it wasn't as bad as I thought it would be, mostly lapsed batteries and odds and ends. I decided, on second thought, to leave that drawer alone.

With the contents, now, of eight or nine drawers spread across countertops and tables, I was able to group things into categories: birthday candles (50 or so boxes, half used) and regular candles; corks saved for, well, cork; several thousand paperclips and rubber bands (dried-out and useless); the remnants of a package of Sponge Bob birthday plates; fifty-odd pieces of toys needing gluing; numerous packets of Splenda; matches with the Queen Mother on them [huh?]; half-full plastic boxes of Tic-Tacs; 30 or so pens and markers. That is a brief picture of our kitchen ephemera, and I haven't touched the cake-pan drawer or the Tupperware bins. The contents of other drawers were more easily sorted: vintage aprons and tablecloths in need of ironing; baby bibs no longer needed; about a hundred cookie cutters of all shapes, sizes, and epochs.

Once I started, I couldn't stop. Even my husband joined in; as always, he was especially useful at reaching things from high places and putting other things back up. We found so much extra space in one cupboard that we decided it was time to bring in the dozen embossed cow glasses and 18 painted red-rooster juice glasses (Crate & Barrel finds of a few years ago), as well as six additional dairy glasses my brother Bob gave me several Christmases ago. These we arranged in our glass cupboard.

I love being organized but I rarely am. The last time I felt 100% organized was in the six weeks before my daughter was born . . . an unprecedented (and not repeated) bout of tidying seventeen years ago. I know I may be borderline obsessive-[continued on page 36] THE CRAFTSMAN SERIES



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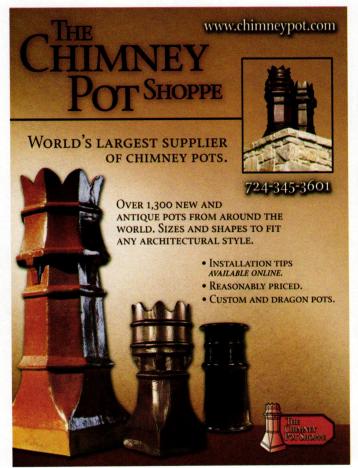
compulsive, but I feel more functional when I can find the small tube of Super Glue, and when I know that all of my linen dinner napkins are washed, ironed, and folded in their proper drawer.

We have accumulated too much stuff. Most of it is in our kitchen. I am at the point where I need to build another pantry—the two capacious dish pantries are already brimming. Or I might rotate collections, as in a museum. Or, in a crazy fit of desperation, I might sell a bunch of stuff on eBay (to help support my eBay habit). I'm not to that point yet. I hope that I will be, by the time I am ready to downsize to a smaller house. (My husband and I often muse at how fun-or how cruelit would be to leave a houseful of stuff for our children to sort out and fight over.)

The fun is in the collecting, I have no doubt. At some point when I have every piece of Country Fare by Zanesville Pottery ever made (I'm getting there!), I will probably sigh deeply, look it over, and say: "What now? What more can there be to life now that I have every single piece of Country Fare ever made?" No doubt this is how Barbra Streisand felt before she sold her Arts and Crafts pieces at auction. Been there, done that . . . on to the next passion.

After I plow through the kitchen cupboards and drawers (which is much easier than filing paper or sorting through old letters), I will indeed go through my office piles. I am doing this to prepare myself to take larger chunks of writing time for my book. When I am writing about pantries, I don't want to worry about where I put my Pyrex corn dishes at the end of last summer. Disheveled clutter and misplaced items have voices that calls to us unanswered, and that consumes our waking moments, diminishing our productivity. I don't need that kind of aggravation from a set of unorganized Pyrex.

Speaking of my book: it is for Gibbs Smith, and it is about pantries, their history and comeback. The other day I discovered, when I Googled "Emily Dickinson" and "pantry" together on the Internet, that Emily Dickinson wrote many of her poems in the kitchen pantry of her large, Greek Revival house in Amherst, Massachusetts. She wrote in and around her kitchen





Circle no. 498

when she was not writing in her upstairs bedroom.

To me this knowledge conveys many things: that Emily had domestic duties (we know she enjoyed making gingerbread for the neighborhood children, lowering it down to them by basket from her bedroom) and that her ideas were fleeting and constant, as so many ideas are. So she grabbed the nearest recipe or invoice from the butcher and scribbled in her thin, but sure, lines on any white space she could find. This implies an immediacy, even an urgency, in her writing: perhaps she had mulled over the words in her head while kneading bread dough or washing dishes and, then, hurriedly and with purpose, she reached out for something, anything, on which to write her phrases.

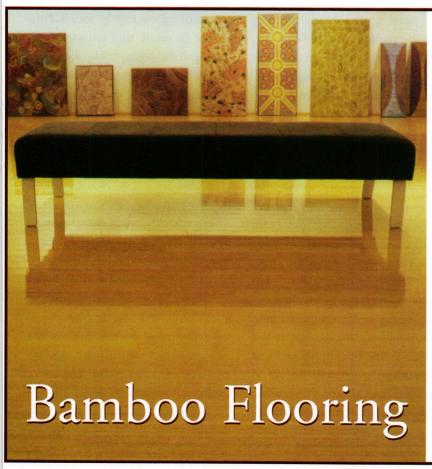
I have done this. Domestic work and child-rearing (the latter something Emily did not do) require that any ideas be caught and held, if only temporarily, on fragments of notebook paper, in hurried rantings on the computer, or even on a tape recorder whilst driving. I have used all of these methods. Some ideas have held, others scampered away and blew down the road never

to be seen again. We only have so many "aha!" moments; it helps if we can record them, even if in the midst of doing dishes or setting the table.

Emily had epiphanies and wrote when she was inspired. What better place than a kitchen to be inspired? Here is the domestic pulse of the house where the comings and goings of the day are realized. This was true even then when kitchen quarters and pantries were relegated to the back of the house or the ell, far away from the parlor's inner sanctum.

So Emily wrote her poems and stuffed them into drawers on snippets of paper and on recipes and invoices so that someday someone might find them again. Or not. In her case, it was Emily's servant whom we credit today with saving these preserves from Emily's own pantry, the product of her domestic larder and her cluttered, brilliant mind.

Do you know, after all those scribblings in the pantry, the place itself made it into only one of Emily's poems? "My pantry has a fish for every palate in the year." Go figure.

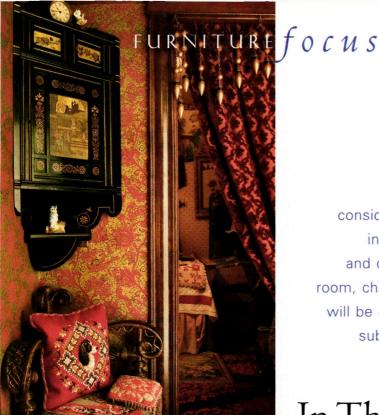


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If you don't consider the corners in the furnishing and decoration of a room, chances are they will be dead space, or subject to clutter.



In This Corner

BY BRIAN D. COLEMAN



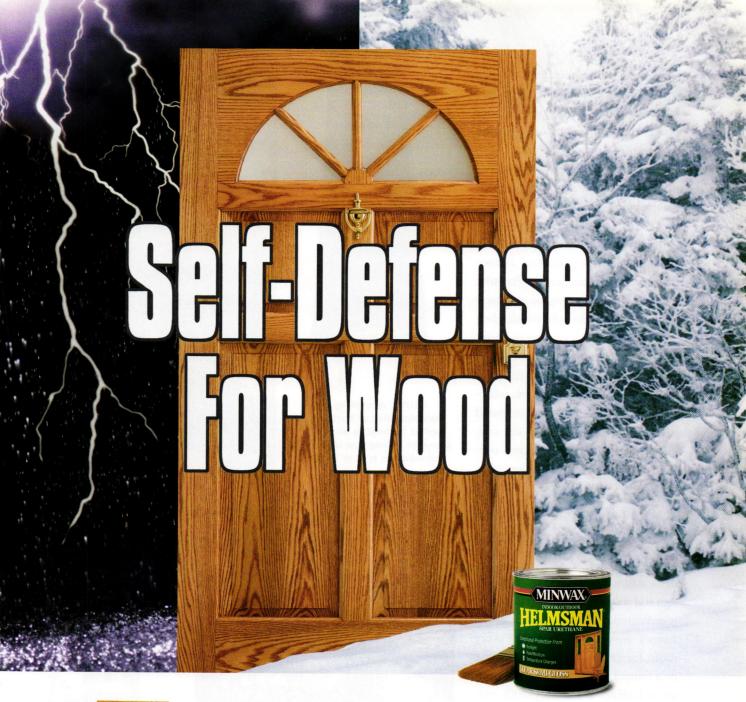
TOP: The ebonized, Aesthetic Movement corner cabinet and the wicker corner chair inhabit the author's hall. ABOVE: A corner cabinet hangs over the Lehigh Valley Corner Cupboard, both of tiger maple, both by Great Windsor Chairs. RIGHT: A classic corner chair by Stickley, from the Traditional line.

NUSED, unattractive, dark and dead space: What to put in the corners of a room? The issue comes up in just about every home, no matter what style or age. Yet furniture specifically meant to fit in a corner has been made for centuries, from built-in cabinets and vitrines in the early-18th century, to one of the favorite pieces of the Edwardian period, the corner chair. Not surprisingly, it was with the full-blown excess of the Victorian era that furnishing a corner came into its own.

Rooms in the 18th and early-19th centuries had little area for storage, and corner cabinets were common solutions. Often ornamented with spoon-carved detailing, Federalperiod corner cabinets might be freestanding or built-in. Rooms at this time were dark, lit only by ambient light during the day and candles at night until the advent of kerosene and gas lighting in the mid-19th century. Furniture tended to be placed

at the periphery of the room, or grouped for work and conversation around a central table where the sole source of light would be found. Thus corner furniture that reflected light back into the center of the room was favored. Consider glazed cabinet fronts, mirrored consoles, or perhaps just a table with a large candelabrum angled across the corner.

By the mid-19th century, advances in lighting along with the advent of spring upholstery made rooms more evenly lit and seating more comfortable. Soon corners evolved into separately designed areas. A popular Victorian creation was the "cozy corner." Usually furnished with just a comfortable chair or small sofa, a good lamp, and several plump pillows, the cozy corner was tucked away, a perfect spot to curl up with a book and a cup of tea. The more exotic variant known as the Turkish corner gained popularity by the 1870s, with growing [continued on page 40]





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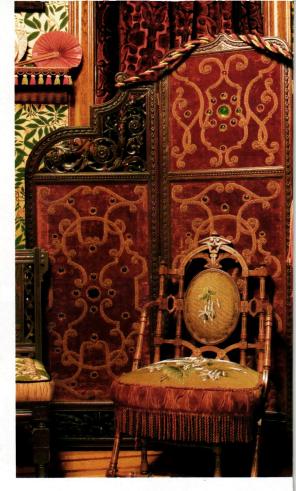
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interest in things oriental. Homeowners draped the corner with kilims, tossed in a pile of cushions (and often a hookah pipe) to suggest the hidden pleasures of a harem.

By the time Oscar Wilde toured the United States in the early 1880s to champion "art for art's sake" and the value of one's blue-and-white china, interiors had become cluttered. The late Victorian parlor was a haven for corner furniture, necessary to store and display so many possessions. Curio cabinets and cupboards, freestanding and built-in, and all manner of hanging shelves were made. Fixed, open shelves were a straightforward and popular place to display treasures; whatnots and étagères, often with mirrored backs, were either built for the corner or placed at an angle across one. Smaller, individual corner shelves, often



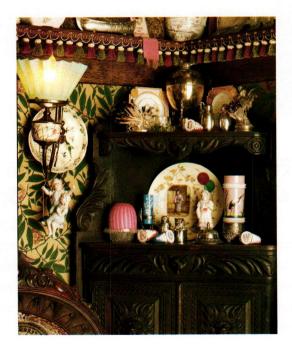
ABOVE: A tapering oak magazine shelf or bookcase is perfect for angling across the corner in a Bungalow room; this reproduction is from Stickley.



Decorative room screens have long been used to soften the corner angle. Furniture including chairs, cabinets, and shelving units are made specifically to fit right in the spot.

decorated with a cut-out Eastlake design and accented with a fabric valance (needlepointed by the mistress of the manse) were found in nearly every room, for the display of a favorite vase or a framed photograph. In the studies and offices of the early-20th century, corner chairs were often used as a gentleman's writing chair, set behind a desk placed at an angle across a corner of the room. In the Victorian era, corners were filled, never left bare. At the minimum, a vase of peacock feathers, a statue, or a feathery palm, its pot swathed in velvet, would be set on a carved pedestal.

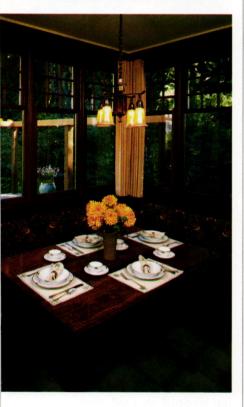
Screens were popular during the 19th century as a simple way to soften and decorate an unsightly corner. Asymmetry was considered visually interesting. Room screens were made



ABOVE: An English, carved-oak corner cabinet of ca. 1900 is crowded with knick-knacks. RIGHT: The rounded Milieu Corner Cabinet, \$249 from the Home Decorators catalog, is hand painted in Chinese red.

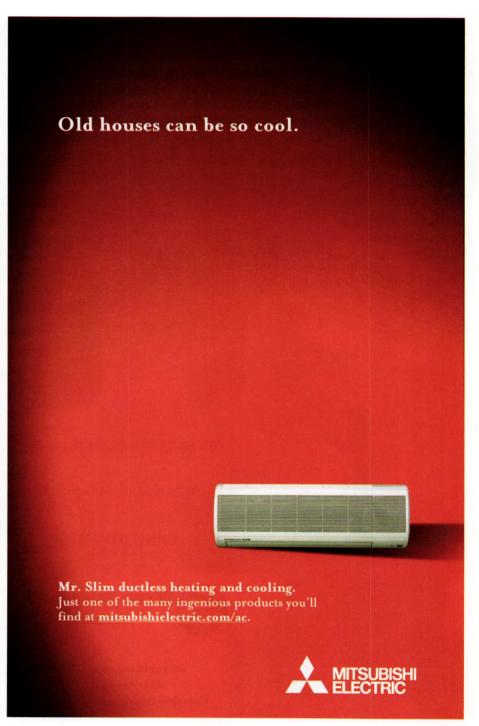


.EFT: A jeweled velvet Victorian olding screen masks the kitchen door n a dining-room corner. BELOW: A pult-in corner banquette is a common eature in Bungalow and Ranch kitchens.



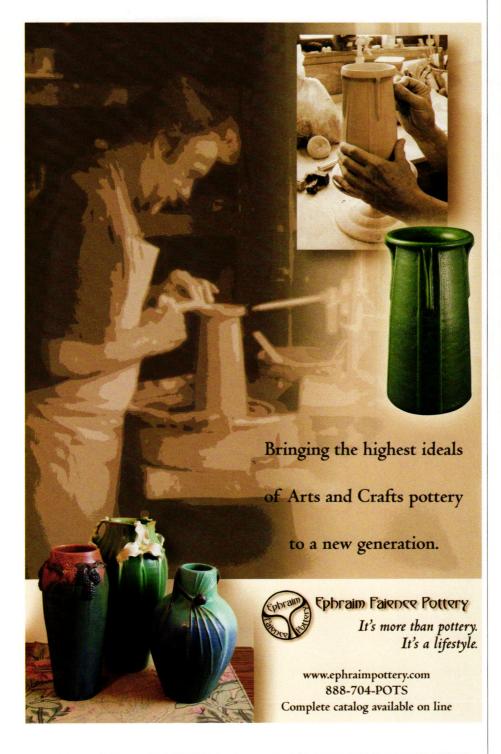
of everything from leather and silk to chromolithographed scraps of paper pasted into collage designs. Screens were frequently found in dining rooms, where they doubled as dividers to hide the servants and their preparations. Glass mercury balls were hung discreetly in a corner; servants watched the reflection of diners and table to assess the progress of the meal. Colored glass spheres nicknamed "witches' balls" were also hung in corners, scaring away any malevolent spirits.

corner accents were often vertical, meant to rise above the height of the seating area, says period design expert Allison Kyle Leopold. Corner accents called attention to the height of the room. In her own stimulating Victorian brownstone parlor, Ms.



Circle no. 291









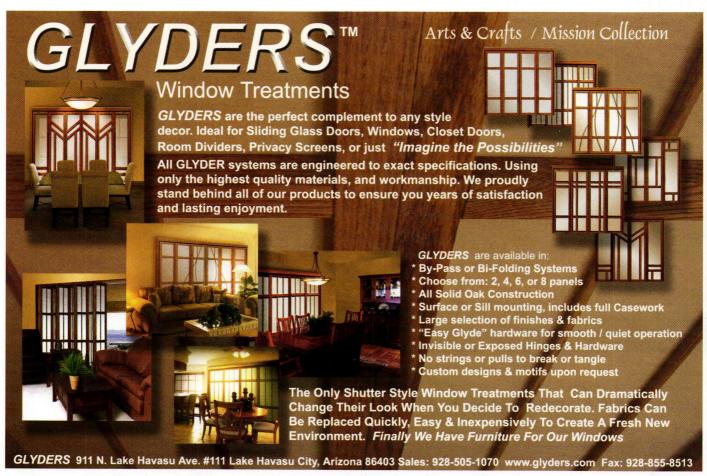
A Mouseman oak corner cabinet in a kitchen in England is surrounded by Doulton Lambeth ceramics and chargers by John Pearson.

Leopold uses a combination of screens, jardinières on pedestals, and a painting propped on a tall easel.

After the Victorian era, the simpler houses of the Arts and Crafts and Colonial Revival periods had less clutter, even in corners. In Bungalows especially, built-ins were ubiquitous. Bungalows had space-saving benches and window seats, often in corners; inglenooks flanked the fireplace. During this period, furniture—a wide, squat armchair, an oak bookcase—was often angled in corners to create intimacy in the room.

The treatment of corners affects scale, traffic patterns, visual impact, and the feeling of a room. Consider light levels, storage needs, height, and use when you decide on how to furnish corners. It will make a big difference in the room.

FOR FURNITURE SOURCES, see p.112.



Circle no. 452





The Bungalows, Foursquares, Craftsman houses. and cottages of older neighborhoods often fade into the background. Color brings them to life.

20th Century Color BY ROBERT SCHWEITZER

▼ O BROADLY characterize exterior paint colors of this period is difficult. Fashionable colors shifted throughout the 1890 to 1940 period. Advice came from magazines and trade books, house-plan books, paint-company brochures, and kit-house catalogs, which had their own reasons for picturing homes with a variety of colors and placement schemes. Sears, Roebuck wanted to present bright, cheerful homes in their advertising. Paint companies illustrated houses in multi-colored schemes. Neither may have been typical.

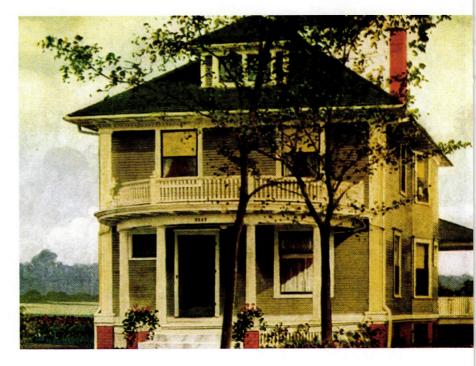
Let's start with Bungalows. These sometimes rustic, ground-hugging small houses were built during the doctrine of Arts and Crafts naturalism. Earth tones such as browns and

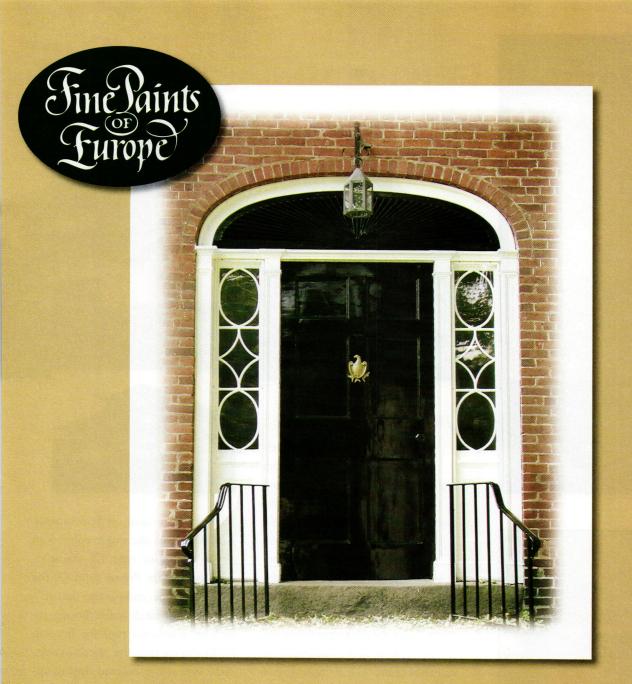
TOP: From a Sherwin-Williams color card: a Craftsman-influenced shingle house pairs white trim with the period's terra cotta and tan-and a green roof. RIGHT: Cream trim, lighter than the olive-green body color, enhances the Colonial Revival spirit of this Foursquare, drawing attention to columns, corner pilasters, and balustrade.

greens were favored. But around the time of World War I, colors lightened, with yellows, sages, and tans used. Two-toning became popular around 1915, emphasizing the horizontal. On "semi-Bungalows," those with a second half-storey, the upper floor was set off by a trim board and

perhaps a dissimilar type of siding, painted (or left natural or stained) in a different color. There is no rule about which value went on top, lighter or darker.

By the late 1920s and into the 1930s, colors changed again. Medium green, salmon, [continued on page 46]





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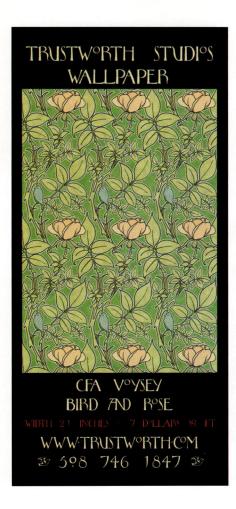
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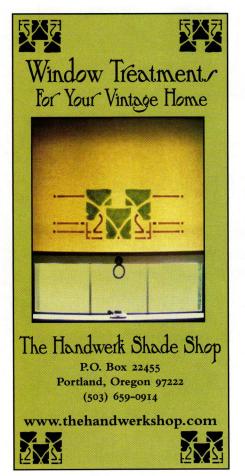
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Home in CINCINNATI

Although a darker upper storey would have been typical, the old high-contrast scheme was heavy and obscured all the details of a nicely rendered Arts and Crafts house. The owners wanted to lighten the look while keeping an earthy period scheme, and to make details more visible. A medium green works on the upper portion, over a color not quite white. An olive accent complements both floors. Awnings with matched colors tie it all together and add to the period look.

and cream came into favor. By now, colored asphalt roofs contributed to the scheme. Darker tones were not eliminated, but often were combined with light colors in two-tone schemes.

The American Foursquare, whether styled with Arts and Crafts elements, Prairie School allusions, or Colonial Revival classicism, is a common type of the period 1900-1930. A sympathetic color scheme gives it proportion and period sensibility.

Four general types of color

schemes were used on Foursquares. I call these (1) the single color with contrasting trim type, (2) the stuccoed or cement Prairie type, (3) the basic two-tone, and (4) the "motif"color house. Single-color houses relied on a colorful roof for interest. In the Prairie type, the stucco or concrete was either colored during application or painted afterward, in light colors such as tan, grey, or vellum. The trim was typically painted in a contrasting, darker color such as olive or dark green. Belt courses and window trim were strong elements painted in the dark trim color.

Two-tone schemes, top and bottom, create a ground-hugging horizontality. One section (sometimes stained shingles) is finished in a dark, naturalistic brown or green; the other is a lighter sand, yellow, or off-white. The trim is often lightest. "Motif" color schemes reflect a conscious de-

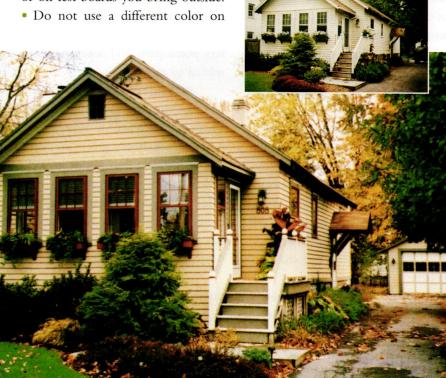
Bungalow, Craftsman, and Foursquare houses are all part of the Arts and Crafts period in America, when earth tones were popular. But the Colonial Revival, with its pastels and off-whites, had already begun.

sign element—whether picked-out diamond insets in a stucco wall, or white columns on a colonial Foursquare.

During the Colonial Revival that began in the 1880s, house colors began to moderate back to lighter and softer tones. Houses were painted is pale or soft yellow, light green, and grey tones, with the introduction of white used as a trim color.

IN MY WORK with clients, I find these hints perennially helpful:

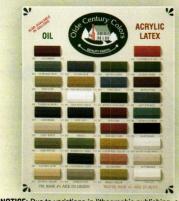
- Don't forget to consider the roof color (current or to be)! Other "given" colors must be considered, including the color of natural shingles, stone, and brick on the house.
- Consider the colors of your landscape and of neighboring houses.
- Be sure to test colors on the house or on test boards you bring outside.



New York COTTAGE

A simple house of the bungalow era, this is a familiar type in many states, and easy to overlook. The vanilla scheme made it disappear. The owner wished for period colors, but was wary of saturated colors "that probably looked fine on a two-inch paint sample." The house was repainted in a soft suede body color with dark, grey-green trim. Window sash is appropriately accented in a red color, and the front gable stands out over the contrasting window header.





NOTICE: Due to variations in lithographic publishing, colors as represented, may vary slightly from actual product.



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each element. In fact, do not highlight every element or detail.

 Window boxes are generally painted the same color as trim.

In the following breakdown of parts of the house to consider for color, remember that not every house needs a five-color scheme. Also, color breaks can include two shades or tints of the same hue. Major trim, for example, might be an off-white, with minor trim a slightly darker putty.

BODY means the main planes of the house-clapboards, shingles, or stucco. This is your basic color.

MAJOR TRIM, usually painted in a color that contrasts somewhat with the body color, comprises the "outlines" of the building. Corner boards, gable trim boards, eaves, door and window trim, and often porch railings and steps are major trim pieces.

MINOR TRIM includes doors, shut-

Montana BUNGALOW

The blue scheme deadened this 1914 Bungalow and anachronistically placed it in some other decade. The right color scheme would restore an Arts and Crafts-era sensibility. The owner wanted a warm glow. Now, a medium-light grey-green is the body color, framed by a slightly darker shade of the same color. Roof rafters and doors are accented in a historic red, bringing out the character of the rather handsome house. The neighbors love it: before the house was blue, it was a garish pink.

ters, porch parts, and decorative trim related to major trim.

SASH means the part of the window that moves or opens. The Victorian preference for darker sash brown, black, bottle green, and dark red—continued during this period.

ACCENT(S) refers to optional extra colors or tints and shades used to highlight architectural parts, such as brackets, doors, porch parts, accent boards, or ornament.

ROBERT SCHWEITZER is the author of Bungalow Colors, Exteriors, published by Gibbs Smith. In it he describes British and American influences on color during the Arts and Crafts period, advises on developing a scheme and the paint palettes now available, and showcases real houses "before and after."

TONIC FOR THE SOUL







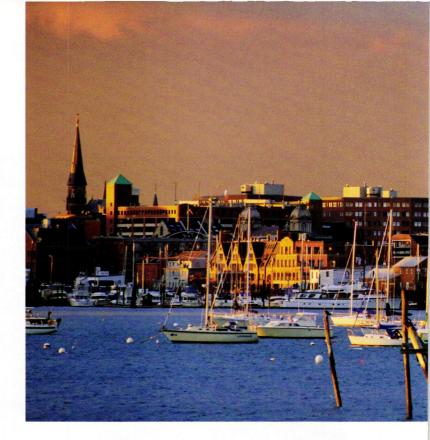


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A coastal city of 65,000, Portland is small enough to be enjoyed in leisurely fashion, and large enough to offer discoveries that go far beyond the usual tourist fare.



Sampling Portland, Maine BY MARY ELLEN POLSON

OR A CITY so far north that ◀ summer doesn't really arrive until July, Portland is a happening place. This small, thriving city on Casco Bay has so much appeal that people from all over the country routinely pull up roots and move here without a job prospect in sight. To catch the spirit of the town, wander the cobbled streets of the Old Port, where mid-19th-century brick buildings hold delights that include reasonably priced antique and clothing shops, a smattering of restaurants, quite a few bars, and so many tea and coffee houses that Portland is in danger of turning into Seattle East. **SOAK** (30 City Center, 207/879-7625) offers soothing cups of tea with herbal foot soaks and reflexology. On a stroll up Exchange Street, I leafed through vintage maps from most states and dozens of cities at EMERSON BOOKS, ANTIQUE MAPS & PRINTS (18 Exchange

St., 207/874-2665), and nearly traded in my engagement ring for a 1920s solitaire at STONEHOME ANTIQUES, an estate jewelry dealer at 50 Exchange St. (207/253-8075).

Spend part of a day in Portland walking through the Victorian and Colonial Revival neighborhoods at each end of town. The West End overlooks the Fore River and South Portland on the West Promenade. The East End, with its spectacular view over Casco Bay and the islands from the East Prom, is just east of downtown. Although you may be tempted to tour by car, get out and walk. Signs in both neighborhoods warn that if you pass the same stop sign more than three times in two hours, you can be ticketed for cruising. While you're on the west side, tour VICTORIA MANSION (a.k.a. the Morse-Libby Mansion, 1858-1860), a house considered to be the most magnificent Italian

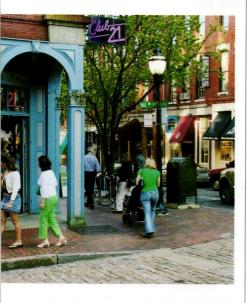
villa in the U.S. (109 Danforth St., 207/772-4841, victoriamansion.org).

The smell of the sea (or is it the fried clams?) will draw you down to Commercial Street and more shopping. Set aside a morning or afternoon for a cruise on Casco Bay, where frequent ferries thread past wave-lapped islands dotted with rambling summer homes built a century ago. You'll be envious of the families lugging L.L. Bean bags who disembark at various islands along the route, tail-wagging black Labs in tow. Perhaps that will be you next year.

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LEFT: Still a thriving port, Portland is small enough to make getting around on the water an accessible pleasure. **BELOW: Brick walks, cobbled** streets, and small shops abound in the Old Port.



blackcove.com Maine-made custom cabinetry in period-friendly styles, including the new Cottage line. They offer professional kitchen design service, deliver throughout the U.S., and have a new showroom.

- CHEBEAGUE ISLAND INN: 61 South Rd.. Chebeague Island, (207) 846-5155, chebeagueislandinn.com Newly restored 1920s hotel reachable only by ferry or private boat. Each of the 21 rooms furnished with Italian linens and artisanmade furniture—retains its original character. Full dining room and packed provisions to go. Open May through October.
- **GREEN DESIGN FURNITURE: 267** Commercial St., Portland, (866) 756-4730, greendesigns.com Led by inventordesigner Douglas Green, these artisanal furniture makers create just 1,000 pieces of furniture per year; the first 100 pieces of any design are signed. Visit the showroom or tour the nearby woodworking shop.
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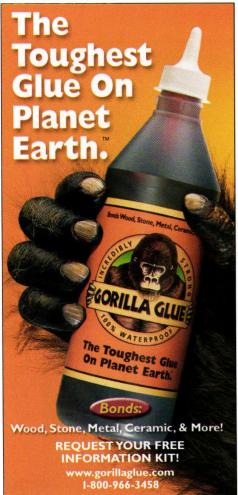
Showroom Hours M-F 8:30-5, Sat 9-4 Coastal Route 1 North, One Front Street, Bath, Maine

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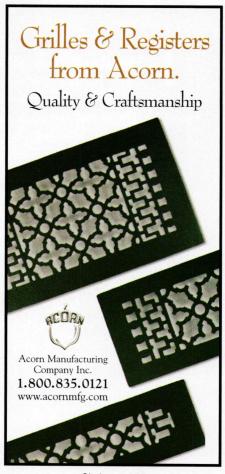
LEFT: The Portland location of Stonewall Kitchen tempts passers-by with delicious specialty treats. **BELOW: The original** Thos. Moser store, in an authentically restored 19thcentury house in Freeport.

pany.com Just a little ways up Route 1 from Portland, they've been custom-building period-appropriate kitchens for more than 30 years. A tour through the showroom in the Old Customs House in historic downtown Bath is like visiting the kitchen of a very elderly great-aunt who always had money to keep everything up to date.

- MAINE COTTAGE: Lower Falls Landing, Yarmouth, (888) 859-5522, mainecottage.com The original painted cottage furniture company, with 200 whimsical and witty hardwood, wicker, and upholstered designs in 40 colors.
- NEW ENGLAND CLASSIC: 470 Forest Ave., Portland (888) 460-6324, newenglandclassic.com Founder John S. Crowley had the brilliant idea of fabricating traditional stile-and-rail wall paneling that fits together like a model airplane kit. Distributed nationally, the designs can be perused locally at Pond Cove Millwork, 53 Wallace Ave., South Portland, (207) 773-6819 or (800) 373-5515.
- OLD HOUSE PARTS COMPANY: 24 Blue Wave Mall, Kennebunk, (207) 985-1999, oldhouseparts.com A great source for salvaged house parts, from chimney tops and antique windows to the occasional outbuilding. Custom furniture from salvaged wood and house parts.
- PORTLAND MARKET: 25 Preble St., Portland, (207) 228-2000, portlandmarket.com Vast indoor greenmarket with dozens of stalls offering Maine-grown organic fruits and vegetables, fish, shellfish, and lobsters, micro-brewed beer, free-range chicken, cheese, game, baked goods and candies, spices, specialty wines, and other

goodies. Eat-in available, too.

- PORTLAND MUSEUM OF ART: 7 Congress Sq., Portland, (207) 775-6148, portlandmuseum.org A first-rate art museum, with works by Homer, Sargent, Cassatt, Renoir, Degas, and Wyeth. The McLellan House is freshly restored with hand-blocked reproduction Federal wallpapers and Hepplewhite-inspired furniture.
- STONEWALL KITCHEN: 182 Middle St., Portland (207) 879-2409, stonewall kitchen.com Purveyor of delicious jams, dessert sauces, and other specialty foods. They're also well stocked with kitchen ware, from nostalgic bowl sets and hand towels to Italian espresso machines. Other stores in York and Camden; online catalog.
- THOS. MOSER: 149 Main Street, Freeport (800) 862-1973, (207) 865-4519, thosmoser.com You'll go to Freeport for L.L. Bean, but don't miss the original flagship store of Thos. Moser in a restored house just up the street. Moser's graceful furniture designs defy trendiness. Cherry-pick from floor samples, prototypes, and refurbished pieces not available anywhere else.



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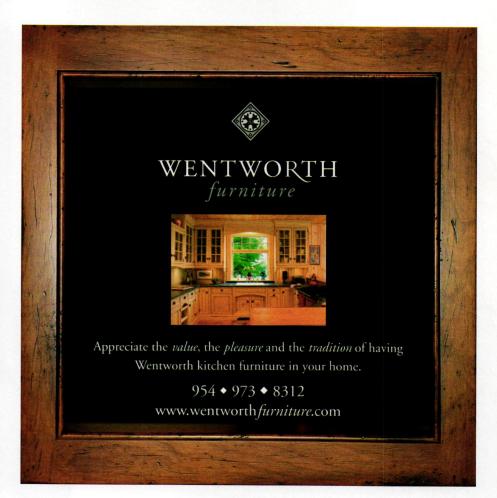
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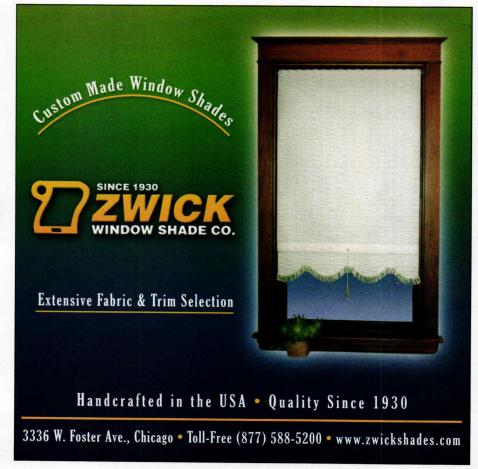
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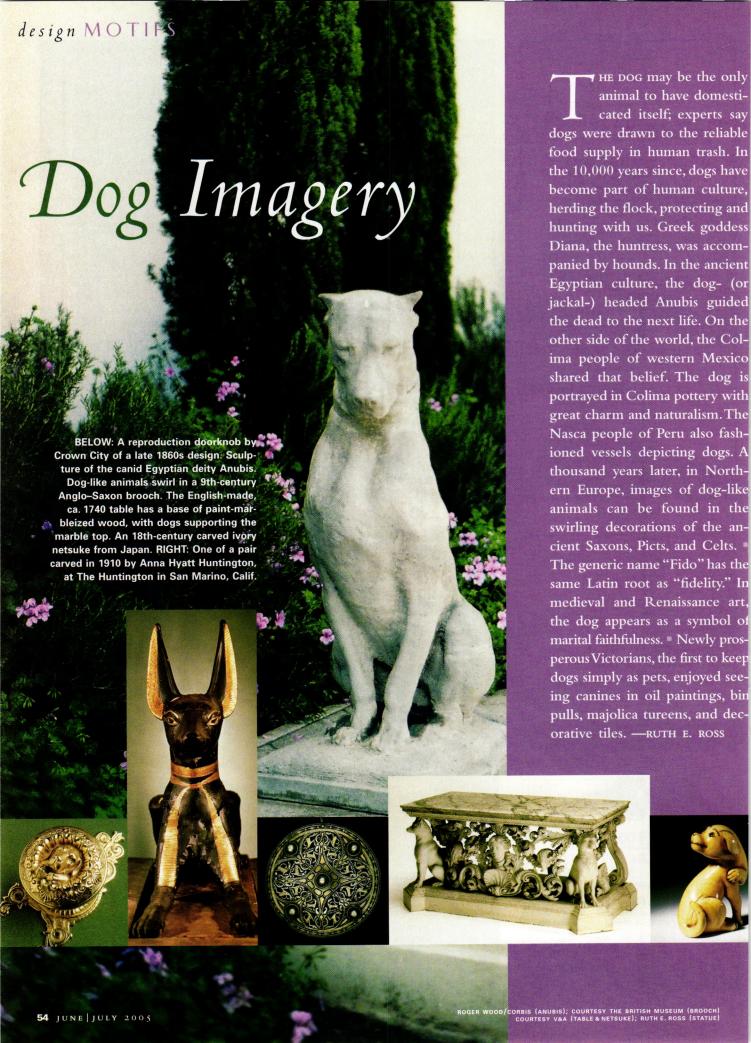
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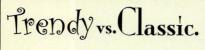


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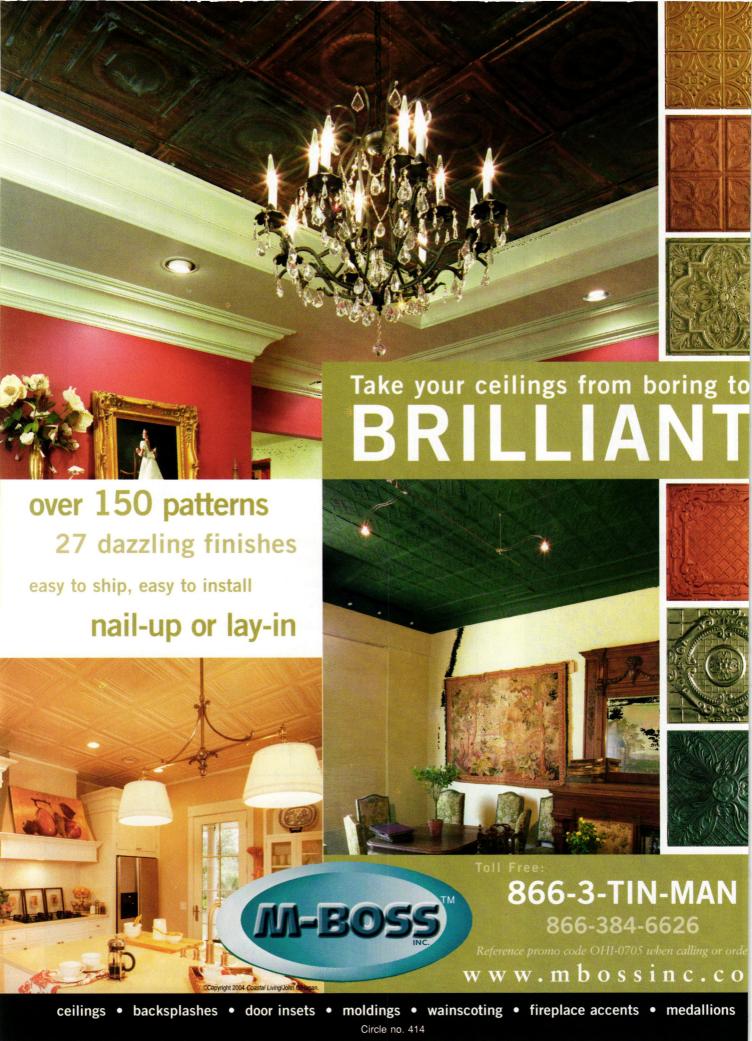
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OLD-HOUSE JULY 2005 INTERIORS



HONEY FARM

Local antiques and yard-sale finds furnish a little farm cottage in rural New York.

(page 58)

LINOLEUM: YESTERDAY & TODAY

In its heyday, this practical and attractive material came in many forms. Today, custom inlays make it special.

(page 81)

HARBOR HOME

A house this exceptional gracefully holds all the stuff of family life. (page 66) \(\)



STREET IMPRESSIONS

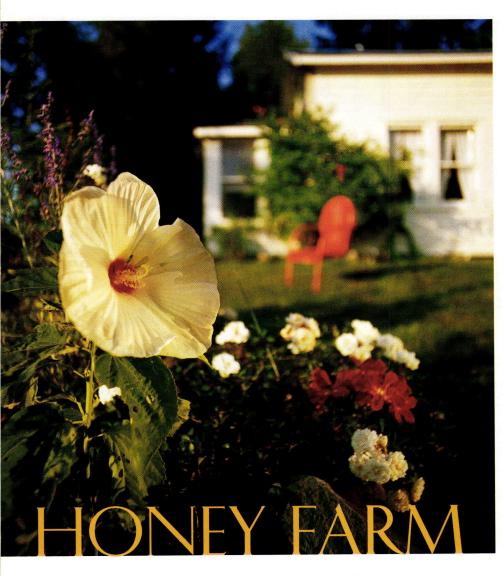
Even a tiny urban garden can have a big impact . . . attract a crowd, even. This Seattle garden has maximum curb appeal, lots of surprises, and a private shade garden in back. (page 76)



Knowing where to put color is as important as picking color combinations. (page 74)







A couple left well enough alone in their little farm cottage. Flowers grow—memories, too—just like yesterday.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY STEVE GROSS AND SUSAN DALEY

HYME, that's what it is—the faint aroma that imbues the property with a timeless country air, dry, cleansing, herbal. The scent is subtly there in the honey the bees make, too. Bees have been part of the farm since the cottage was built in 1929, by a man named Schermerhorn and his wife, who sold honey, maple

syrup, and hand-made souvenirs to tourists from the front porch. The house is on a back road in the town of Gilboa, Schoharie County, New York. (It is probably one of the houses built in the hills when the old town was flooded to make way for a reservoir.) Mr. Schermerhorn lived here until the late 1980s.

The retro wallpaper ca. 1990 features windmills and tulips, in honor of the region's Dutch settlers. ABOVE: The former owners, an elderly beekeeper and his wife, sold honey and souvenirs from the front porch. Katherine planted the white "Disco Belle" hibiscus and lavender in the side-yard garden.







"Everyone we meet says, 'you know, he was a very short man'," says Katherine Spitzhoff. "We can believe it because the door openings are unusually low."

She and Dennis Coluccio bought the house in the mid-1990s, when they were still living in Brooklyn. It remains their weekend and family retreat. An artist who is working in egg tempera on wood, Katherine has brought back the garden, planting hibiscus and lavender. "We found old peonies, lilacs-and a lot of sugar maples," she reports. "We're supposedly [horticultural] Zone Four, but it's more like Zone Three, in practice. I have to be careful what I plant. I brought back what I could, cleared, added hollyhocks and easy plants: irises, lady's mantle, and herbs."

Dennis, a web designer, enjoys

scouring the countryside on weekends for bargains. At a yard sale, he found five kitchen chairs for fifteen dollars, reglued them and painted them pistachio green. He also reintroduced bees and honey to the farm, which retains fourteen or so acres.

IT'S SMALL AND COZY with "a dollhouse feel," says Katherine." A friend called it a house-ette." In this part

"Oh, my husband's collections—of 'many little things',"

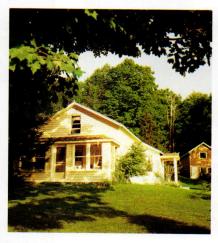
Katherine describes indulgently. ". . . early holograms and packaging, birds' nests, old photos, his own glass blowing projects, a postcard with a spaceship on it."



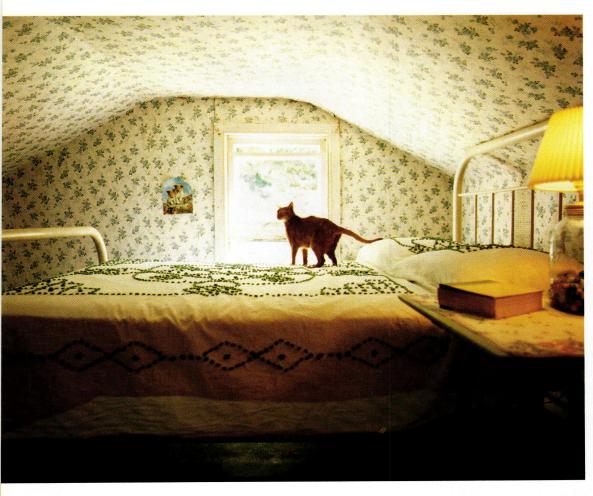
LEFT: The tablecloth has a mid-century vintage. This is a corner of the first-floor bedroom, which may have been a porch early on. BELOW: The realistic parakeet is from a plastic model kit; the view is of fields beyond the side yard. Rattan chairs are old; the willow rocker is an antique.







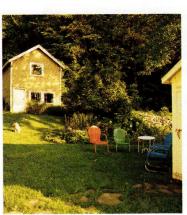




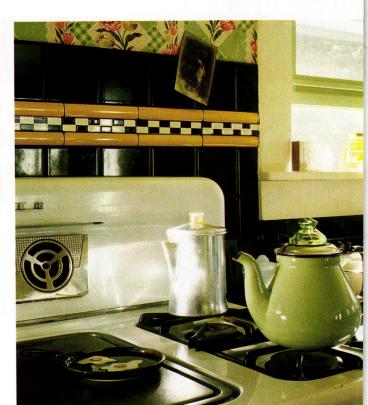
The upstairs bedroom has a low ceiling "that takes some getting used to." The 1920s blue rosepatterned wallpaper and linoleum rug have been left intact. Kazia, their Abyssinian show cat, likes the tufted chenille bedspread found at a Pennsylvania swap meet. **OPPOSITE:** Furnishings include an old cottage bench and an ancient mechanic's tool chest. The wall between the kitchen and living room was removed to open up the space. Old floors throughout are heart pine.

It's cozy—a house-ette, someone called it—and timeless. The sunporch opens to the living room and kitchen, with a bedroom and bath at the rear. Upstairs two little bedrooms tuck into the eaves.





RIGHT: Katherine and Dennis added the black and yellow tile reminiscent of a checker taxicab. "The old enameled percolators make the best coffee," they say; this green one is a favorite. ABOVE: Open shelves, cottage style. The property includes a "honey hut," a garage/workshop, and a small studio in what was the barn.





of New York, she says, people have lived here for generations. "It's not a second-home kind of place. You have to drive twenty minutes for a quart of milk."

The kitchen is of undetermined age, probably mostly from mid-century, with plain, painted wood cabinets and dark laminate countertops. Up a steep staircase with narrow treads, two small bedrooms open from

the anteroom. Each has a window. The eaves come to within two feet of the floor.

The couple added some tile in the kitchen and a low wainscot to the dining area. Mostly, they left well enough alone: original heartpine flooring, decent doors and windows. Even the cheery wallpaper, with its windmill and tulip pattern chosen in honor of New York's early

Dutch settlement, was here.

Outside the door off the eating area is a little square porch with a semi-circle of cement as a stoop. 'It's always been painted blue, so we painted it blue," Katherine says.

PHOTOS OF HONEY FARM appear in the book Catskill Country Style by Steve Gross and Sue Daley, published by Rizzoli.

A welcoming, whimsical & old-fashioned

HARBOR HOME

and Jean, moved here in 1985—from a block and a half away. It was worth it, because this is quite a house: big, well proportioned and well built, with its lawn snug against Marblehead Harbor. "An architectural historian said it's the last Shingle-era house in Marblehead to have been restored, rather than modernized," says Richard. The family who built it ca.1888 stayed for 90 years; the Carlsons are only the third owners.

That original owner was in the lumber business, which explains the woodwork. It's stained birch in the kitchen, mahogany in the butler's pantry. Oak paneling lines walls in the dining room, reception room, and foyer. The living room is dressed in walnut. Theirs was the first year-round home on Marblehead Neck, the first in town with electricity.

An early photo of the house

Some houses—even big, important with the twinkling eye of our host.









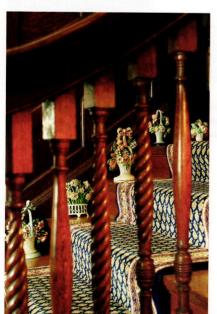


shows how it looked before its owners did a tasteful renovation in 1923. A fourth dormer was added; the open verandah was modified to create a music alcove and to expand kitchen and pantry. Inside, Colonial Revival elements include room-dividing columns and paneling. Changes made are fairly easy to "read." For exam-

ple a once-exterior Palladian window remains in the staircase, but behind it now are a bath and closet. "This is the fun of an old house," Richard smiles. "Doorknobs in the basement are Eastlake-influenced brass hardware of the 1880s. The third floor still has its spherical glass knobs. But the first and second floors

have 1920s crystal knobs."

The library appears to be an original period room but was actually created by Richard in what used to be the servants' bedroom wing. He had help from preservation architect Staley McDermet, who raised the ceiling, but it is Richard's personality that inhabits this room. The



A collection grew of painted, cast-iron doorstops in the form of flower baskets; they march colorfully up the formal staircase.

Making it PERSONAL

When asked about the genesis of his unusual collections—decoys, doorstops-Richard Carlson replied: "Well . . . one is unique. Two's a collection. That's about it." But the stuff of this old house is more than whimsy. Old hats hanging in the fover remind Richard of his dad, of his grandfather and uncle. Pillows on the couch were made up from his mother's needlepoint, and embroidery a Swedish grandmother brought to this country. Over a hundred paintings by local artists celebrate Marblehead in the years before 1940. • A landmark since it was built, this house nevertheless has always had the charm of a cottage, due in part to the personalities of its few, smitten owners. The man who built it was a sailor who kept his boat just downslope from the house. Roundels in the leaded windows have old-time nautical subjects; the stained-glass sidelights in the reception room, a dolphin theme.



Wooden hobos lead a collection of Swedish hand-carvings of "the common man" from the 1920s, part of a folk-art tradition dating to the 1880s.

If not generally museum-quality, the furnishings are antique, and each piece has a story. The piano, home again years after being sold at auction,



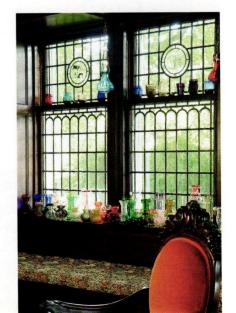


The baby grand sits in an alcove that was the swell in the 1880s verandah. Richard Carlson designed the draperies. "In December, this is the Christmas Tree Room." BELOW: Leaded glass in the dining room has a nautical theme. OPPOSITE: The antique mirror, framed with carved fruits, was purchased in Maine for this wall. Brass candlesticks are another desultory collection.

breakfront-bookcase came out of an 1860s Mansard house in Salem. "I kept moving it, house to house," Richard says, "but for this room, I said 'let's make it permanent'." The room is full of wonderful stuff, from books and ship models to decoys and paintings. The Victorian wall-to-wall carpet was made for the room. "It's my cozy, night reading room," he says.

Jean and Richard don't always share the same aesthetic. "I'm probably more of a preservationist than she is," Richard says. "She'd rather update things, for comfort. But even our bathrooms—one with a marble tub, all of the sinks from the Twenties—are old-fashioned . . . as long as it's in good working condition, Jean can live with it."

Compromise may have been served by Richard's addition of threestorey carriage house to the property. Here he keeps his cars, a collection









"After the floor was down, the plumber said he couldn't legally put the stove back—it wasn't up to code. 'Couldn't you have told me that before you disconnected the gas?' I said."



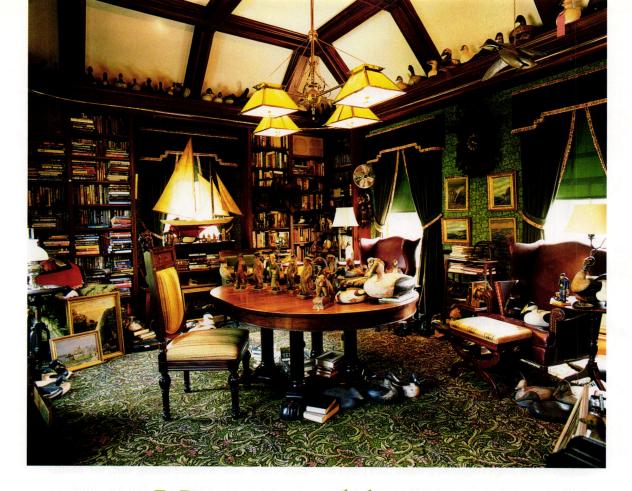
An OLD KITCHEN & Pantry

Much of the kitchen, dating to the 1880s and 1920s, remained; the Carlsons' restoration consisted of removing materials added by the second owner of the house. Countertops are granite, which replaced the 1970s laminate. The big wooden icebox had been electrified years before; its compressor is in the basement. The old Glenwood stove, since brought up to code ("a good thing," concedes the owner; "it was dangerous.") sits where it has for 80 years. The Carlsons turned the old servants' dining room into a family breakfast room. They patterned its wainscot and trim on original woodwork found in a closet tucked under the servants' stair. Now a salvaged dumbwaiter on ropes connects the kitchen to the library above. • The butler's pantry, a pass-

> through that grew when part of the porch was commandeered in the Twenties, is worthy of a hotel. It has three walls of glass cabinets, twelve bays of storage with shelving and linen drawers, and its original nickel ("German silver") double sink. Shelves for folding linen pull out of the base cabinets.

TOP: Richard and Jean Carlson in their yard. OPPOSITE: The old icebox, long ago converted to electricity, anchors an end of the kitchen, which retains much of its original feel. The Glenwood stove has claimed this spot for 80 years. LEFT: A mere slice of the hotelworthy butler's pantry.





The decoy-decorated Victorian library looks to have

survived from the old days. But this period-perfect room was created by Richard Carlson, who has perfect pitch when it comes to cozy clutter.

of model trains that would fill a small house, a pool and billiards room, and a partners' office complete with leather chairs pulled close to a fireplace. The place is old-fashioned, layered, and magnificently cluttered. In the house, Jean has edited. Bedrooms are quietly and stylishly decorated.

The dining room is at once intimate and manorial. A crystal chandelier long-ago converted to electricity sparkles against darkened oak. The Victorian furniture started with a set that included the table, six chairs, a china cupboard, and a sideboard; all were meticulously restored. Later

Richard found another matching chair and nine more of similar design in New Orleans. Leaves were made for the table. "We have dinner parties for 16 or 18, oh, twice a year," Richard says. This is, after all, the house for family weddings, for Thanksgiving dinner and charity events.

The Carlsons have three children and five grandkids, all living nearby. But will this house be a family heirloom, handed down? "Oh no, I don't think so; we are curators working for the next owner . . . we hope the next family will appreciate it as we have."

OPPOSITE: An 1860s breakfront-bookcase set the theme for the Victorian library.

ABOVE: The collection started with eider decoys, then grew to include decoys made in Maine and with a few from Marblehead and Nova Scotia. RIGHT: Lending a timeless air, the gazebo came from an estate in Fall River, Mass., and was restored here.



THE USE OF COLOR

by Jonathan Poore

NOWING WHERE to put color in a historic or period-inspired interior is as important as understanding how to design combinations of colors. However well coordinated, your collection of colors is effective only if colors are placed so that the right architectural elements are emphasized (or played down). Even a simple, two-color scheme can subtly draw appreciative attention to cornices, mouldings, columns, and even to proportion. Highlighting certain details often helps organize a room and gives it scale. It can reduce the apparent ceiling height of a monumentally tall room, or unify a room

that suffers from an excess of complex detail. Strong color has been used in all periods; certain decades and styles have particular palettes associated with them. But the first rule of thumb for every period interior is "keep it simple." Generally speaking, an overall scheme that is subdued works best. The goal is to highlight architectural detail without overpowering or chopping up the room. Begin by accenting details that are continuous or rhythmic: cornice mouldings, chair rails. Avoid picking out, for example, each panel moulding, as this may break up the space and make it feel busy. If the mouldings form a regular, pleasing pattern in the room, it may be safe to call them out with a subtle accent color. • Another important rule of thumb concerns the treatment of projections and re-

cesses. Don't fight the architecture. Dominant colors and lighter values—that is, those colors that "advance"—should be placed on details that project out into the space. This will further lend moulding profiles, column capitals, and raised panels a three-dimensional quality, adding drama and charac-

OPPOSITE: Detail is simple and spare in this classical room, but color placement brings out its design elements. The green accent on the ceiling highlights the elegant proportions of the mouldings. Subtle color provides a cohesive look and allows flexibility in furnishing.

LEFT: Architectural detail is highlighted enough to organize the room. The value difference, however, between colors of walls and trim is close enough that the room has not become choppy.

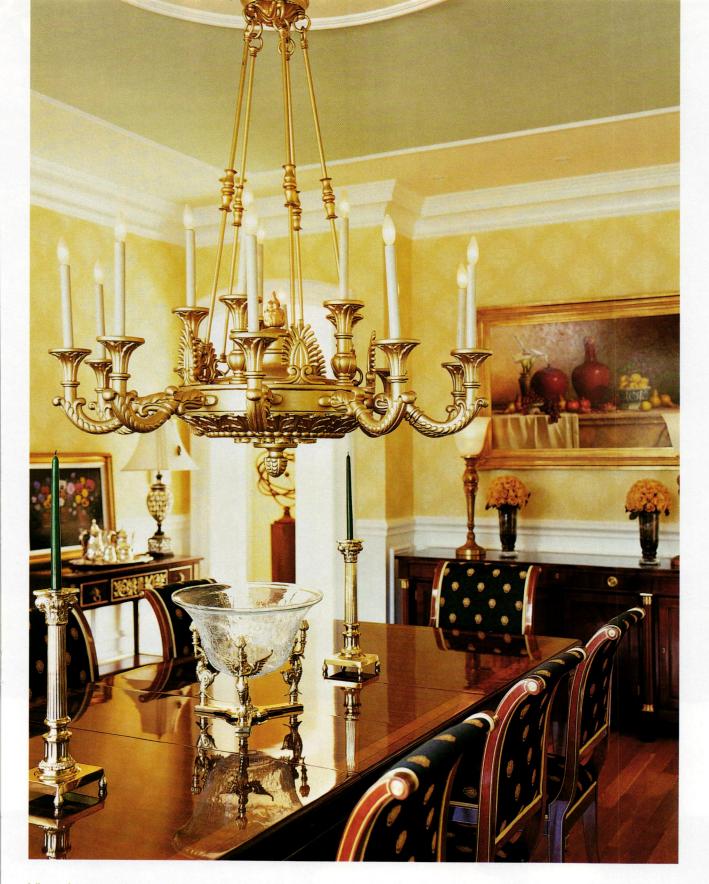
ter to the space. On the other hand, subordinate colors and darker values—those that appear to recede—should be placed in recesses to emphasize depth (by accentuating the natural shadow effect). Putting light or dominant colors in recesses and darker, subordinate colors on projections would flatten the architectural detail instead of enhancing it.



Interior Color by Design Volume 2: A Tool for Homeowners,
Designers, and Architects by Jonathan

INTERIOR COLOR DESIGN

Designers, and Architects by Jonathan Poore; photography by Eric Roth. Rockport Publishers, Inc., 2005. Hardcover, 160 pages, \$35. Through your bookstore.



Victorian-era decoration and color combine to create a densely textured and patterned "tapestry" in a room. A key to success in such decorated interiors is carrying the texture throughout the space, giving attention to every surface.



street Impressions

BY BRIAN COLEMAN L PHOTOGRAPHS BY WILLIAM WRIGHT





THE CREATION OF A Small urban GARDEN THAT HAS MAXIMUM curb appeal and, IN BACK, a shade garden with privacy assured

URB APPEAL, whatever the style of the house, is what makes people stop and look. Maybe it's the allure of a storybook cottage, a whimsical thing with sweeping roofs and a turret. Maybe it's the colors of a Painted Lady, its details revealed. Sometimes, it's the garden rather than the house that lends curb appeal, making drivers slow down for a doubletake. With my house in Seattle, I kept going until, I'm afraid, all of those examples apply; I'd created more curb appeal than I may have bargained for.

The modest, turn-of-the-century house was vaguely inspired by Arts and Crafts style—until I transformed it, if not into a Victorian Grande Dame, then at least a Petite Dame. Over two decades I'd had sunflowers and griffins carved on its upper gables, and added roof cresting created from a cemetery fence. I painted the house in a late-19th-century, fall palette of deep green, burgundy, black,

copper, and gold. I shouldn't have been surprised, I suppose, when I came home one afternoon to find an unannounced wedding party posing on the front steps. Notes in the mailbox and requests for tours are common. People often ask what has been our inspiration. Surprisingly enough, my answer is that it all began with the garden.

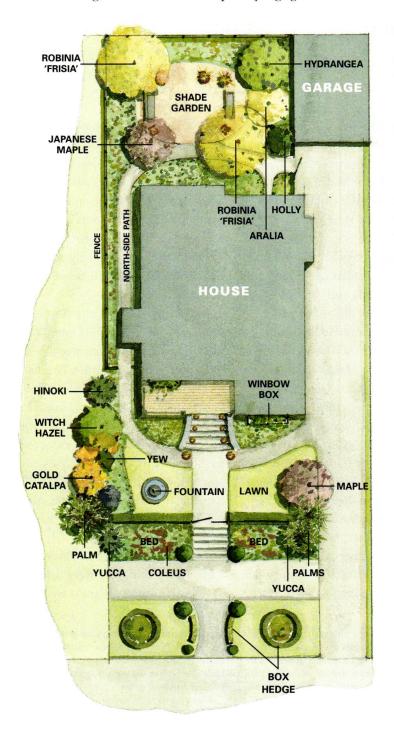
When I bought the house, it was covered in white vinyl siding; the yard consisted of dead grass and beds littered with broken bottles. The sole survivor of the last owner's landscaping effort was a surprisingly virulent holly, which covered the front yard in perpetual shade. My priorities for the house were clear: I could live with vinyl siding much longer than I could stand an unattractive landscape. And so I found landscape designers Charles Price and Glenn Withey.

As the front yard is shallow (only 22 feet deep and easily overwhelmed by the two-storey house), we first

Quite a scene: curb, sidewalk, slope, lawn, stoop, then porch, all decorated with plants to complement the eclectic house. Two conical hollies anchor the front garden, along with balls of boxwood and a dwarf-boxwood hedge. LEFT TO RIGHT: Assorted coleus on the slope; dahlia 'Moonfire'; Heliotropium arborescens with burgundy coleus in a pot; a gate created from a discarded iron window grille.

EVERY INCH A GARDEN

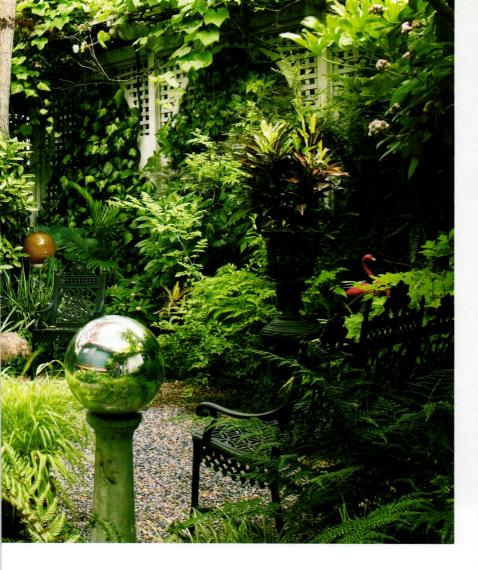
Brian Coleman worked with landscape designers Charles Price and Glenn Withey to create an urban garden filled with surprises. In the shallow front yard, variegated English hollies, pruned into conical accents, mark the entry. The front slopes are beds, replanted seasonally. The narrow, sunless side yard on the north was planted with hostas. An effort at a rear lawn was abandoned in favor of an ellipse of colored gravel bordered with antique clay edging tiles.





Garden DISCOVERIES

The gardens are studded with focal points and discoveries. Antique iron fencing runs along the top of the slopes out front. "Of course," says Brian, "we needed pots that matched the house colors for the front steps"; he had tall, "Long Tom" Victorian pots thrown in combinations of black and red. To add to the Victorian mood, vintage iron griffins were added to the bottom of the porch steps and a cast-iron fountain installed in the front yard. An arched, lattice fence topped with an arbor encloses the tiny back yard. Over time, more Victorian garden ornament has been added: a pair of large, terra-cotta balls, a set of wrought-iron benches and a matching chair, and a massive, late-19th-century iron planter of a stag's head supporting an open-weave "basket"—a typically curious Victorian creation.



planted white birch trees (Betula jacquemontii) in the parking strip to anchor the garden and visually pull it down and out towards the curb. But after several years, the birches became too large and were replaced by variegated English holly trees (Ilex aquifolium), which have been patiently pruned into conical accents marking the garden's entrance. Seattle was built on a series of hills, and many of its homes have front-yard slopes for planting; these, in many cases, have been replaced with low-maintenance rock gardens and walls. I chose to keep my front slopes intact as planting beds. My landscape designers and I created a scheme of admittedly high-maintenance, seasonal plantings whose colors would coordinate well with the autumn palette of the house. Fall and

TOP: The back yard is a serene shade garden. Spiky Iris foetidissima 'Variegata', Rubus cockburnianus, and Aucuba japonica provide a pleasing backdrop for terracotta balls and a garden chair. RIGHT: A Victorian wrought-iron garden seat is nestled against the ferns; an arched lattice encloses the private yard; a 19th-century griffin guards the front steps.

spring are attractive with winter pansies and a few bulbs, but the yard really comes into its prime in summer when we plant it out in vibrant swaths of color: hybrid, sun-tolerant cultivars of coleus in a rainbow of burgundy, chartreuse, copper, and gold; bronze-leafed dahlias (*Dahlia* 'Moonfire') with vibrant, pale ochre and orange flowers; fancy-leafed pelargoniums such as 'Vancouver Centennial' with its intense, two-toned foliage of deep terra cotta and chartreuse; lime-green and yellow var-









BEWARE CURB APPEAL

This garden does indeed start at the curb-even the strip between street and sidewalk is beautifully designed. As if there weren't enough visual interest on the ground. Brian added more: a window box handcarved with alligators and an anxious baby, designed for underneath the front window and planted with multicolored Canna, orange-flowered abutilon, and the tender, trailing Fuchsia 'Autumnale' that is remarkable for its kaleidoscopic terra-cotta foliage, turning yellow and then pale green. Purple petunia ('Wave Series')

is a favorite for the window box, and trailing, variegated ivies (*Hedera* sp.) soften the intense colors.

Brian never considered that he was creating something that would attract attention, but soon learned that if you make it they will come. And they have. The house and garden have been featured in newspapers, magazines, and on TV. "We're even on the observation deck of Seattle's Space Needle. representing [?!] our local neighborhood." His advice? Follow your muse, but remember you will have to deal with the attention it may bring. Curb appeal can be a challenge, unless the house is for sale.

The sole survivor of the old garden was a surprisingly virulent holly that covered the front yard in perpetual shade. My priorities then were clear: I could live with vinyl siding much longer than I could stand an unattractive landscape.

iegated *Plectranthus*, *Fuchsia* "Gartenmeister Bonstedt" with reddish bronze foliage and deep red single flowers that bloom all summer; the purple-foliaged castor bean (*Ricinus communis* 'Carmencita'). A favorite is the Persian Shield plant (*Strobilanthes dyeriana*) with its metallic-looking silver and purple leaves. I found antique iron fencing to run along the top of the slopes, and backed the fencing with a neatly clipped, dwarf boxwood hedge (*Buxus sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa').

The Victorian pots on the steps are planted with fragrant, lavender heliotrope (*Heliotropium arborescens*), fancy-leaved pelargoniums such as 'Mrs. Pollock', 'Skies of Italy', 'Mrs. Henry Cox', and modern, colorful

coleus cultivars such as 'Carrot Top', 'Sedona', and 'Inky Fingers'.

The narrow side yard on the north, which never sees direct sun, was planted with low maintenance *Hosta* 'Halcyon' and 'Regal Splendor', both relatively bug-proof. Different evergreen and herbaceous ferns, mostly forms of *Dryopteris*, along with one of my favorites, the "Tatting fern" (*Athyrium felix-femina* 'Frizelliae') were used to fill in the narrow planting beds along the house, along with variegated Persian ivy (*Hedera colchica* 'Dentata Variegata') in creamy white and slate green.

I built an arched lattice fence topped with an arbor to enclose the tiny back yard, planting table grapes Vitis'Interlaken' and 'Niagara' to clamber over it. Another variegated Persian ivy (Hedera colchica' Sulphur Heart') was trained up the lattice arches. My landscape gardeners found two 12-foot-tall locust trees (Robinia pseudoacacia 'Frisia') that, along with a redleafed Japanese maple (Acer palmatum), were used to screen the backyard from neighboring houses that look down directly into the space.

After several years of effort, I gave up trying to keep a lawn alive in the backyard shade, and replaced it with a more practical ellipse of colored gravel bordered with antique clay edging tiles. We found more Victorian garden ornament and a set of wrought-iron benches and chair. •



INOLE UM Yesterday & Today

NEITHER THE INLAID PATTERNS OF THE TEENS NOR THE FLORALS

OF THE FORTIES ARE MADE TODAY. STILL, LINOLEUM IS BACK!

BY JANE POWELL | PHOTOGRAPHS BY LINDA SVENDSEN

LINOLEUM is not vinyl. Linoleum is a historic flooring product made of linseed oil, resins, cork flour, and pigments on burlap backing. Wonderful designs were produced in the material from its invention in 1863 until its nearly complete eradication by vinyl in the 1960s. In the past twenty years, linoleum has started to make a comeback. Although only solid and marbled patterns are currently available, linoleum is once again being used

in ways that make creative use of its excellent properties as an antibacterial, antistatic, flexible, long-lasting, and environmentally sound material.

My fascination with linoleum began when my grandparents moved from their

farm to a tiny house in town. The house had linoleum in every one of its three rooms: living/dining room, bedroom, and kitchen. As children do, I spent a lot of time on the floor. I was fascinated by the pattern of big feathery grey leaves, so different from the



LEFT: A 1937 advertisement for Congoleum Gold Seal Rugs shows a complex pattern called "Horizon." Black counters and lime-green kitchenware were as stylish then as now. RIGHT: Floor, walls, and countertops are linoleum: 1944. BACKGROUND: Vintage, unused rolls of linoleum wall covering,

A Brief HISTORY Englishman Frederick Walton

invented the process of coating canvas with oxidized linseed oil, cork dust, and resin, beginning manufacture in 1864. He named his product



Linoleum, from the Latin for flax (linum) and oil (oleum), but didn't register it as a trademark. Thus "linoleum" was already a generic name for oilbased, burlap-backed resilient flooring a mere 14 years after its invention. Walton opened a factory on Staten Island, New York, in 1872. But linoleum finally caught on in the U.S. when Armstrong got into the business in 1908. • The invention of nowax coatings for competing vinyl floors put an end to linoleum manufacture in the U.S. in 1974. Forbo Industries introduced their Marmoleum in 1982.

More recently, Tarkett and Armstrong have reintroduced linoleum.





LEFT: This is a new kitchen done in period style for a 1920s mansion. Highlights include the restored vintage stove, Malibu-style tile, and the custom-inlaid floor of marbled linoleum laid in a diagonal checkerboard, set off by a black border. Each corner is inlaid with an intricate design of grapes, leaves, and tendrils. ABOVE: In this kitchen for a 1920 Spanish Revival house, corner inlays were based on old fruit-crate labels; the spray of orange blossoms decorates the plain floor in the breakfast room. The checkerboard tiles are Forbo's marbled linoleum.

carpeting and hardwood floors we had at home. I encountered other linoleum as I grew up, mostly the marbled or paint-spatter varieties, but it wasn't until I had a career renovating houses that I began to come across the interesting, beautiful, and occasionally zany old patterns. I'd find them not in the kitchen, where vinyl had taken over, but in an upstairs bedroom or attic, on a closet floor, or lining linen drawers and shelves.



SOURCES

- ARMSTRONG WORLD INDUSTRIES, Lancaster, PA: (717) 397-0611. armstrong.com "Marmorette" linoleum
- FORBO FLOORING, Hazelton, PA: (866) 627-6653, themarmoleumstore.com "Marmoleum" brand
- TARKETT COMMERCIAL. Houston, TX: (800) 877-8453.

tarkettsommerusa.com

"Linosom" brand

- **LINOLEUM CITY**, Hollywood, CA: (323) 469-0063 Sells linoleum tiles and roll goods, also metal edging for countertops
- SECOND HAND ROSE, New York, NY: (212) 393-9002, secondhandrose.com Vintage (unused original) linoleum, wallpapers, etc.
- LAURIE CROGAN, ARTISTIC INLAY FLOORS, Los Angeles: inlayfloors.com Artist who did the design, installations, and one-of-a-kind inlays in these photos

Recently redone with reference to an old Armstrong illustration, this kitchen's period flooring, which set the color scheme, was purchased from Second Hand Rose. RIGHT: The diamond-pattern border and "area rug" are custom inlays in a linoleum tile floor.

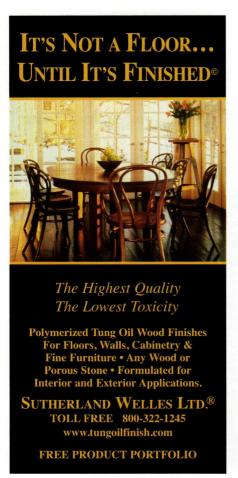
I have been puzzled for a long time as to why most people look down on linoleum, aside from its being on the floor. It has long been viewed as a "substitute," rather than a floor covering in its own right. As with many things that are considered utilitarian, it has never been given the respect it deserves. Wood, tile, stone, and carpeting are seen as luxurious, while linoleum is viewed as trashy. Linoleum can indeed be quite drab. It can also be quite beautiful. It's not alone as a product that is often made to resemble something else; such cases are often a failure of imagination by the manufacturers' designers. Old linoleum patterns are, at very least, amusing; they are from a

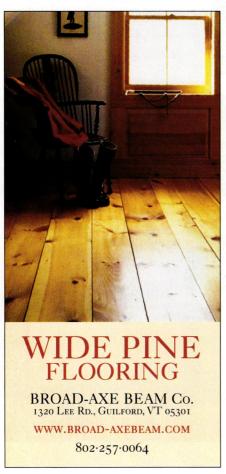
more innocent time. Linoleum is a rugged, time-tested material, often artistic-and easy to clean, too.

Perhaps linoleum's reputation will improve now that it is rare and no longer cheap. Linoleum, which deserves its "commercial flooring" status by virtue of its indestructibility, costs \$30 per square yard and up. Machine-made oriental rugs and many ceramic floor tiles are cheaper.

Today linoleum tile and sheet flooring are being used by restorers







Unlike some other historic materials that can be reproduced by individual entrepreneurs and artisans, linoleum production requires a big, expensive factory.



in ways that celebrate the material and its best qualities. Factory inlays are no longer (or not yet?) available, but artists and designers have stepped in to create custom borders and decorative inlays. Water-jet and laser cutting are new technologies. And the cleaning and waxing regimen of the past is obsolete: today's acrylic sealers are applied but once a year.

Today you will find linoleum listed only as a commercial product. Manufacturers' catalogs and websites show vast expanses of it installed in schools and hospitals. Don't be put off; linoleum today is very similar to the high-quality material used in residential settings a hundred years ago. Any flooring store that sells Armstrong, Tarkett, or Forbo products (e.g., vinyl flooring) can order linoleum for you. You may have to educate the salesperson, however.

The few companies currently

A stylish beach-bungalow kitchen includes three colors of marbled linoleum, which pick up the colors in tile and window glass.

producing linoleum seem to be positioning it as modern and contemporary. Their message could be summed up:"This is not your grandmother's linoleum." It hasn't occurred to them that many of us want our grandmothers' linoleum, because it was marvelous!

JANE POWELL is a contractor, a "radical preservationist," and the author of several books including Bungalow Kitchens [Gibbs Smith]. LINDA SVENDSEN is the architectural photographer who co-produced many books with Jane Powell. Their excellent, colorful volume Linoleum [Gibbs Smith] is highly recommended for those interested in resilient flooring and 20th-century houses and kitchens.





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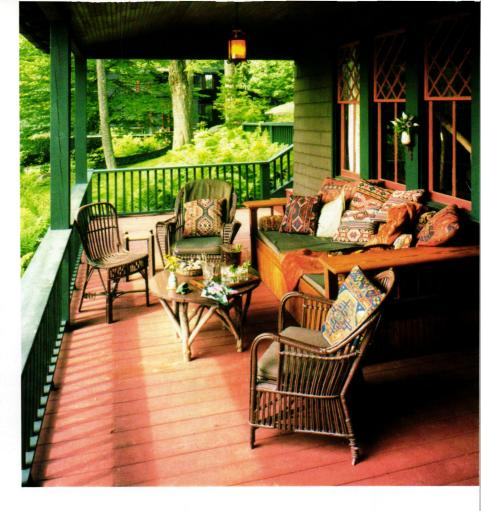
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With the home restoration movement well into a second century, manufacturers are finally creating traditional porch elements from high-tech materials that capture the ambiance of the originals.



Elements of the Porch BY MARY ELLEN POLSON

PORCH IS OFTEN a signature piece on a period house. It is also one of the most difficult features to maintain. Anyone who has ever been the owner of a vintage wood porch knows the drill: scrape, patch, repair, and paint, and when you're finished, start all over again.

Thankfully, many manufacturers of high-tech porch parts—posts, columns, turned and fret-cut millwork, porch decking, and even ceiling boards—finally "get it." (The ones who work in wood always have.)

It is now possible to construct a reasonably authentic porch from fiber-reinforced polymer columns, hardwood composite fretwork, cellular PVC trim boards, and engineered porch planks, complete with half-round edge nosing.

Before you pull out the centuryold balusters and decking on that rambling verandah, though, consider this: many of the materials designed for exterior porches come with a five-year guarantee. That may be music to the ears of homeowners who move every 3.7 years, but it isn't very long in the lifespan of an old house, especially one with a porch built from old-growth vertical grain hardwood. And there is still no substitute for a well-designed, skillfully assembled porch with authentic details. It pays to know when to pick apples, and when to choose oranges.

Some elements tend to give

more trouble than others—especially columns, which are widely available in reproductions that closely resemble the real thing, especially after a few coats of paint. Turncraft Architectural, for instance, recently introduced square, tapered Craftsman columns in fiberglass-reinforced polymer. Loadbearing columns in all the classic styles usually cost about one-third as much as wood columns.

On the other hand, if you need to replace a porch post that has turned millwork details like banding or chamfered edges, wood is probably the way to go—especially if the bad column matches several sound ones still on the porch. (Companies like Cinderwhit, Mad [text continued on page 90]

There's nothing more restful than relaxing on a deep covered porch on a summer afternoon—unless, of course, most of the time you spend there involves a scraper and paint brush instead of a good book.



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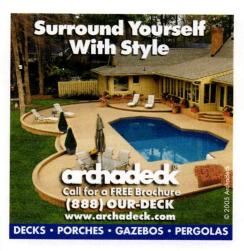
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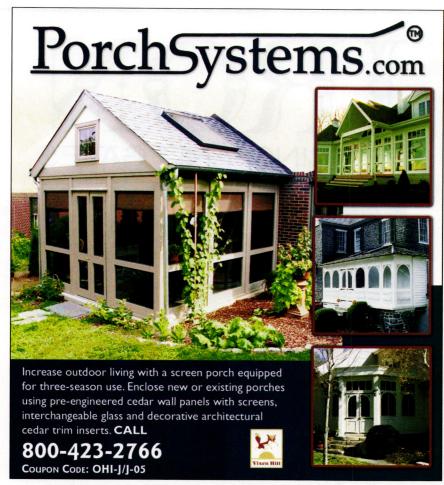
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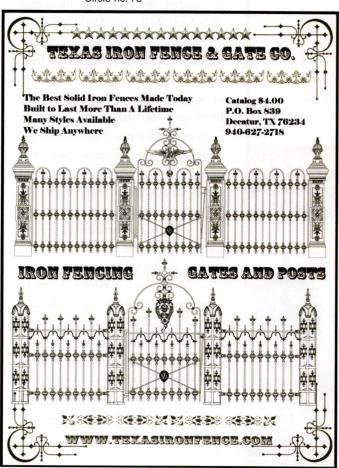
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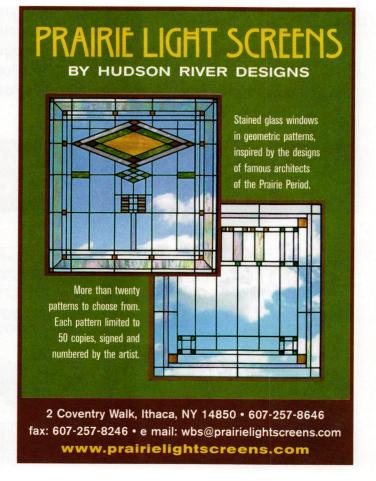
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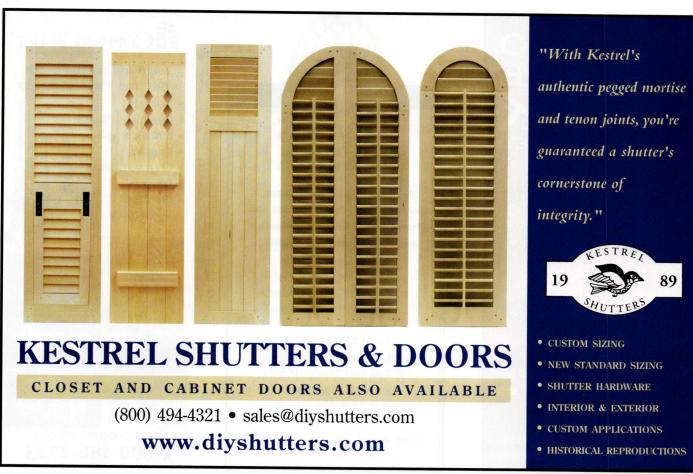


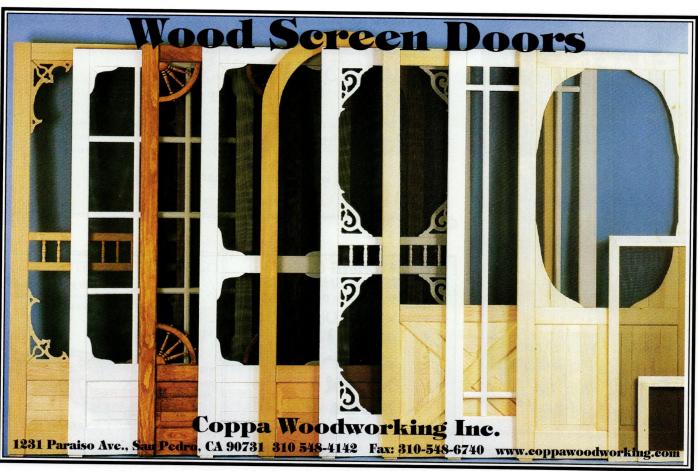
River Woodworks, and Woodminstrel Woodparts can replicate turned wood columns on a custom basis.) The same thing goes for sections of balustrade or individual balusters, although Spartan Architectural offers more than two dozen baluster profiles in PVC in styles suitable for Georgian, Colonial Revival, and Victorian-era homes.

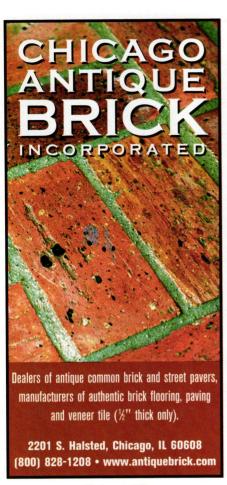
As for purely decorative elements like flat-cut fretwork, there are good options in both solid and engineered wood. Vintage Woodworks, for example, offers thousands of patterns in woods like poplar, cedar and, at extra cost, cypress. The Gingerbread Man's elaborate fretwork is cut from an engineered wood called Extira, which is less prone to splitting and cracking than some woods. Once painted, it's difficult to tell conventional wood from engineered.

Other trouble spots include porch ceilings and floor boards. A number of companies, including WindsorONE and Azek, offer an engineered beadboard that is more uniform (i.e., squared edges, knot free) than conventional beadboard made of wood or plywood. While a longlived wood like mahogany or cypress is traditional for porch floors, another option is Tendura, an engineered composite of wood and plastic designed for use on covered porches. The boards are primed on all sides, and in the case of the TenduraPlank Solids Collection, come straight from the factory in battleship grey.

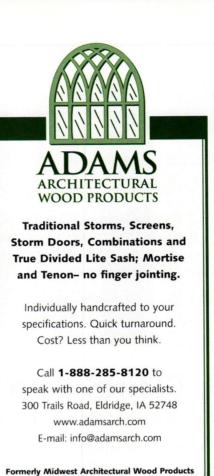
In the end, it comes down to a balancing act between looks and ease of care. While some engineered materials look no different from wood once they're painted, others do. If the new element will be in an easily seen position (i.e., head-height decorative trim), make sure you like what you see before you buy.



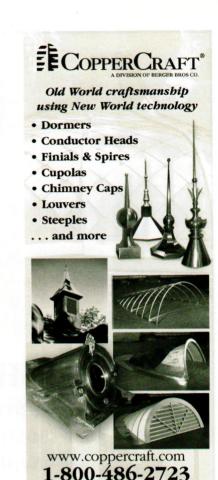








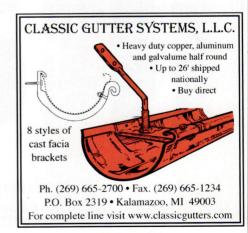
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LEFT: The 1956 Antrim House in Fresno, designed by Harwell Hamilton Harris, revisits the Japanese motifs of his 1930s houses. BELOW: (left) Hanley House living room, O'Neil Ford, 1956, Dallas. (middle) Seminal California builder Cliff May designed the Eshelman-Bemis House in 1963. (right) At Harris's 1958 Rhodes House in Big Spring, Texas, the atrium's pool of water is "a potent symbol of relief in the hot landscape."







The book's surprise has to be its photographs, which show us what the suburban houses of the Fifties were not-too-successfully emulating.

tract housing is part of the study. Hess is thorough, and his text full of insights. Now look under the dust jacket. The cloth hardcover is imprinted with a brown "fake wood grain" that took me right back to the AM radio in our Fifties kitchen. Hess apologizes for nothing.

Earlier discussion of the Ranch separated high-style California examples—designed, philosophically informed houses with native and Hispanic precedents-from massproduced housing of questionable lineage. But author Hess describes Ranches as being of "traditional, contemporary, American Colonial and Spanish Colonial, as well as oriental design." His indulgence admits houses in the mid-Atlantic states, those built

in the 1950s and 1960s, and specbuilt tracts—at least in the first fifty pages of the book. It is upfront that he describes the invention of the suburban Ranch. Hess will help you sort out what is a Ranch and what is not, how the Ranch followed from Arts and Crafts principles, and who the important practitioners were.

The bulk of his book, however, is a 140-page chapter that offers contemporary tours of 26 restored Ranches. The houses are in California, Texas, and Arizona, and were built between 1935 and 1968. Alan Hess's discourse on Ranch development is illuminating. But the book's surprise has to be these photographs, which show us what the suburban houses of the Fifties were not-too-successfully emulating. It's just fascinating: flat stone fireplace surrounds and the raised hearth, pools and patios, low-slung furniture, monochromatic carpeting, open architecture without mouldings, atomic-age lighting, platform beds and the occasional wing chair mixing it up with leather and chrome. Here, it all looks good—very good. ◆ REVIEWED BY PATRICIA POORE

The Ranch House

by Alan Hess; photography by Noah Sheldon. Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 2004. Hardcover, 240 pages, \$45. Through your bookstore.





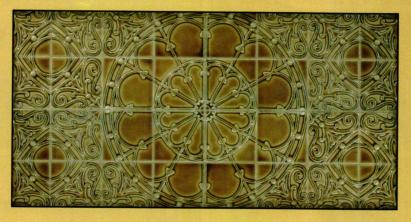
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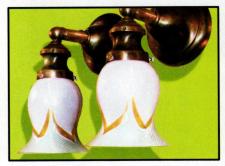
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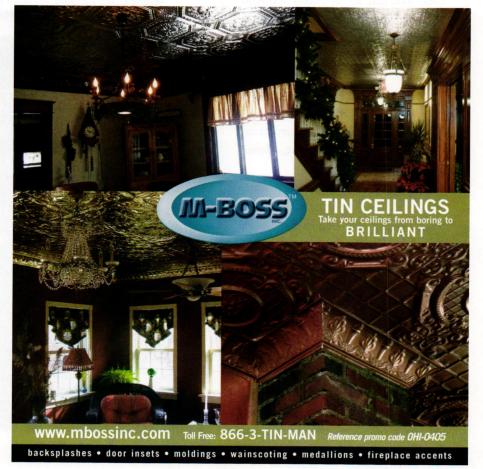
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bers-wise, because you're too dedicated and ahead of the pack. But I can assure you the rest of the industry is always watching you. You've built a family (or is "commune" a better word?) of writers, readers, and savvy adver-

tisers who care about quality and who predict what's next in the design curve. They call that "a thought leader." Keep going.

> —MICHAEL REITZ [former publisher, New England Builder and Journal of Light Construction] Moku O Keawe, Hawaii

Michael, please. It's been only 27 years. Wish we'd never sold that other magazine, I miss it still. I do love this work and the people I've met. My salary is a bonus! —Patty

A&C EMPORIA

WE JUST PICKED UP your wonderful Arts and Crafts issue and are disappointed to have missed out on editorial coverage, advertising opportunities, and magazine stocking opportunities. Bend Bungalow is a four-year-old, [continued on page 100]

But How About that Wallpaper?

I enjoyed the feature in your *Early Homes* special issue about simple window treatments—and especially the photo of the wallpaper on p. 70–71. Can you tell me about that paper? —PETER L. BUBINSKY, NEW DURHAM, N.H.

hotos for that feature were taken at The Farmers' Museum in Cooperstown, N.Y. [farmersmuseum.org] Window treatments were designed and fabricated by Rabbit Goody of Thistle Hill Weavers [518/284-2729, thistlehillweavers.com] The eye-popping wallpaper in the

dining room of the Bump Tavern generated a lot of interest from readers. It's "Otsego," a pattern from ca. 1805–1810, probably American, and based on a sample found in Otsego County. The background is a mixture of yellow ochre and Prussian blue. Schumacher [schumacher.com; to the trade] reproduced it (by the silk screening method) for the Museum during the 1950s. It is available for purchase today through The Farmers' Museum, and can be produced in any colorway. Please call (888) 547-1450 for wallpaper information or to order.

"Otsego" is the name of the reproduction wallpaper in the Bump Tavern at The Farmers' Museum in Cooperstown, N.Y. The valance and panels at the window are striped cotton dimity.







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—KAREN LETOURNEAU

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Arts & Crafts Homes and the Revival, Spring 2005, was a special newsstand issue available in bookstores and specialty outlets. Copies are still available through our editorial office: (978) 283-3200, oldhouseinteriors.com

Turns out, that premier issue was also a pilot, as we've decided, based on response, to launch Arts & Crafts Homes as a quarterly magazine, beginning with the Spring 2006 issue, due out Feb. 18, 2006. Keep a watch for subscription information in issues of OHI and on our website. —eds.

SO MUCH SALVAGE, SO LITTLE PAPER was it your intention to [include] only advertisers in the listings of salvage yards on page 58 of the May 2005 issue? If so, you are cheating your readers. If not, you did a damn poor job. You missed at least two major

Missing Piece If you loved the tapestry puzzle on page 28 of our May 2005 issue but couldn't locate the company, try this (correct) spelling:

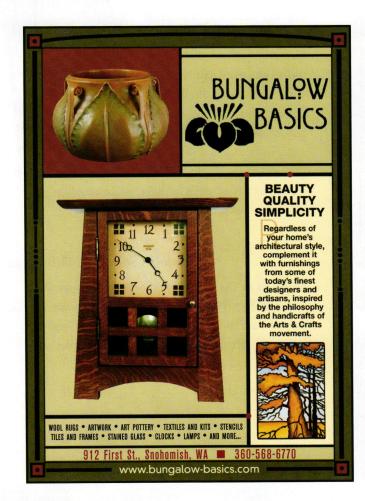
Ehrman Tapestry (888) 826-8600, ehrmantapestry.com

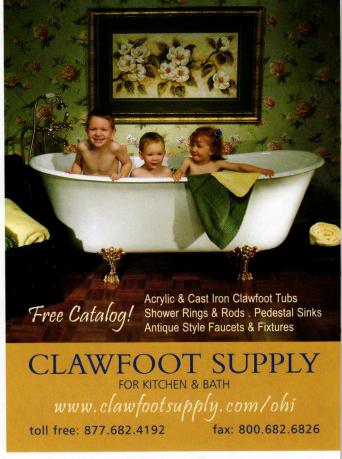
Paper I.D.?

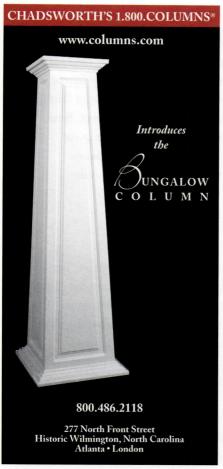
In reference to page 96, May 2005, in the article on period lampshades: can you identify the wallpaper behind the "1910 shade" for me?

—NICOLE BROOKER, VIA EMAIL

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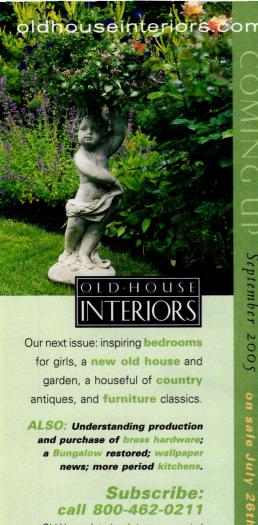








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salvage yards in the Los Angeles area. I'm a stay-at-home dad with no connections (sadly) to anyone in the salvage business. An error of this magnitude makes me question the rest of the content of your magazine.

> -STAN BROTHERS Glendale, Calif.

About a third of the yards listed advertise with us-for the same reason we listed them: they serve a national clientele, often with a "virtual salvage yard" on the Internet. Space constraints didn't allow us to list every good yard in the country. Always look locally first. -eds.

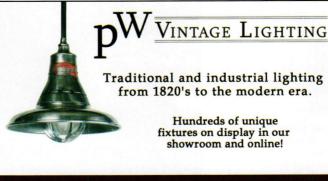
Can You Help with New Old Arts and Crafts?

We are designing a new "old" house in the Arts and Crafts tradition. Our hope is to complete a project that will cause people driving down the road to remark, "I never realized that house was there; hmmm, nice renovation." On pp. 30-31 of your Arts & Crafts Homes issue [Spring 2005], there is a picture of an Aladdin Homes design Our architect had proposed a similar porch/pergola. Your assistance in finding a copy of Craftsman Homes Plan #10 from October 1904 would be appreciated. - JANELLEN FRANTZ, VIA EMAIL

oth pieces of art that you refer to are archival. The one on the top of page 30 is from Aladdin Homes, which was a kit-house company. (We have some of their old pattern books in our library.) The larger image in the center of pp. 30-31 is from Stickley's Craftsman magazine; it was his Plan #10 (yes, from 1904). Both of these companies are long out of business, so of course blueprints and specs are not available. You'd undoubtedly want to update the plans, anyway.

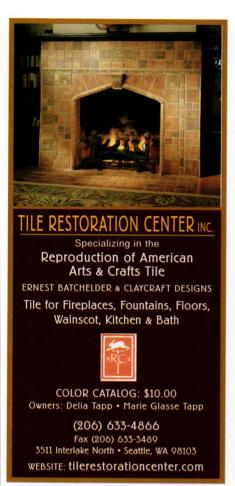
Your architect can create a plan and working drawings that incorporate the massing and details of an old model. The Craftsman Home is a straightforward house form, and its pergola porch easily reproduced. Another resource is Craftsman Farms. (Gustav Stickley's Parsippany, N.J., home is now a museum and study center.) Perhaps they have archival materials. Call (973) 540-1165, stickleymuseum.org [mid-day hours Wed.-Sun.] Please do stay in touch. I'd like to know what you decide to build: I hope we can feature it in the magazine someday. —PATRICIA POORE







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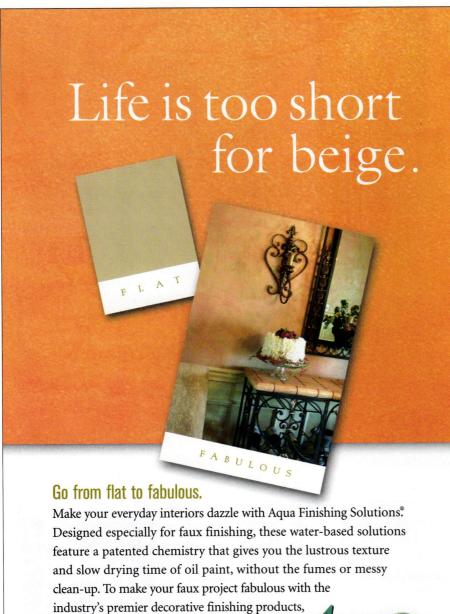
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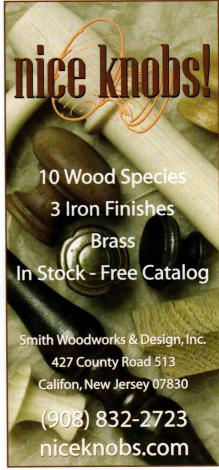
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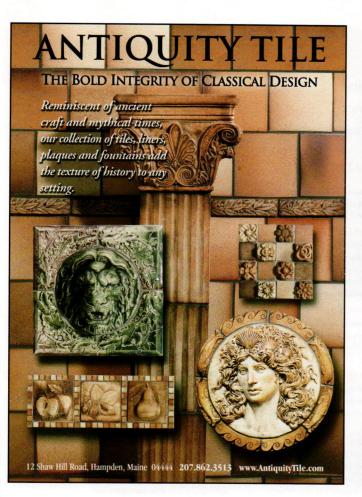
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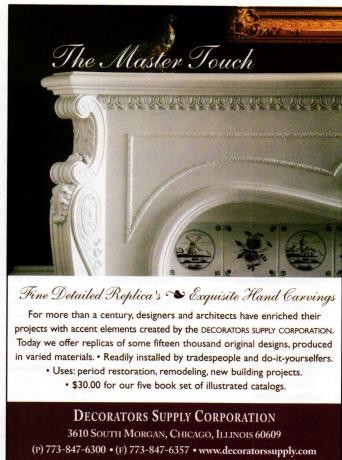


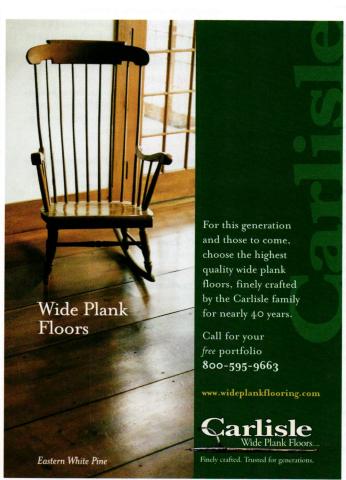


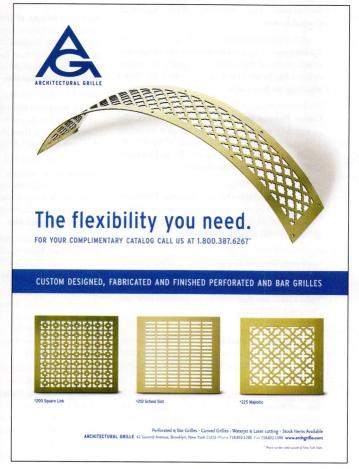
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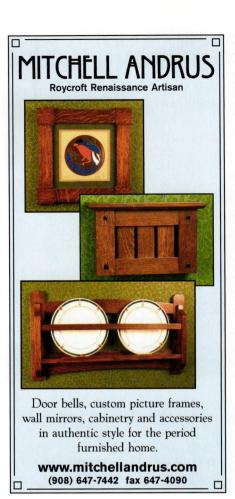
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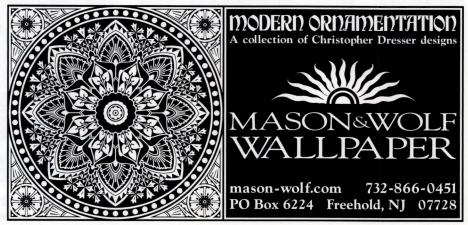
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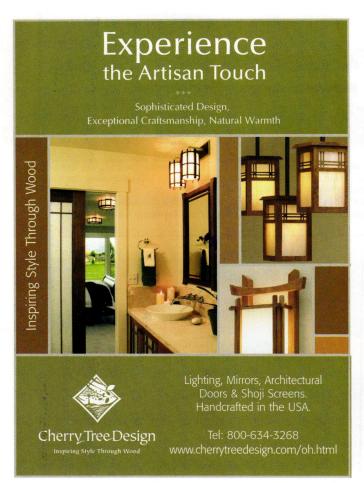
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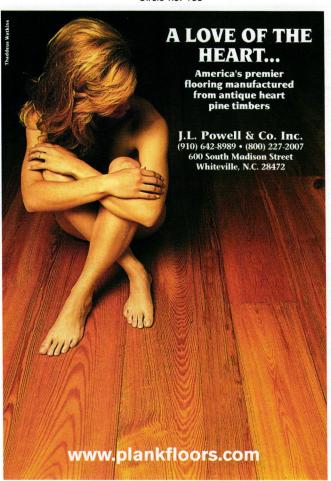
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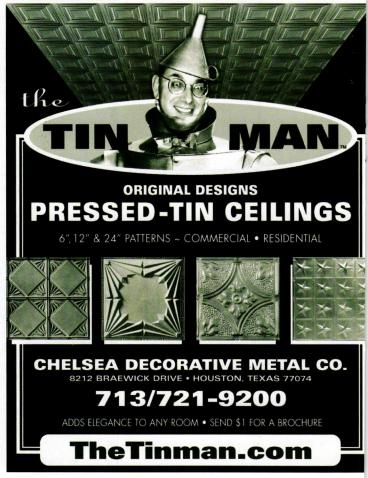
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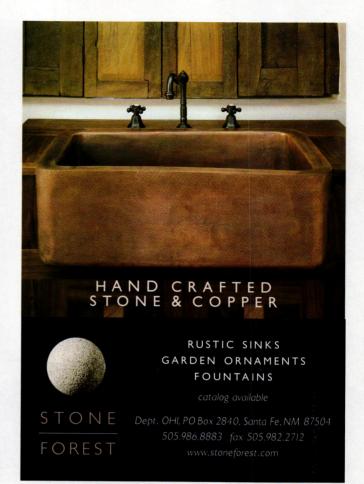
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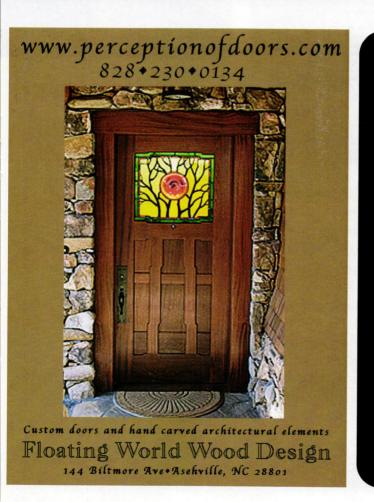


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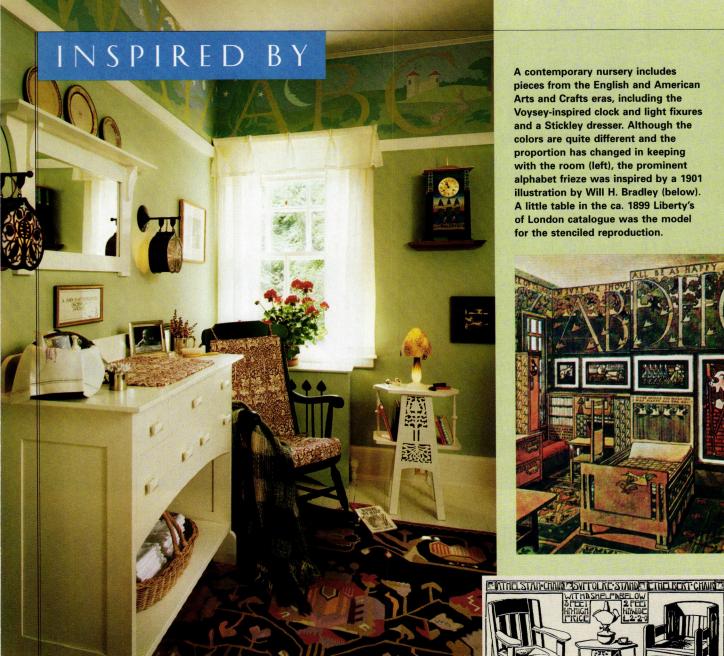
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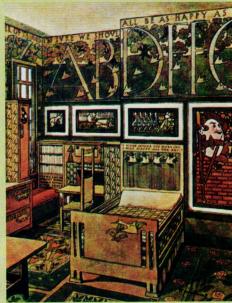








A contemporary nursery includes pieces from the English and American Arts and Crafts eras, including the Voysey-inspired clock and light fixures and a Stickley dresser. Although the colors are quite different and the proportion has changed in keeping with the room (left), the prominent alphabet frieze was inspired by a 1901 illustration by Will H. Bradley (below). A little table in the ca. 1899 Liberty's of London catalogue was the model for the stenciled reproduction.



THE PAST offered up ideas for several elements of a lovely nursery in a Shingle Style house in New England. The sophistication of the English Arts and Crafts room assures that it will grow along with the child. Window treatments, rug, furniture, and colors won't be outgrown. Its most striking feature is the alphabet frieze. Although landscape and lettering are a new interpretation (after the style of Arts and Crafts friezes), there is precedent

for it in a watercolor, published in The Ladies' Home Journal, by the American artist and room designer Will H. Bradley. The new frieze, painted on Masonite panels and held to the wall by crown and picture mouldings, can later be removed intact. • Dresser and mirror are direct copies of pieces sold by the L. and J.G. Stickley Co. around 1905. Although a fumed-oak finish is most often associated with Mission furniture, some pieces in-

tended for bedrooms were enameled in white, even then. The little table is copied from a Liberty design. Liberty's of London is the store that sold many pieces by Arts and Crafts designers and manufacturers of the period, including Morris & Co. goods. —PATRICIA POORE

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