

COASTAL LIVING®

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FEBRUARY 2015

BRIGHT BOUNTY

A TUDOR-INSPIRED DWELLING
IN CALIFORNIA'S COASTAL
FOOTHILLS DELIGHTS AS
A LIVELY HUB FOR SUMMER PLAY

BY ELLEN MCGAULEY
PHOTOGRAPHS BY DOMINIQUE VORILLON
STYLING BY SUNDAY HENDRICKSON

The walls are painted Hollingsworth Green, and the trim is painted Linen White, both by Benjamin Moore. Opposite: The table and chairs are from Restoration Hardware.





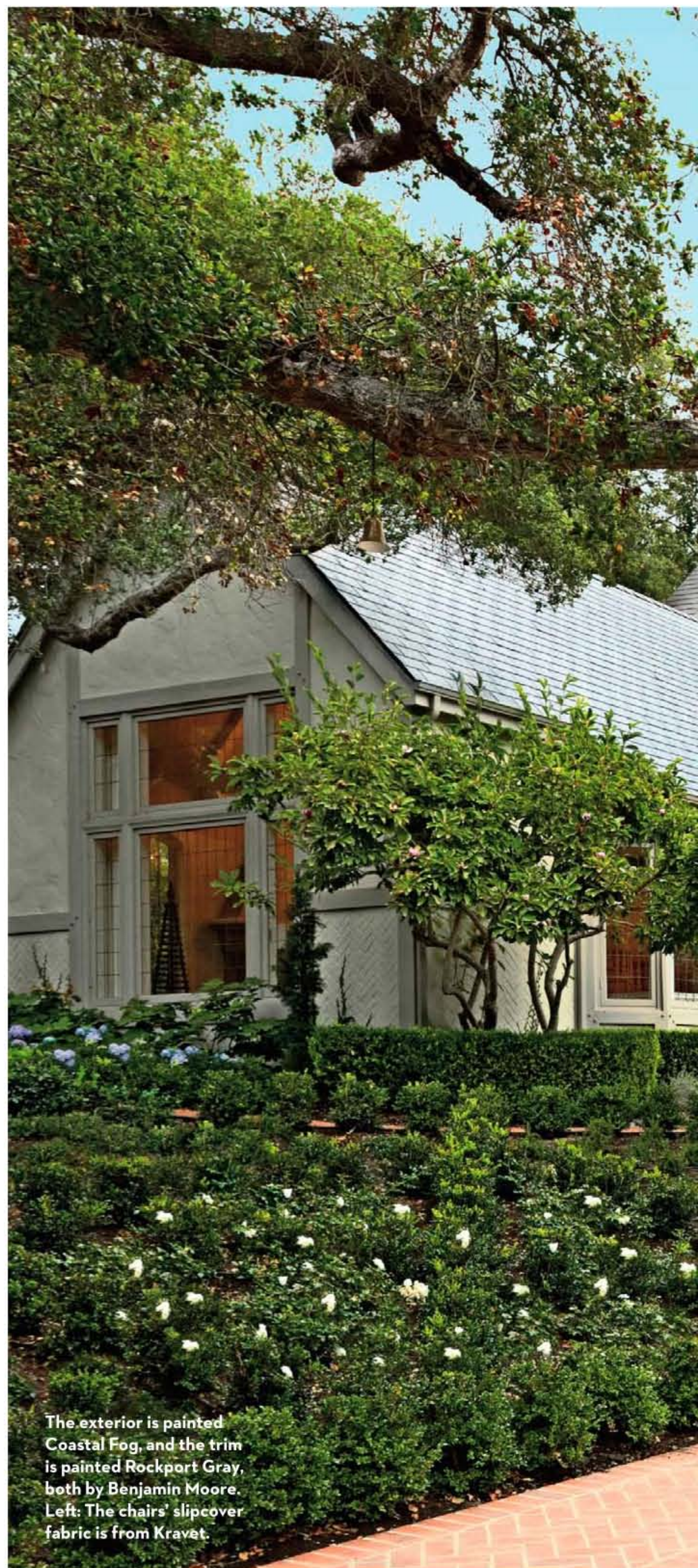
The owners of a mid-1980s home tucked into the coastal foothills of Montecito, California, knew beach house potential when they saw it. “The grounds are beautiful, and I could tell the place had great bones,” says the wife, referring to the Tudor-inspired dwelling she and her husband found and renovated to suit their family. And the location was just right; the ocean is only a two-minute drive down the hill. “It can stay foggy down by the water until 1 in the afternoon, but up here, it’s clear and beautiful by 10.”

Light, bright environs indeed ranked high on the San Francisco couple’s list of summer home must-haves. With the help of Los Angeles–based architect Tim Barber and Melissa Warner Rothblum, an interior designer at Massucco Warner Miller with projects stretching up and down the West Coast, they turned the intrinsically dark, formal dwelling into an airy coastal respite with a comfortable indoor/outdoor ease about it—ideal for their three children (ages 5, 7, and 9) to play outside during summers and long holiday weekends.

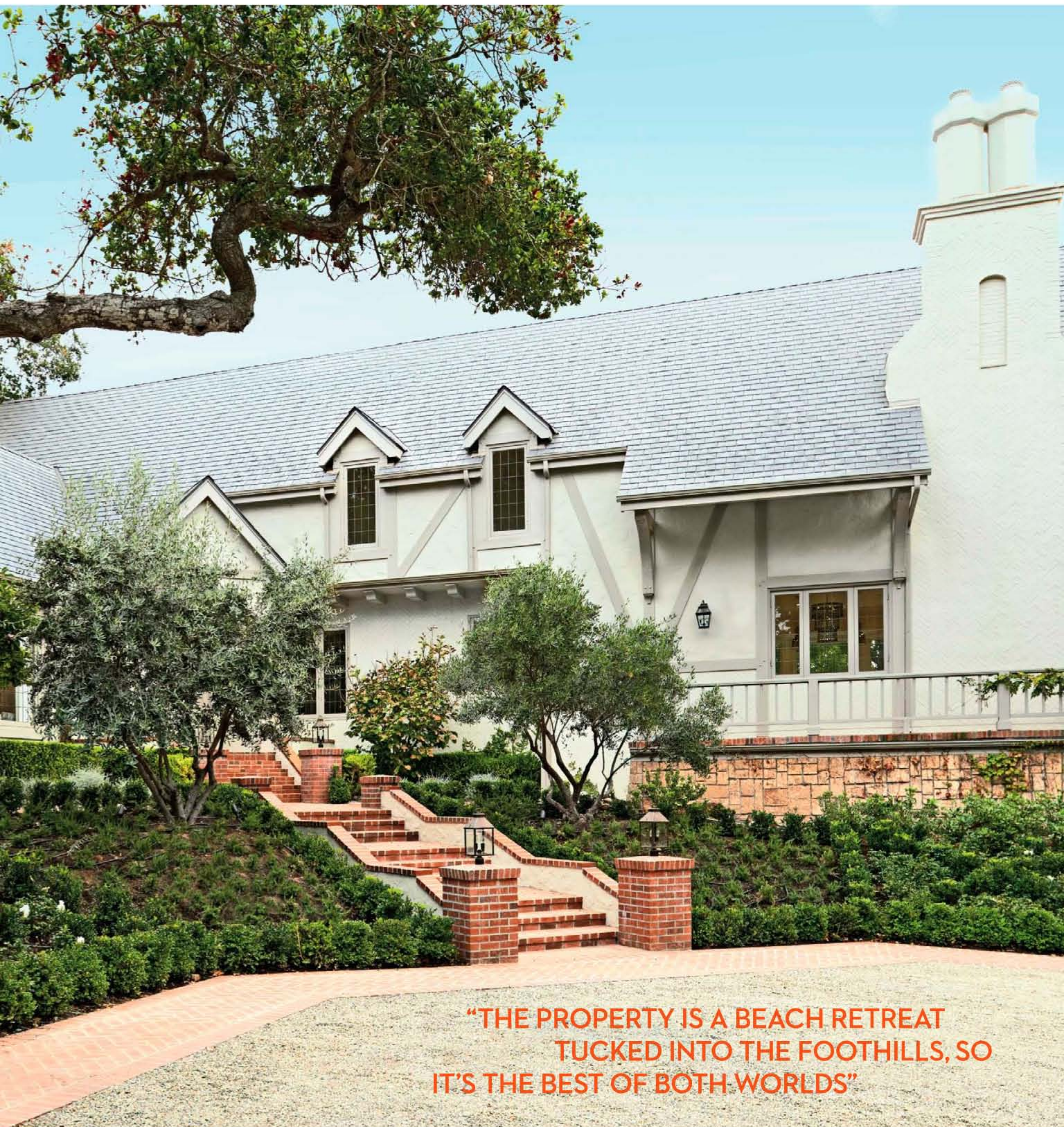
“This style of architecture, which is relatively rare in Southern California, was a bit of a challenge,” admits Barber. But after poring through books on Tudor style, the team agreed upon a soft palette of exterior shades, like taupe, washed grays, and mossy greens. “These colors really spoke to me; they were appropriate for a house at the beach,” says the wife.

They tempered the interior palette, too. A cool mint hue, for instance, lights up the living room, and they chose a clean shade of ivory for the rafters and as a go-to color throughout the house. Wood floors got a subtle whitewash, and by adding windows and swapping wood for leaded panes—a classic Tudor element—the interior became flooded with unobstructed sunlight.

The considerable size of the rooms had been appealing to the owners from the moment they walked through. “The kitchen here is twice the size of what we have in San Francisco,” says the wife, a trained chef for whom cooking is central to frequent gatherings with her four siblings and their families.



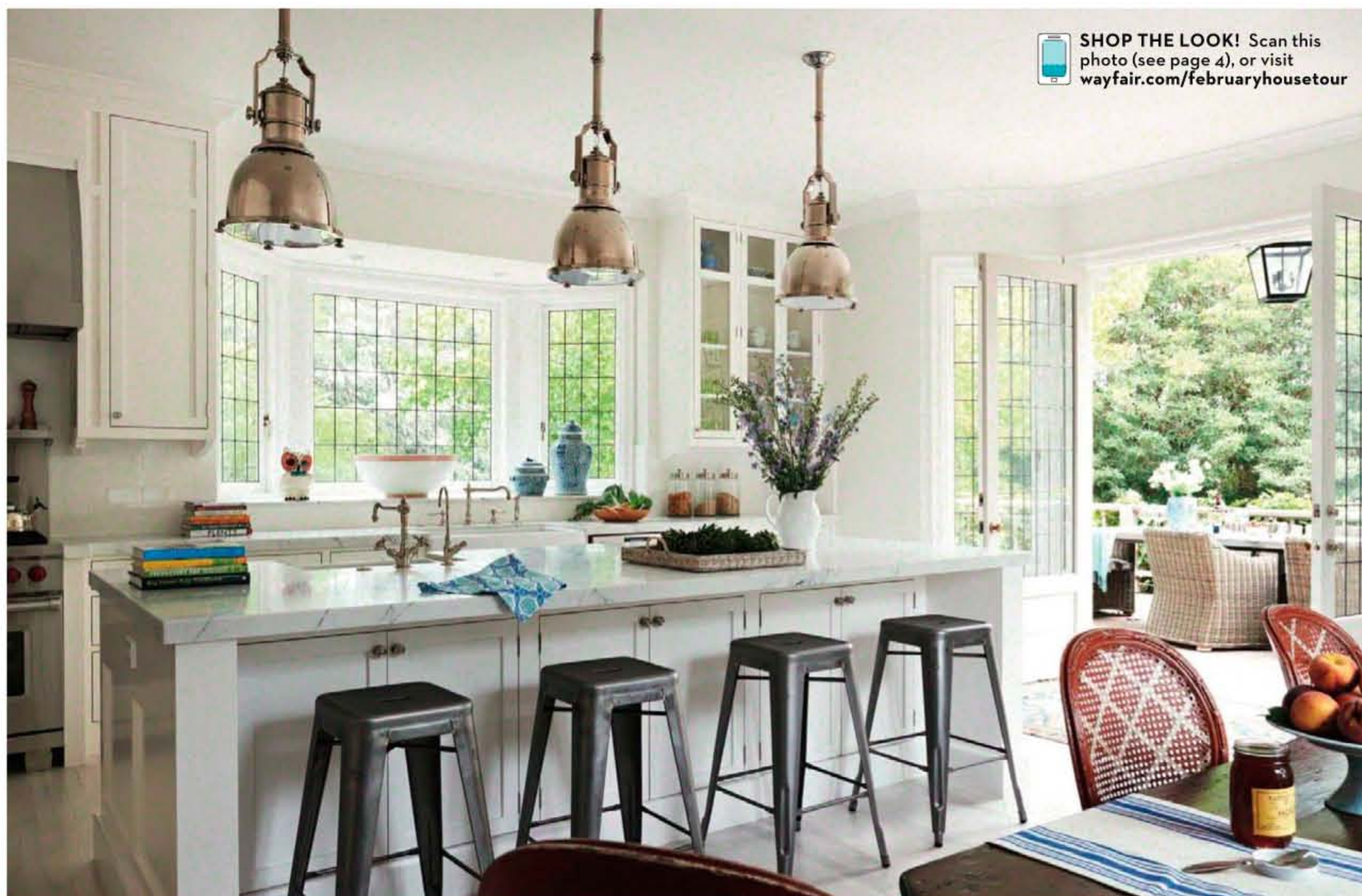
The exterior is painted Coastal Fog, and the trim is painted Rockport Gray, both by Benjamin Moore. Left: The chairs’ slipcover fabric is from Kravet.



**“THE PROPERTY IS A BEACH RETREAT
TUCKED INTO THE FOOTHILLS, SO
IT’S THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS”**



The walls in the breakfast room and kitchen (opposite) are painted Glacier White by Benjamin Moore. The antique spoon chandelier is from Anthem. Opposite, bottom: The ottoman fabric is by Palermo.



SHOP THE LOOK! Scan this photo (see page 4), or visit [wayfair.com/februaryhousetour](https://www.wayfair.com/februaryhousetour)

“WITH YOUNG CHILDREN, THE OWNERS WANTED THE HOUSE TO BE APPROACHABLE, NOTHING FANCY OR FORMAL”

To remedy a few awkward angles and upgrade dated materials, the team positioned a farm sink opposite a long, family-friendly island, added cupboards with clear glass doors, and replaced countertop tiles with white Calacatta marble. “The kitchen has a great sense of symmetry and order, which lends itself well to frequent entertaining,” says Rothblum, adding that an outdoor dining and living area is accessible via a new pair of French doors.

Barber also raised a large bay window along an underutilized kitchen wall, creating a natural spot for a breakfast nook. The designer then added a farmhouse table, a set of painted vintage chairs, a three-tier chandelier made from antique spoons, and banquette seating upholstered in easy-clean faux leather. “Particularly with young children, the owners wanted this house to be approachable, nothing fancy or formal,” she explains.

That also meant incorporating plenty of references to their coastal locale. Natural woven materials (such as sea grass headboards and abaca rugs) ground the rooms with





organic materials, and fun focal points like a vivid coral twig chandelier and contemporary beach photography by Massimo Vitali lend surprise bursts of fun. In the bedrooms, sailboat-print wallpaper and cabana-striped walls add more classic coastal charm.

Mirroring these carefree sensibilities outdoors is an open, grassy lawn. San Francisco-based landscape designer Elizabeth Everdell added a collection of olive, crabapple, and magnolia trees; soft sprays of white roses and lavender; and a carpet of fragrant rosemary. “In terms of visual appeal,” says Barber, “the property is like a park, and surprisingly right for where it is: a beach retreat tucked into the foothills. You get the salt air and the elevation, so it’s the best of both worlds.”

The homeowners agree. “The kids love it; it’s very different from our lifestyle in the city. We can hit the beach and we can hike, and the children always have plenty of room to run,” says the wife. “The house reflects where it is, and more importantly, it reflects how we live when we’re here.” **For more information, see Sources, page 102.**

The striped walls are painted Marilyn's Dress and Simply White, both by Benjamin Moore. The rug is by Woven Accents. Opposite: The wallpaper is by Katie Ridder.

