

New England HOME

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the shore

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ON THE COVER: Architect Arthur C. Hanlon, interior designer Sharon Cameron Lawn, and landscape architect Katherine Field joined forces to create this charmer on the Rhode Island coast. Photograph by Nat Rea. To see more of this home, turn to page 116.

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A classic, somewhat grand exterior masks the understated interior of a Maine home built to enfold its inhabitants in contentment and ease.

Text by Debra Judge Silber | Photography by Jeffrey R. Roberts

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Produced by Kyle Hoepner

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Text by Megan Fulweiler | Photography by Nat Rea
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Edited Kyle Hoepner

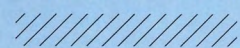
A Lasting Legacy

THE TOP-TO-BOTTOM,
OUTSIDE-TO-IN RENOVATION
GETS A COASTAL RHODE ISLAND
HOME READY FOR GENERATIONS
OF FAMILY FUN.

Text by Megan Fulweiler

Photography by Nat Rea

Produced by
Karin Lidbeck Brent



The reawakening of the grand house began with the removal of encroaching vegetation that blocked the amazing views. Extended roof lines and eye-catching brackets imbue the building with character. "On the outside, it looks traditional, but the feeling inside is modern," explains architect Arthur C. Hanlon.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Along the home's back side, an emerald lawn—"the site of many a football game," says the wife—unfolds to the water. The covered front entry also has a postcard water view. Two garages are tucked unobtrusively into the side of the building. A walkway leads to a third garage with guest quarters. A curved deck skimming the outside of the house invites company.





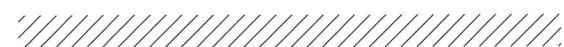
CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT: The dining room sports a handsome corner bar area. The design-savvy wife worked closely with furniture maker Jeff Soderbergh in devising the perfect dining table for crowds; the hand-blown glass branches are by Jamestown, Rhode Island's Clancy Designs. In the kitchen, a simple batten detail enhances the ceiling, transom windows welcome natural light, and myriad cabinets offer bountiful storage. The game table is also by Soderbergh.

reworked the entire skin of the house. An impressive series of roof rafters and eye-catching brackets were added, establishing what the architect calls “a new language.” Seldom-used second-floor walk-outs were removed, and in went a slew of windows to better

capture the breathtaking views all around. “It was a huge woodworking project, and we loved it,” says Greenhalgh.

While all that was transpiring, landscape architect Katherine Field was busy adding swaths of color and natural grasses to merge the site with the shore. The bluestone path she devised leads to an infinity-edge pool next to which Hanlon set a double-height pool house with NanaWalls that melt away to welcome the outdoors in. Complete with a soaring stone fireplace and a cache of comfortable furnishings thoughtfully chosen by interior designer Sharon Cameron Lawn, it's the sort of spot young adults naturally gravitate toward.

Of course, like everyone else, they eventually head for the kitchen. With that in mind, Hanlon skillfully commandeered footage from an existing covered porch so he and Cameron Lawn could deliver a glorious kitchen with a bounty of custom cabinets and a grand island topped with leather-finished sequoia-brown granite. The kitchen merges with an inviting family room that has a fireplace ensconced in a wall of antique stone that once graced a Corsican monastery. Everywhere there are views. The ingenious Cameron Lawn—“she's fabulous,” proclaims the wife—nabbed a wooden screen and had it fitted





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: A charming Dutch door enhances the airiness of the front hall, while new oak floors throughout withstand kids and dogs. Adjacent to the kitchen, the comfortable family room provides ample seating for conversation or TV viewing. In the living room, windows with muntins above eye level help emphasize the location. "From inside the house they act like picture windows," Hanlon says.



PROJECT TEAM

Architecture: Arthur C. Hanlon, Shupe Reno Wharton

Interior design: Sharon Cameron Lawn, Sharon Cameron Lawn Interiors

Builder: Russell Greenhalgh, Chopmist Hill Woodworks

Landscape design: Katherine Field and Associates

Houses roosting along New England's coast have much to contend with. Along with time's usual wear and tear, there's the unsympathetic weather with its salty gales and damp days. This handsome Newport-area getaway is a fine example of Mother Nature and the clock having their way. Built back in the 1990s, all its attributes aside, the building was aging. True, the family had summered blissfully in the house for almost two decades, but looking down the road to when their three college-age kids have children of their own, the owners wanted a smart makeover, not only on the exterior but also inside to dispel the dated

look, boost functionality, and ensure longevity.

As luck would have it, they couldn't have enlisted a more compatible architect for help. A principal of Shupe Reno Wharton, Arthur C. Hanlon has a deep affection for the sea. He took to the shore-side home from the start. There are waves, after all, lapping practically at the base of the sweeping lawn. And what better vantage point for watching a regatta than the third-floor tower? It's an airy perch the family reaches by an engaging staircase Hanlon has reinvented "to make the journey fun," he says.

As alluring as the ornamented oak staircase is, it's only a small part of the dramatic transformation. Hanlon—along with builder Russell Greenhalgh—





ABOVE: Hanlon reworked the existing stairs, adding new treads, railings, and exclamation-like oak ball accents. **BELOW:** A marble mosaic floor gives the master bath a luxurious ambience. **FACING PAGE:** For continuity, interior designer

Sharon Cameron Lawn carries the neutral palette into the master bedroom. Contrasting with the upholstered furnishings, throws, and pillows, a metallic faux bois garden stool adds an interesting note of texture.

with foxed mirror. As a result, anyone seated with his back to the room's parade of windows sees a subtle reflection of sky and water. Pale sofas embellished with nailhead trim flanking a Manuel de Santaren-inspired coffee table initiate relaxation.

And a similar kick-back tenor resonates in the serene living room, too. Cameron Lawn cleverly reworked the owner's existing sofa and love seat to give them a modern silhouette. There's an arresting metal sculpture by Rhode Island artist Peter Diepenbrock above the limestone-faced hearth—a present from the wife to her husband when a new business venture launched—and one more generous coffee table to afford a landing spot for drinks. The focus here is on the ocean. Behind the seating area are the room's show-stopping accents, or what Hanlon refers to as "jewel boxes."

In one corner, an oak cabinet filled with the wife's collection of Italian Solimene dinnerware helps define the dining area, where a stunning table meticulously crafted by another Rhode Island artist, Jeff Soderbergh, stands ready to seat a multitude. More than twenty for dinner is a frequent occurrence in this cheerful home, but that's never a problem. With the insertion of an extra piece, the artful dining table and an adjacent game table (also by Soderbergh) easily marry. A striking chandelier with hand-blown glass shades from Cameron Lawn's bespoke furniture and fittings line, domic*isle, casts light over every



Landscape architect Katherine Field designed a herringbone bluestone surround for the negative-edge pool and used bluestone to marry the pool destination with the main house.

bluestone paving aligns with the house geometry and brings all the geometries together," she says. **FACING PAGE:** Swivel chairs in the pool house are perfect for fire-gazing or pool-watching.



feast. "The shades are like water bubbles extending the view," says Cameron Lawn.

Tucked in the other corner is a posh oak-paneled bar—the pièce de résistance when it comes to hosting a get-together, casual or otherwise. Guests slide onto ostrich leather-covered stools for wine or a beer with the game. A tiny pass-through provides a portal for serving those individuals who understandably refuse to abandon the deck, which Hanlon has also given a congenial reshaping by softening the angles and widening the steps.

Up on the second floor, the star of the makeover (which also included a redo of all the baths) is the owners' sanctuary. Plump chairs clad in a sumptuous fabric from Robert Allen's Beacon Hill collection (the sole fabric line used by Cameron Lawn throughout the house) park beside a Hollywood-type arched window. Nearby, there's a carved bed on dainty legs to

foster dreaming. "I think there's a lyrical nature to the bed and a handsome nature to the chairs that gives the room a correct he/she balance. Not too feminine or masculine," Cameron Lawn says. The master bath, with its elevated tub and glass shower, is obviously equitable as well for both partners.

So strong is the owners' affection for the house and the community, they've never considered spending the warmest months anywhere else. Thanks to the recent renovation the place has become a year-round destination. "This is our family's emotional center," says the wife, who played a major role in every design decision. "Now it feels more like home. We're as happy to be inside as we are out."

Of course, the fabulous setting only enhances the precious time spent with friends and family. If the proximity of the water entails dealing with some harsh elements, in the end, no one really minds at all. **SEP**

RESOURCES : For more information about this home, see page 180.



designersguild.com; bedding from ABC Home, abchome.com; painting above night table by Ysabel LeMay, ysabellemay.com; drapery fabric by Osborne & Little, osborneandlittle.com, fabricated by George Perry Interiors; painting above settee by Jackie Battenfield, jackiebattenfield.com; Veneto fabric on chairs from Osborne & Little, Magnus rug from Stark.

Page 115: Out For A Spin wallcovering by Phillip Jeffries; Aliza carpet from Stark; bed fabric by Pierre Frey through The Martin Group; custom night stands by SD Home; lamps from Arteriors, arteriorshome.com; slipper chair upholstered by Partners in Design in Great Plains fabric from Holly Hunt; bench at foot of bed designed by SD Home, with upholstery by Partners in Design; rug from Stark; drapery fabric by Osborne & Little, fabricated by George Perry Interiors.

A LASTING LEGACY

PAGES 116-127

Architecture: Arthur C. Hanlon, Shope Reno Wharton, Norwalk, Conn., 203-852-7250, shoperenowharton.com

Interior design: Sharon Cameron Lawn, Sharon Cameron Lawn Interiors, Newport, R.I., 401-662-6302, sclinteriors.com

Builder: Russell Greenhaigh, Chopmist Hill Woodworks, North Scituate, R.I., 401-374-3143

Interior millwork: Chopmist Hill Woodworks, and Architectural Woodworking, Coventry, R.I., 401-821-5070

Landscape, hardscape, and pool design: Katherine Field, Katherine Field & Associates, Newport, R.I., 401-848-2750, katherinefield.com

Landscape contractor: Mike Ward, Fields of Dreams Tree Farm & Landscaping, North Stonington, Conn., 860-599-2559

Audio/video design/installation: Maverick Integration, Nashua, N.H., 603-637-1306, maverickintegration.com


Swimming pool build/install: Tom Hendricks, Hendricks Pools, Seekonk, Mass., 508-336-7410

Pages 120-122: Striped entry chairs from Roche Bobois, roche-bobois.com; family room rug from Faber's Rug Company, faberrug.com; custom sofas and coffee table from Sharon Cameron Lawn Interiors; sofa fabric from Robert Allen, robertalldesign.com; dining table by Jeff Soderbergh, jeffsoderbergh.com; custom chandelier from Sharon Cameron Lawn Interiors; hand-blown glass branches from Clancy Designs, clancydesigns.com; dining chairs from Roche Bobois; game table by Jeff Soderbergh; custom chairs from Sharon Cameron Lawn Interiors in Robert Allen fabric; sculpture over fireplace by Peter Diepenbrock, peterdiepenbrock.com; custom sofa and loveseat from Sharon Cameron Lawn Interiors with Robert Allen fabric; crab accessory from Florijn, florijnhome.com.

Page 123: Pendants from Simon Pearce, simonpearce.com; refrigerator from Sub-Zero, subzero-wolf.com; custom cabinets crafted by Architectural Woodworking.

Page 124: Bed from Drexel Furniture, drexel-furniture.com; custom chairs from Sharon Cameron Lawn Interiors with Robert Allen fabric.

Page 125: Tub from Victoria + Albert, vandabaths.com.

Page 127: Chandelier from Moooi, moooi.com; chess game from Testosterone Aspen, testosteroneaspen.com; swivel chairs from Sharon Cameron Lawn Interiors. 

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