

# Tell Vie a In a home with turrets, you really only have one option: Play the castle card. interior designer LISA THARP / architect TMS ARCHITECTS / writer KAITLIN MENZA / photographer MAX KIM-BEE



### LISA THARP IS TRYING TO

remember how many window seats are in this house. "So there's one in the living room. There's one, two, three, four in the family room. One at the top of the stairs, one in the front entry. I think that's nine?"

If it sounds like a storybook setting, that's because it is: The windows overlook a view of the rolling New England countryside and the surrounding grounds designed by

Frederick Law Olmsted (when he wasn't landscaping Central Park, the U.S. Capitol Building, or America's state parks). Tharp worked with TMS Architects to renovate the 1890s carriage house, taking care to emphasize the indoor-outdoor connection. "It was converted to a house years ago with myriad additions—those were all stripped back to the original footprint, which was then sensitively added onto for this 21st-century family," she explains. On the keep list? Turrets, nooks, exposed rafters, and fireplaces.

To further compel the clients and their guests to look outside, the downstairs windows forgo treatments and were accented with rough beams that echo the rafters (themselves blasted with a baking-soda abrasion to appear lighter and more in line with the home's modern additions). Up went more beams, gray cabinets, and live-edge shelves built into a castle-like arch. The overall vibe was "a European stone carriage house married with a Napa Valley winery," Tharp says.

Lest it all become too sedate, particularly funky light fixtures abound: modern and graphic (in the kitchen), oversize and airy (in the master bedroom), and geometric (in the master bathroom). "When you have vertical height, you have permission to go big," the designer explains.

All this whimsy peaks in a turret bedroom covered in lilac Phillip Jeffries grass cloth. A window seat is piled high with cushions. "We took the principles from downstairs and went further: Use colors and neutrals, mix patterns, have fun," Tharp says. "The eaves remind you that you are not in a new house, that you have history. And I think it transports you."



# LIVING ROOM

The home's original rafters were revealed in the renovation, and the fireplace was plastered in icy gray to offset the purple furnishings. Lanterns: The Urban Electric Co. Sofa: client's own. Ottoman: America Dural. Rug: Alexander McQueen via The Rug Company. Bust: Caproni Collection. Chairs: Lisa Tharp Collection. Mantel art: Masako Kamiya via Gallery Naga.

## **KITCHEN**

"When I saw she wanted the stone flooring for the kitchen, that helped define the vision," says Tharp. Flooring: Exquisite Surfaces. Range: Thermador. Faucet: Waterworks.

















# The Neutral Zone

"I wanted to make sure that we brought in an elegance to balance all of the rustic elements," says Tharp. Thus, Benjamin Moore's Galveston Gray and Farrow & Ball's Pitch Black were brought in for balance. "I love using color as a neutral," she says. "Take the amethyst living room: When you use a singular color in all of its different shades and depth, it becomes the neutral of the space."

BREATH OF FRESH AIR BY BENJAMIN MOORE