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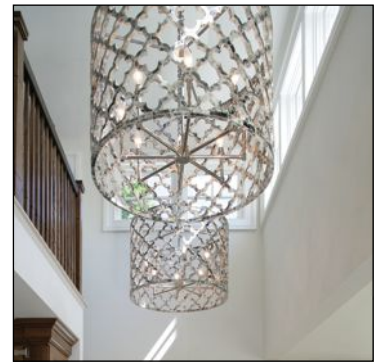
HOME

+ DESIGN



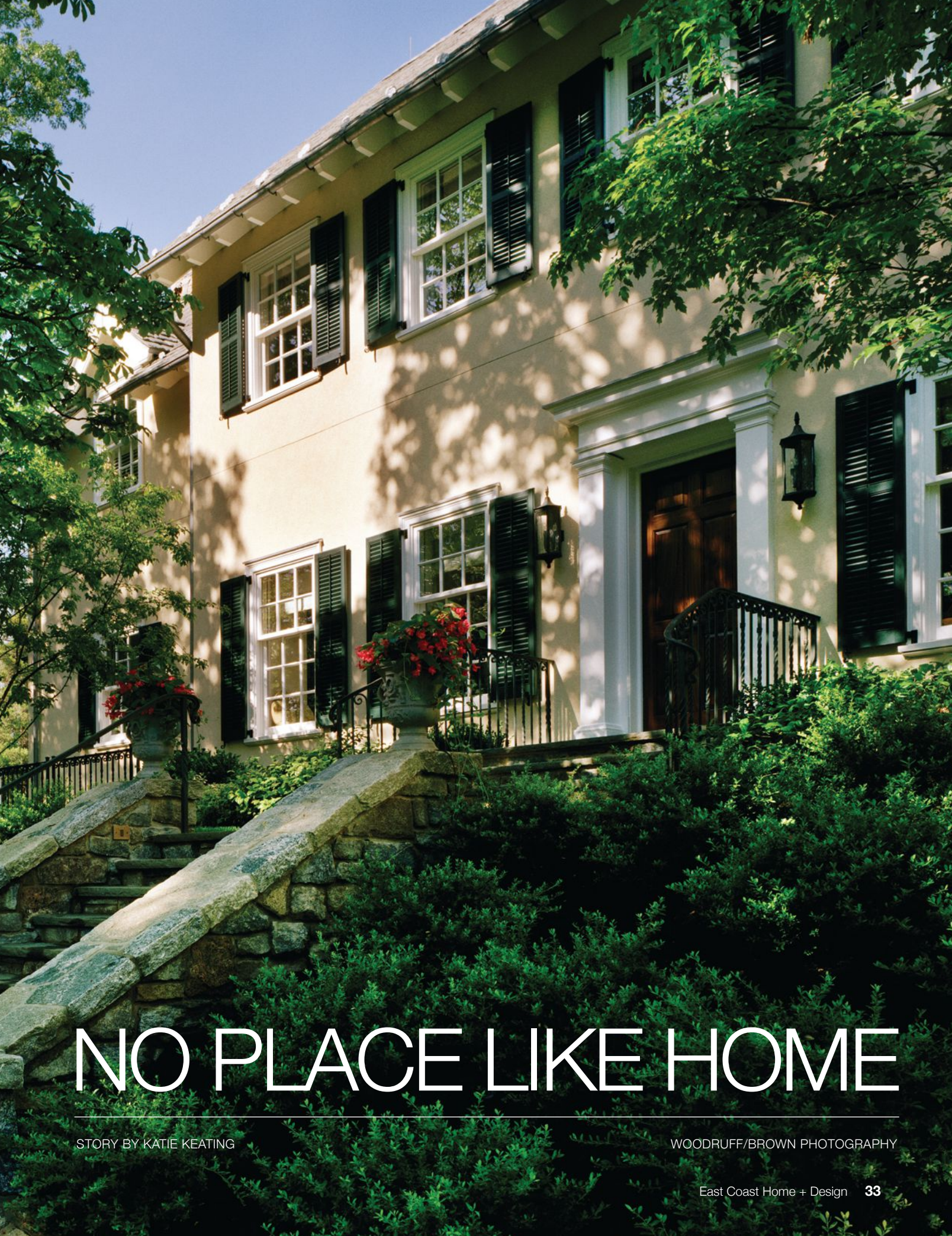
May/June

Architects Chuck Hilton and Doug Vanderhorn collaborate with Interior Designer Amy Andrews of Katherine Cowdin Inc. to create the ultimate guest house in Bronxville. Interior Designer Susan Glick designs a sophisticated space in Westport with a brilliant mix of neutrals and pops of color. Kyle Timothy Blood of Kyle Timothy Home transforms a 19th Century Victorian from dark and cramped to light and airy in Rye.





Mature plantings and long ago established trees mark the entrance to this New York home. The classic Westchester stucco faced colonial offers a warm welcome to all those who pass through its doors.



NO PLACE LIKE HOME

STORY BY KATIE KEATING

WOODRUFF/BROWN PHOTOGRAPHY

Dorothy said it best when she clicked her heels three times and repeated, “There’s no place like home”. Perhaps the same could be said of this stunning project by the esteemed architectural firm of Hilton VanderHorn. Based in Greenwich, Connecticut, they find that much of their work is located in Fairfield County, Connecticut and Westchester County, New York. For this two-phase project, they would begin by adding much needed room to a stately 1915 Bronxville home and culminate the end of the project with the construction of a new guest home on this New York property, beautifully landscaped by Renee Byers.

“It was very important to the clients that their new guest house fit seamlessly into the property and neighborhood,” according to architect, Charles Hilton, adding that “they were terrific clients” to work with. “They were very attentive and understood design drawings” which contributed to the project running smoothly. In addition, “they set out to hire a competent team of designers and construction professionals” which further aided in the successful completion of the job.

With no functioning garages and a lack of recreation space or guest accommodations, the main house, a period Westchester, stucco-faced colonial, was overdue for the addition and some expanded family spaces, which included the new cottage. As interior designer, Amy Andrews so aptly put it; “when your children begin to grow and suddenly, little boys are approaching six feet tall, your once cozy family gathering spaces start to feel a bit cramped”. To address these issues, Hilton designed a new breakfast and family room off of the existing kitchen, roomy enough

A series of columns define the boundaries between the entrance hall and main living area. Rich architectural elements envelop the space and give it a sense of tradition.







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to insure that Sunday dinners could accommodate extended family and each one had a seat to watch “ball games on TV”. While this alleviated immediate space issues, it became clear that as this family continued to grow, they would need additional room for entertaining and for providing comfortable accommodations for weekend and holiday visitors alike. Hence, phase two would begin and yield the ultimate “vacation” house right in their own backyard”. Additionally, there would be a second homecoming of sorts as surrounding property that had once been part of the original parcel would be purchased and reassembled to support the site requirements for the new guest house,

garages, pool and terraces.

On the first floor of the guest cottage, a combined living and dining area flow naturally to the outside terraces. French doors provide a perfect segue to the exterior dining and fireplace areas. Warm and inviting guest bedrooms on the second level appear to have their “own personalities”. A trio of built-in day beds run perpendicular to an equal number of inviting twin beds sporting striped fabric headboards and finely milled linens in the spacious loft on the third floor. A full basement anchors the home and offers recreational space that can be used year round.

Though inspired by the architecture of the main house, the new cottage’s interi-

Natural light floods the open public spaces of the cottage. A custom over sized Vermillion carpet unifies the living and dining areas.

OPPOSITE TOP Recessed glass pocket doors above the breakfast bar enable you to close off the kitchen from the dining area.

OPPOSITE BOTTOM Warm and inviting, the home’s kitchen boasts a mix of natural stone surfaces, high-end appliances and classic custom cabinetry.





Year round entertaining is possible in this well appointed recreational space located on the lower level of the home.



TOP Soothing neutrals with a dash of floral accents help make up the scheme in the master bedroom. White onyx has been used for the fireplace surround.

BOTTOM Multiple twin and bunk beds offer additional sleeping space on the third floor loft.



Inspired by the architecture of the main house, the cottage was designed to accommodate large gatherings of family and friends.

There is a natural segue from the interior living areas to terraces that surround the pool. Classical columns support covered porches while a natural stone path pulls you into the pool area.





ors appear more transitional in style and less formal in its design aesthetic. A series of columns define the space between the entrance and public spaces. Rich millwork with classically inspired details, envelop the interiors, infusing it with charm and a strong sense of tradition. Dark stained wood floors seem juxtaposed against the clean white beams crossing the ceiling above. In the entrance hall area, a window seat provides a sweet retreat on a rainy day for curling up with a good book. Natural light fills the main living space courtesy of French doors and transom windows. The soothing neutral palette keeps things light and bright. At one end, a comfortable seating arrangement has been centered in front of the fireplace wall, promoting intimate conversation and offering a warm spot to cozy up and watch a movie by the fire. Neutral fabrics lend to the contemporary feel of the space. The sofa table and pair of hurricane lamps appear to set

up an informal wall between the living and dining areas. Eight can be seated comfortably around the custom dining table. Both the table and chandelier above were designed by David Latesta. An oversized wool area rug by Vermillion adds subtle pattern to the scheme and both grounds and unifies the two separate seating areas.

Counter service is always available at the smartly designed breakfast bar. Whether you're having a casual cocktail, hoping for conversation with the cook, or yearning for that morning coffee and a croissant, this semi-circular bar offers informal dining for adults and children alike. This clever design offers open access to the kitchen when needed or the ability to close off the kitchen via recessed glass doors.

The kitchen offers state of the art appliances, rich stone surfaces and finely detailed custom cabinetry. Limestone for the floor, Cesar Stone on the counters and

a stone mosaic backsplash add to the rich feel in the space. Glass front cabinets running around the upper perimeter of the kitchen lift the eye up giving the room height and additional reflective surfaces for natural light entering the room. A well proportioned center island offers plenty of prep-surface for the chef as well as kitchen seating for four. Classic cabinet details complement the architectural elements seen in the surrounding spaces. The custom kitchen cabinetry is by Deane.

On the lower level, rainy days don't put a damper on recreational activities. This open space offers sufficient room to include a game table, billiard table, com-

The cottage and its surrounding outdoor living spaces were designed to fit seamlessly into the fabric of the neighborhood. A rustic stone fireplace provides a focal point for an outdoor living space.

RESOURCES

ARCHITECTS

Hilton VanderHorn Architects

Charles Hilton
Douglas VanderHorn
31 East Elm Street
Greenwich, CT 06830
203.862.9011

Interior Designer

Katherine Cowdin, Inc.

Amy Andrews
33 East Elm Street
Greenwich, CT 06830
203.661.4844
amya@kcowdin.com

General Contractor

Significant Homes

Matt Matthews
199 Elm Street
New Canaan, CT 06840
203.966.5700
mattshouses@aol.com

Landscape Architect

Renee Byers Landscape Landscape Architect, P.C.

Renee Byers
10 Avon Road
Bronxville, NY 10708
914.337.3103
info@reneebyers.com



fortable bar area and large scale custom designed sectional sofa in the seating area. The fieldstone fireplace adds a rustic feel to the room which is accessed by dual staircases flanking the fireplace. In nicer weather, friends and family moves outdoors and gather by the pool or take advantage of the sprawling property. Kids can enjoy the built-in trampoline, a friendly game of lacrosse or pick-up game of basketball.

At the end of the day, spa-like amenities await the lucky guest who accepts an invitation to stay the night. Like a five star inn, both bed and bathrooms offer a luxurious escape from your everyday routine. Refined limestone surfaces, a bubbling Jacuzzi and the last flicker from a smoldering fire in your bedroom fireplace help send you off on a good night's sleep.

Much as once divided sections of this property have found their way home and

since been made whole again, so too do family and friends when they knock on this home's front door. Surrounded by those they love and with every amenity at their fingertips, it's easy to see why there's truly "no place like home". ■

Katie Keating is an interior designer and freelance writer and can be reached at 203.339.5820 or at katiekdesign@yahoo.com.