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summer's here

insider's
guide to
bermuda

53
pages of
before & after
ideas, ideas, ideas

second chance

Architect Lyman Perry gave a bland beach house on Nantucket the makeover it deserved.



After: charm and character,
open to light and views

It's not every day that a crumpled napkin clinches a real estate deal—but it did for Julia and Larry Pollock.

The Ohio couple started the morning on Nantucket's Siasconset Bluff, transfixed by the view but concerned about the problematic house behind them. It was, in Julia's words, "a mold fest." That's when their agent pulled the napkin out of his pocket to reveal a scrawled redesign that the home's owner,



Before: lack of architectural
distinction, dark rooms

TEXT BY LISA CREGAN | PHOTOGRAPHY BY TERRY POMMETT
STYLING BY DUJARDIN DESIGN ASSOCIATES INC.

The once-musty interior is now great for adult entertaining,
but comfortable enough for kids.



The simple hearth inlaid with wave-motif tile (top) replaced a 1970s mantel in the living room. New windows flank the fireplace. Trudy chose oversize wicker chairs for this fresh space, arranging them in what she calls a pinwheel design. New square columns mark the living room entrance (left), which was a bedroom in the original plan. A coffered ceiling gives the illusion of additional height.



architect Lyman Perry, had sketched just the day before. Lyman, who had recently bought the property as an investment, had ideas for the house. A single look at the napkin and Julia and Larry hired Lyman and bought the house in one fell swoop. "I specialize in turning sinking ships into submarines," the architect says.

He quickly identified several challenges. "The house wasn't participating in the site," says Lyman, nor did it have the architectural distinction that the Pollocks wanted. "It was a square box without any character," says Larry. "What we wanted was a 'Sconset cottage built on the sea.'"

With construction due to start on Labor Day, it was hard to believe Lyman's designs for a broad new porch,

The new kitchen gains cottage style from crackled subway tile, "rolled glass" door fronts, and raised-panel doors that also hide the refrigerator. The hardware and plumbing fixtures replicate authentic 1920s designs.



Lyman added French doors to frame an ocean view at the end of the foyer (above). The carpet here honors the home's name, "Lucky Stars." Below: Carved out of a storage area, bath, and laundry, the new dining room features a built-in sideboard and shelving.



Designer's Notebook

Can't change the original footprint? Architect Lyman Perry and interior designer Trudy Dujardin share their tips for making the most of limited space.

Consider room assignments. Just because you have to color inside the lines doesn't mean you can't rearrange the floor plan. Would an unused living area work better as a dining room? Could that empty closet accommodate a powder room? Explore options for reorganization.

Choose bold details. Lyman specified wider-than-normal trim on exterior windows. The trim adds drama to the facade because it overlaps surrounding shingles.

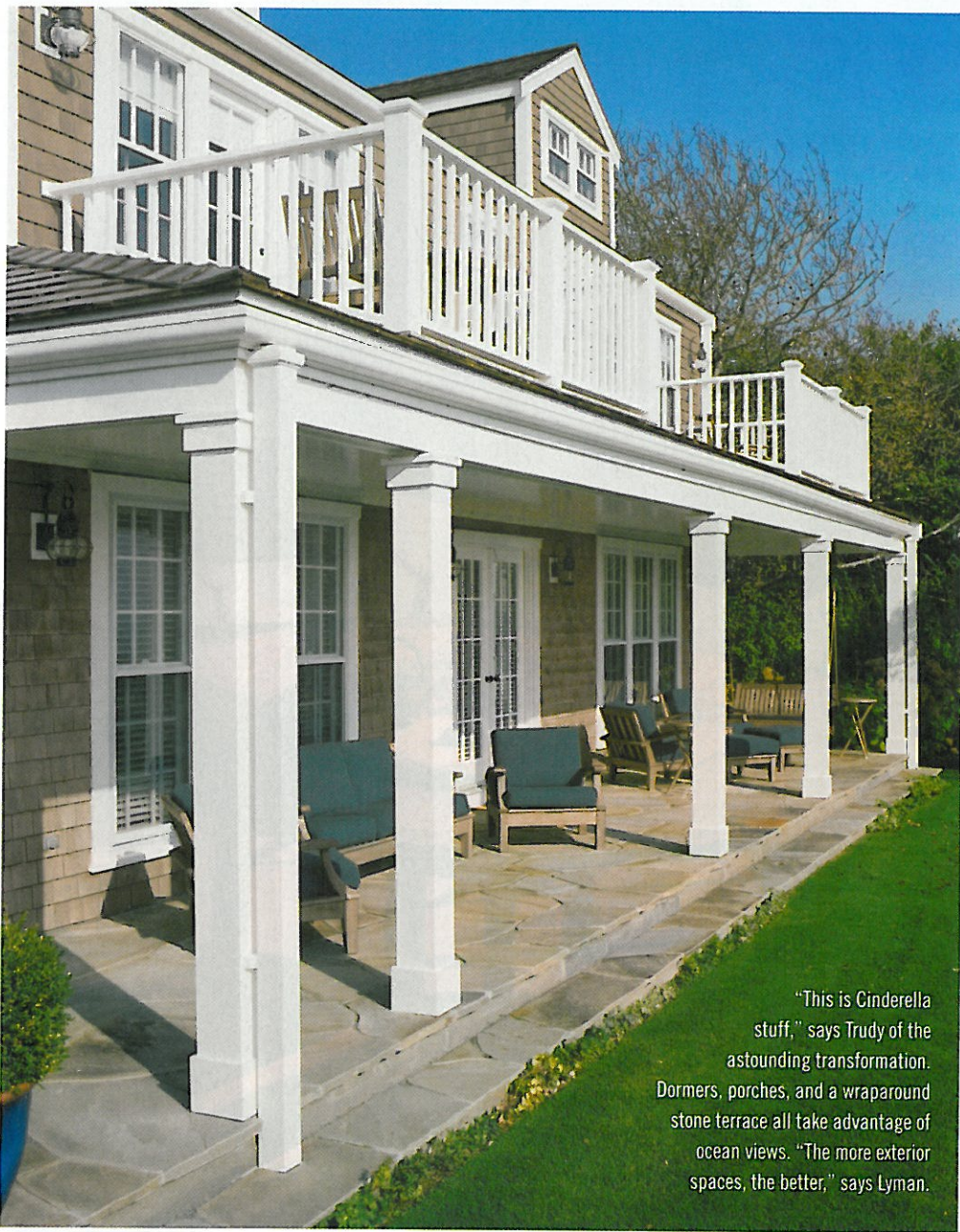
Make every space count. "If you add a dormer window, add a seat," says Lyman. "Then it's not just an empty dormer, it's a place to read a book." Claim the nooks under staircases and build cabinets to the ceiling for extra storage. Maximize floor space with built-ins instead of furniture.

Aim high. Make use of attic space by raising the roof. Add second stories whenever possible.

Stretch out. Zoning usually allows the addition of non-heated spaces such as porches and decks. Always research the regulations in your town before initiating construction.

Lighten up. Add windows and doors to let in light and open the house to the view.

The house's new design is much more open to ocean views. Porches extend from upstairs bedrooms and the shore terrace is a much-used party space.



"This is Cinderella stuff," says Trudy of the astounding transformation. Dormers, porches, and a wraparound stone terrace all take advantage of ocean views. "The more exterior spaces, the better," says Lyman.

sweeping stone terraces, and seaside gardens could be completed by the following Fourth of July. But a tight schedule didn't prevent the architect from putting on the brakes when warranted. "We checked on things in February, and the contractor had laid out the kitchen with cardboard where the appliances would go," recalls Julia. "Lyman didn't like it at all. He drew a whole new layout."

Adds Lyman, "Architecture is an art form, not a science. I decided that day that Julia should have a desk in the kitchen window."

He gave the Pollocks' boys, Max, 10, and Jackson, 8, a terrific third-floor suite by opening the ceiling, installing dormers, and extending the main stairs to the top floor. "Those new stairs are the key," notes Lyman. "They give

