

DECORATING

Everything about this home speaks to the homeowners' love of entertaining. There's a great flow between the kitchen and dining and living rooms, thanks to the open floor plan, which allows guests to mingle throughout the space. In the dining room, large ginger jars animate the vignette and can be positioned at either end to form a more intimate setting for smaller dinner parties. The antique iron chandelier creates a cosy canopy over the table and adds to the relaxed country atmosphere. **Interior design, drapes**, Scott Yetman Design; **ginger jars, vase, white bowl** (on island), Celadon; **chandelier** by Formations, Jerry Pair; **flooring**, Eurolegno.

Warm Welcome

INTERIOR DESIGNER SCOTT YETMAN CREATES A FRESH, EAST COAST-INSPIRED HOME THAT'S PERFECT FOR HOSTING A CROWD.

Text by SYDNEY LONEY | Photography by ANDRÉ RIDER

The homeowners were inspired by the shingled cottages of Sconset, a village on Nantucket Island. A gambrel roof and stone chimney have farmhouse appeal. **Architect**, Alan Bellavance; **contractor**, Breton et Fils; **landscape architect**, Micheal Dooley; **landscape contractor**, Denis Dubois; **masonry**, Romeo Bissonnette.



THERE'S A REASON all the best parties end up in the kitchen. So much more than a place to cook, a great kitchen can be the anchor for a truly inviting home — especially one that belongs to serious entertainers. And that's exactly the case in this elegant country manor. The homeowners were downsizing and wanted a welcoming space where they could host friends and family and spend their downtime in sophisticated comfort.

Interior designer Scott Yetman and his team were part of the process from the beginning, signing on when there was nothing more than a two-acre plot of land on a quiet street in historic Knowlton, Que. The area has a mix of Victorian and mid-1800s Loyalist clapboard homes, which lend a distinctly East Coast vibe to the village — and it was that sensibility the homeowners hoped to capture in their New England-style house.

Inside, Yetman obliged by painting the home's wood-plank walls in classic white and using a palette of muted tones inspired by seaside-weathered wood for the floors and cabinetry. "The architectural backdrop is the same throughout," says Yetman. "What changes the character of each room is the artwork and the furniture, but the house itself reads as a unified whole."

Despite its modest 2,500-square-foot size, the open-concept floor plan, large windows and 14-foot vaulted ceilings make the house feel airy and spacious, and on the main floor, Yetman created a layout that invites movement and mingling.

Nearly a year after construction started, the homeowners hosted a celebratory dinner for friends. Guests savoured roast duck, risotto and the warm, refined atmosphere. The evening was "elegant but simple," says Yetman. Exactly what he'd hoped to achieve.



In the mudroom, the walls are clad in shiplap boards, while an antique painted dresser functions as both furniture and art. The original patina adds texture and picks up on the soft pink undertone Yetman used as an accent elsewhere in the home. **Bells, vase, Celadon; dresser**, Scott Yetman Design; **mirror**, RH Restoration Hardware.



Eschewing matching pieces for a more collected look, designer Scott Yetman went with a mix of chair styles and wood finishes in the dining room. Natural light floods the room, making the 10-foot farmhouse table glow against the pale palette. **Table, chairs, sideboard, Celadon.**



A coffered ceiling and french doors that look out to the screened-in porch visually expand the kitchen and maximize natural light. Full-height drapes are a polished touch, while the island does double-duty as both a functional workstation (featuring a farmhouse sink, dishwasher and storage on both sides) and a comfortable spot to enjoy a morning coffee. Many of the kitchen's hardworking elements are built-in or otherwise hidden, including the fridge. Additional cabinets are tucked away around the corner in the pantry, which allows the island to take centre stage. Iron elements are a consistent design detail through the house, from hardware to sconces to drapery rods. **Cabinetry and island design**, Scott Yetman Design; **cabinetry and island fabrication**, Armoires Centre de Cuisine Granby; **stools, tray**, Celadon; **plant, pot (on porch)**, Bromewood.

DREAM KITCHEN

POLISHED COUNTRY

HOUSE & HOME: *The kitchen is the most utilitarian room in the home.*

How did you strike a balance between form and function?

SCOTT YETMAN: It's important to think "furniture," not "cabinets." We custom-designed the cabinets with raised diamond patterns so they feel more like furniture and we pulled the floor colour into the cabinetry for uninterrupted flow. Most of the appliances are in the background. The microwave is built in, and the island blocks the view of the stove from the dining room.

H&H: *What's the key to entertaining in an open-concept kitchen?*

SY: The beauty of hosting in an open kitchen is that you can talk to guests while you're preparing the meal. But you also have to keep things neat and orderly. I like using trays to prevent things from looking messy. They're easy to move around and can be used to display things like glassware, but they can also be put to use when you're entertaining. If you're having a party and want people to serve themselves drinks, just put everything on a tray on the island.

H&H: *People tend to have strong opinions about marble countertops. Why did you use it in this kitchen?*

SY: So many people are afraid to use marble because they worry it will stain, but they've been rolling pastries on marble for thousands of years in Italy for a reason! It's a wonderful material; you just have to have a good sealant. The piece of marble the homeowner chose makes a beautiful backdrop because it has just the right tones for the room, from greige to a bit of grey, running through it.



A 36"-high shelf in the walk-in pantry offers an extra work counter. **Dishes, crockery**, Maison Lipari.



A pair of antique nickel pendants highlight the island. **Pendants**, Celadon.



Tray, Celadon; **glassware**, Maison Lipari.



An eight-burner Thermador stove is dressed up with a luxurious Calacatta marble backsplash, and the hood is enclosed in the same cabinetry used throughout the kitchen for a seamless, sophisticated look. A wall-mounted TV comes in handy during food prep. **Calacatta marble, Ciot; Le Creuset tea towels**, Qui Dort Dine.



TOP LEFT: A stone fireplace keeps the screened-in porch warm during late fall and early spring. **Firescreen, tools**, RH Restoration Hardware.
TOP CENTRE: A cosy bench and high-backed wooden chair fill a corner of the principal bedroom with seating options. **Chair** by Formations, Jerry Pair.
TOP RIGHT: The study's built-ins keep office equipment out of sight. **Artwork** by Joan Pujol, Galerie de Bellefeuille; **plant**, Bromewood.
LEFT: A polished-nickel faucet adds sparkle to the bathroom. **Faucet** by Perrin & Rowe, Batimat.
RIGHT: Yetman loves the linear "busyness" of the shutters in this compact washroom.
BOTTOM LEFT: A Colonial-inspired bench with 5'-high back adds a hint of whimsy in the front entry. **Bench design**, Scott Yetman Design; **bench fabrication**, Armoires Centre de Cuisine Granby.
BOTTOM CENTRE: Wool tartan fabrics give the guest room rustic charm. **Beds**, RH Restoration Hardware; **bedding**, Toile sur Rendez-Vous and Scott Yetman Design.
BOTTOM RIGHT: An embroidered linen towel adds detail to the bath. **Towel**, Qui Dort Dine.



LEFT: Strategically placed between two windows for maximum impact, the principal bedroom's French-inspired bed is dressed in white with accent pillows that pick up the soft pink and green hues in the framed botanicals arranged in a diamond pattern above. Roman shades in pale green add a touch of colour and are electronically operated. **Pillows, throw**, wooden **box, bed** by Suzanne Kasler, **bedside table, sconces**, Celadon; **bedding**, Toile sur Rendez-Vous and Scott Yetman Design; **linen bed cover**, Qui Dort Dine; **rug**, The Red Carpet & Rug Company; **botanical prints**, RH Restoration Hardware.