




PATINA HOMES

GIANNETTI & GIANNETTI

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Giannetti PATINA HOMES

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Provencal



LEFT: Potted cypress, olive and boxwood surround the carved limestone fountain in the stair hall. **ABOVE:** Light pours into the stairway through a set of south-facing, two-story glass windows. Exterior-style wall lanterns on a limestone wall and large limestone floor pavers give the stairway a feeling of being an exterior courtyard. **OVERLEAF:** Hand-painted wall paneling in pale shades of blue-gray provides a feeling of enclosure to the formal living room. An antique French limestone mantel is the focal point to the room and also adds a bit of rusticity.





ABOVE: The upstairs sitting area walls and ceiling are painted a deep blue-green to create a cozy space for reading or watching TV. RIGHT: A Dennis and Leen tall cabinet with a blue-green finish is located in the upstairs hallway across from an olive tree in a cream-colored cement planter from Elegant Earth.





Maine





PREVIOUS OVERLEAF: The master bedroom has a wall of glass that opens to a large roof deck overlooking the Pacific.

RIGHT: The shower and water-closet spaces become sandblasted glass-and-steel lanterns in the master bath.





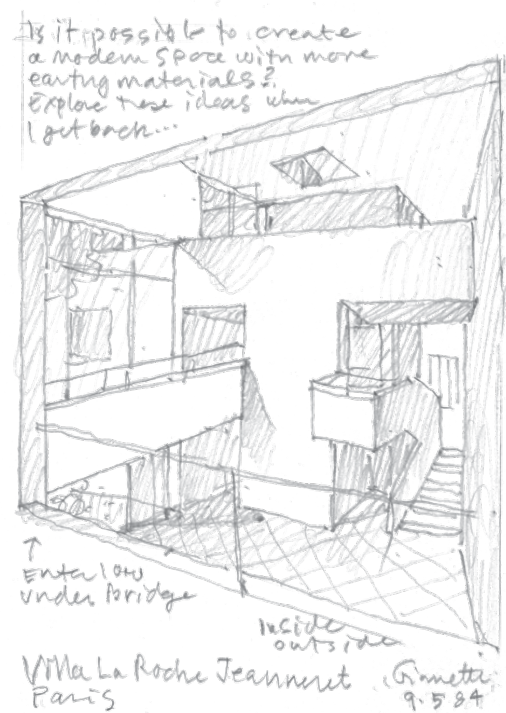


Palm Desert

BELOW: My sketch from 1984 of the Maison La Roche Jeanneret served as inspiration for the living-dining room.

RIGHT: The view of the Santa Rosa Mountains upon entering.

OVERLEAF: A wooden bridge connects the second-floor portions of the home.





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We were given the ambitious commission to renovate and reimagine the interior design of this graceful historic home in bucolic Litchfield County, Connecticut. Five antique structures, ranging from a 17th-century iron monger's home to an 18th-century historically significant house, were assembled into a unique, sprawling estate. Our clients felt a sense of stewardship toward this authentic architecture and had originally designed the interior to match the period. Years later, they felt the interior no longer reflected who they were or how they wanted to live.

With each architectural decision I made during the renovation—whether it was the addition of antique wood shelving in the library, creating a wine room in the cellar or designing a closet in the attic using antique lumber—I wanted to honor the work of the original craftspeople.

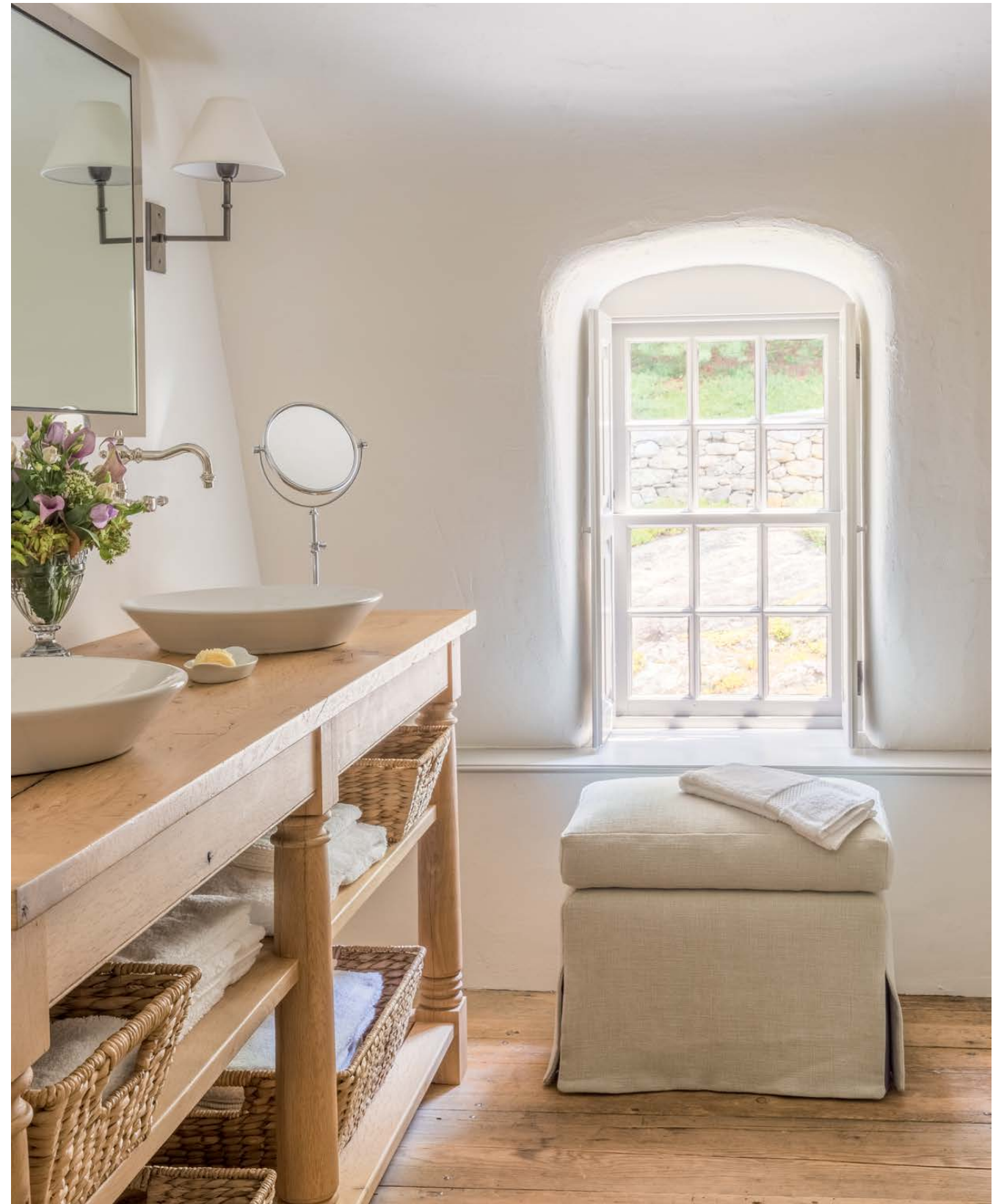
We also wanted to add a calmer, modern feel to the interior design. We reimaged the interior by simplifying the color palette, using Farrow and Ball Pavilion Gray for all the wood wall paneling and Farrow and Ball Wimborne White for the walls, a sunny white that reflects the outside light, making the rooms feel brighter. We updated all the light fixtures, which had felt very dated. Using cleaner, modern fixtures and editing the furnishings gave us the ability to see the stunning architecture.

We incorporated the homeowners' cherished antiques to keep their memories intact and repositioned their collections into groups, giving them more of an impact. We replaced old, bulky, chintz-covered upholstery with clean-lined, natural-linen upholstery, a lovely juxtaposition to the more formal English and Swedish antiques. Removing many of the area rugs allowed the impressively wide, original pine flooring to be appreciated, and we switched out other, floral-patterned hooked rugs with visually soothing natural fiber selections.

It's often more about what you take away than it is about adding more. Especially when the house has a history and natural beauty, it's best to simply respect the integrity of the house.



ABOVE AND RIGHT: We removed the rug from the dining room to expose the impressive, wide-plank pine floors. All of the wood trim, cabinetry and ceiling beams were stripped, revealing the beauty of the natural wood.



LEFT: The guest room uses a neutral palette of natural linens. ABOVE: The guest bath vanity is custom made from old oak beams. OVERLEAF: A wine cellar was created in the basement using antique beams and racks. Giannetti slipcovered "Frasier" chairs surround a tasting table.