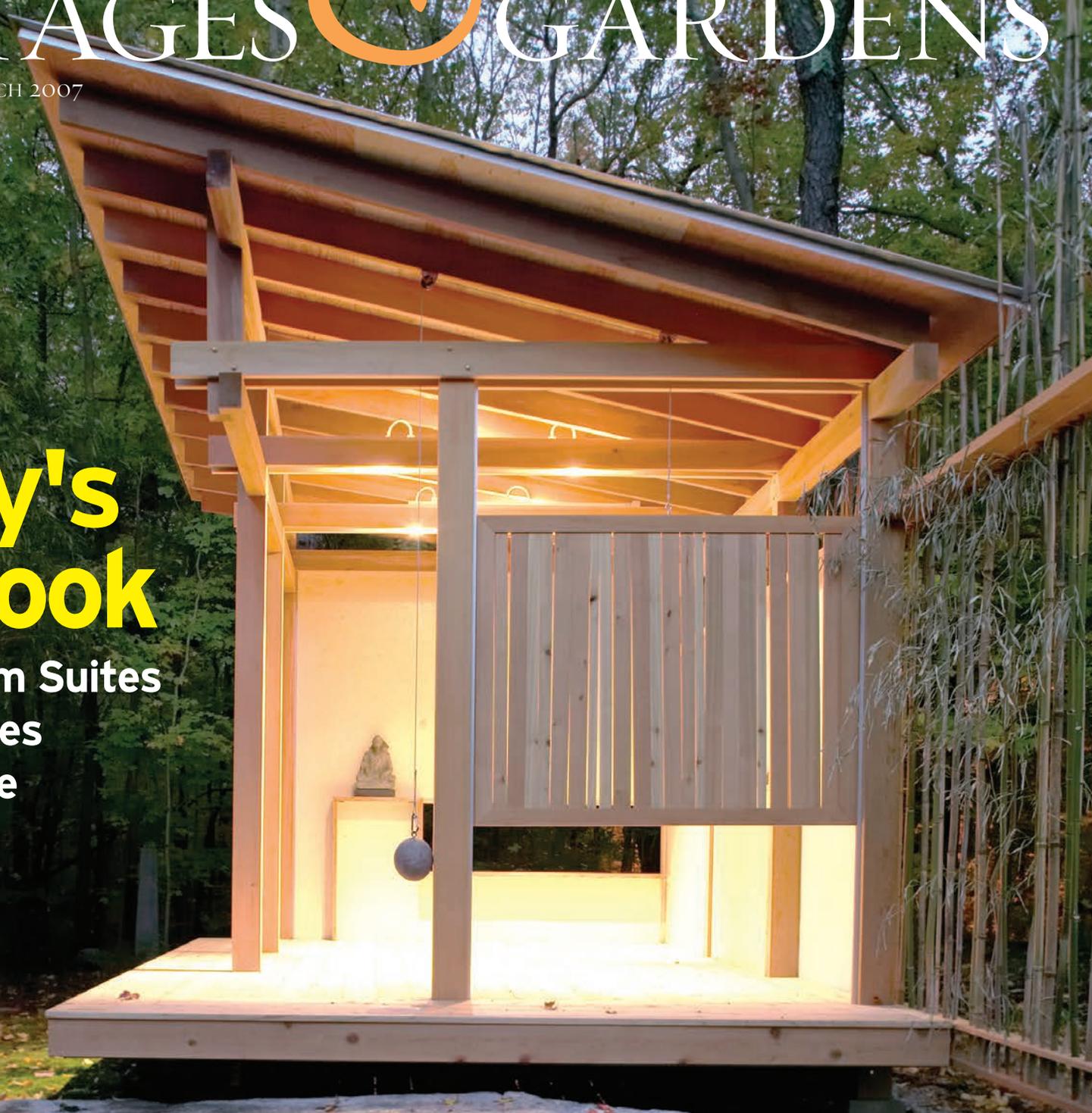


Connecticut COTTAGES & GARDENS

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Luxury's New Look

Master Bedroom Suites
Relaxation Zones
Sports at Home



FASHION STARS FOCUS ON THE HOME



AS SEEN IN
CTC&G
Connecticut Cottages and Gardens

A BREATH OF FRESH AIR

A SHINGLE-STYLE MANSE
IN GREENWICH IS AS
HEALTH CONSCIOUS AS IT
IS HANDSOME

WHEN YESTERYEAR'S STEAMSHIPS plied the waters from Maine to Manhattan, the must-have coastal manse—dotting every inlet, bluff and beachfront—was the shingle-style estate. And for good reason. Built on a base of massive stones and protected by rugged shingles and sheltering eaves, these sturdy homes were designed to withstand New England's harsh winters. Unlike the upright Colonial, which looks bloated when expanded, the rangy shingle style, with its graceful rooflines, welcoming porches and capacious rooms, is supposed to be huge—a fitting residence for the captains of industry who favored them. ■ Today's architects are reviving the style for the same reasons their latter-day counterparts built them: They are as beautiful as they are long lasting.

BY ANN SAMPLE | PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHICHI UBIÑA



Hang a Shingle | Long a staple of New England architecture, shingle-style houses are once again in vogue. For this home in Greenwich, designer Victoria Hagan gave the interior a serene but sophisticated treatment. The living room (PREVIOUS SPREAD LEFT) is grounded in neutrals, from the James Gould carpet to the custom sofa covered in Clarence House fabric. **Surface Appeal** | In the family room (ABOVE), natural hues such as a blue rug from Robert Altman and sand-colored sofa fabric by Rogers & Goffigan echo the rustic exterior (OPPOSITE). Architect Jerry Hupy of Shope Reno Wharton hired the environmental consultation firm Building Science Consultants to maximize eco-friendly materials and design. See Resources.



Consider a Greenwich home designed for a family of six by architectural firm Shope Reno Wharton. Elegant on the outside with dormer windows, stone chimneys and shady porches, the interior, designed by Victoria Hagan, features a color scheme that is both serene and sophisticated, grounded in neutrals, cool blues and navy. With these hues, Hagan created a backdrop appropriate for the homeowner's collection of modern art, which includes a large-scale painting by Alex Katz. Given that the couple wanted their house to be as welcoming to their four children as it is to their guests, the furniture is comfortable and invitingly large in scale.

But the home's surface appeal is only part of its story. Because one of their children has severe allergies, the homeowners made it clear they were looking to reduce levels of toxins, allergens and other irritants whenever possible, for their own health as well as the health of the planet.

"The couple's environmental motivations were both personal and global," says Shope Reno architect and partner Jerry Hupy. His company hired the renowned environmental consultation firm Building Science Consultants



(BSC) to aid in the design. BSC reviewed the exterior construction and advised on its heating and ventilation systems, insulation, moisture control and air quality. "We now incorporate the techniques developed by BSC for this home into all of our projects," says Hupy.

Energy savings starts with the home's shell, which was "super insulated" with high-density foam, thus reducing the incidence of mold. "The insulation creates its own vapor barrier and moves the dew point in the wall to the exterior, eliminating the potential for condensation within the walls," explains Hupy. "It's condensation that can cause mold."

The floor plan also aids in energy conservation. It was designed with a number of deep second-floor porches that create overhangs, which prevent direct sunlight from heating up rooms. Given that the porches can also darken rooms, the firm specified that the soffits of the overhangs be finished in a high gloss. The reflective surface transfers indirect light into the home.

Modern Touch | The pared-down design scheme provides an appropriate backdrop for the homeowners' collection of modern art, including a painting by Alex Katz (ABOVE LEFT) in the gallery. **Toughen Up** | Urban Archaeology's pendant lights (ABOVE RIGHT) give the kitchen an industrial edge. **High Light** | In the dining room (OPPOSITE), an eye-catching chandelier from Amy Perlin Antiques hangs above a custom dining table. The chairs are covered with a fabric from Victoria Hagan's Home line. See Resources.





In addition, an environmentally friendly wood product was used throughout the construction. The home was framed with ilevel's TimberStrand LSL, which is manufactured to limit wood waste. On the market for about 15 years, LSL timbers are made from two renewable wood species, poplar and aspen, whose root systems regenerate without the addition of a new tree. "TimberStrand LSL is more expensive, but in addition to being better for the environment it's a better product," says Hupy. "LSL doesn't have knots, which weaken wood. It also doesn't warp or shrink."

For the interior paneling, the firm specified medium-density fiberboard (MDF), made from tree pulp instead of lumber. Where mahogany was needed, Hupy specified a variety not harvested from rain forests. (Mahogany from South and Central America, such as Honduras mahogany, is on an endangered list due to overharvesting.)

Finally, Hupy reminds us never to underestimate the many uses of duct joint tape, which was applied to maximize HVAC system efficiency. "The taping lowers air leakage from the ducts from a typical 10 to 15 percent to less than five percent," says Hupy. The fresh air that enters the home is filtered to reduce allergens and pollutants, and special hospital-grade HEPA filters were installed in the bedroom of the child with allergies.

All in all, this cutting-edge home is intelligently designed and healthy for both its occupants and our planet. And with Victoria Hagan's elegant interiors, it's also incredibly handsome. Is it any wonder the shingle style continues to thrive after two centuries? 🌞

Reading Room | An Elizabeth Eakins rug provides a light and soothing counterpoint to the otherwise woody library (OPPOSITE). John Rosselli sconces flank a mirror from Amy Perlin Antiques. **Cool Blue** | Cool neutrals and icy blues create a cozy master bedroom (ABOVE). The pillow and drapery fabric is by Victoria Hagan Home, and the custom armchair (TOP LEFT) is covered in a Bergamo fabric. See Resources.