

luxe.

interiors + design®



\$ 9.95 A SANDOW MEDIA PUBLICATION



0 71486 03366 0
VOLUME 10, ISSUE 3 | DISPLAY UNTIL 10/16/12



great dane.

WRITTEN BY JORGE S. ARANGO | PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEITH SCOTT MORTON

“SPEEDY EXECUTION IS THE MOTHER OF GOOD FORTUNE,” GOES AN OLD DANISH PROVERB. Based on that premise, this home in Westport, Connecticut, is simply brimming with providence. Though the design process and the assembly of the team required almost two years, the stunning manse—boasting oculus windows, handwrought ironwork, and a sumptuous turret dome and cupola that required the hand-cutting and soldering of 384 pieces of copper sheeting—was built in just 14 months.

“It was very aggressive, considering everything in the house was custom,” recalls Bill Manderville, who constructed the home. But the clients, a Danish-born shipping executive in his 50s and his American wife (along with three daughters ranging from 9 to 15 years old), had committed

ARCHITECTURE McKee Patterson, AIA, Austin Patterson Disston Architects		
INTERIOR DESIGN William Cummings and Bernt Heiberg, Heiberg Cummings Design		
HOME BUILDER Bill Manderville, Tallman Building Company, Inc.		
BEDROOMS 7	BATHROOMS 7	SQUARE FEET 10,200



NEUTRAL ZONE

Linens and velvets balance the grand architecture without detracting from views: Great Plains from Holly Hunt on the sofa, Rogers & Goffigon's Snow Hill on the wing chairs, and two Hanes lounge chairs from the Heiberg Cummings Collection. Vaughan sconces complement an antique chandelier from Bijan Royal.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 223

to hosting an 80-person wedding at the property for the wife's cousin. They moved in the week of the wedding, just two days before the caterers arrived.

Yet for the quick turnaround, not one step was missed in crafting the elegant residence, which takes its cues from Danish Baroque architecture. "They wanted quite a formal house in its outside presentation," says architect McKee Patterson. "Center driveway, stucco walls, slate roof—something that harked back to classical Scandinavian architecture." The big difference, however, becomes apparent beyond the front door.



DOUBLE BARREL

To the left behind the antique table and mounted tusks—both from Bijan Royal—and beyond the stunning arched doorways, is the living room; to the right, the family room. The floor's rough-cut Belgian bluestone and limestone tiles impart age. Farrow & Ball's Shaded White swaths the walls.



TAILORED LOOK

The clean cut of Milling Road Collection's Wing Host chairs, in C&C Milano's Pienza Cardo upholstery, is a perfect fit for the breakfast room's less elaborate architecture. Dennis & Leen's Louis XIII benches pull up to a Holly Hunt table. The art is by Jaanika Peerna.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 224

"More than anything," explains the wife, "I wanted it to feel like you were outside when you were inside. But I also wanted it to feel European, and that's not easy because Danish homes aren't generally very light-filled." Patterson and Manderville's solution was to line the back of the house with hot-rolled steel French doors, opening the spaces completely to the yard and its breathtaking views of Long Island Sound. Their turn-of-the-century aesthetic works well with the traditional detailing of the interiors, while also addressing the more contemporary desire for sunny rooms.

DEEP FREEZE

The owners' request for a walk-in refrigerator informed the kitchen's early-1900s commercial aesthetic: white subway tiles and an entire cabinetry wall that looks like a series of cold-storage units. The Sorenson 16 pendants over the island are from Remains Lighting.



SIMPLY SWANKY

The dining room owes its subtle glamour to glossy walls that embrace its oval space, Deco-inspired Plante side chairs from Dessin Fournir, and an antique bronze chandelier and candelabra from Bijan Royal. Tui Pranich's Galloway dining table and reclaimed floors bring it back down to earth.

STYLE SELECTION

This solid walnut dining chair channels modern French design with its hard-carved fluted legs and feminine silhouette. *Plante Side Chair*, price available upon request; dessinfournir.com



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 227

The interior spaces are elegantly nuanced, telegraphing timeworn beauty that belies the new construction. Part of this comes from the wealth of architectural detailing and choice of materials: rough-cut Belgian bluestone and limestone floors in the foyer and kitchen; in other rooms, reclaimed plank floors that have been hand-scraped, pillowed and hand-waxed; recessed paneling; dentil moldings and the 19th-century ice-box aesthetic of the kitchen's cabinet wall. But it also owes a tremendous debt to the sophisticated organic style of interior designers Bernt Heiberg and William Cummings. The men conjured a mix of refinement and comfort that perfectly dovetails with the family's needs. "I wanted everything to feel rich," says the wife. "But I have three girls here, and every day is a party, so it had to be functional. Bernt and William were brilliant with texture and color."



BREAK IT DOWN

Treating the home's sections as architecturally different suggests an older structure that was built over time, while helping to break down the mass of the house. Raising it all above grade also enabled terraces and the pool to tuck below windows, thus not obstructing the water views.



COTTAGE WATTAGE

Wainscoting and whitewashed timber framing bring cottage aesthetics to the capacious sunporch. DeLany & Long's Buoy Noir striped fabric covers Amalfi chairs from Janus et Cie. Foreground seating is by Walters Wicker.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 229

"Because the house is so grand," explains Cummings, "we made the décor as understated as possible. There's an earthiness to everything." So, curtains may be lined with silk velvet, but their outward face is raw Belgian linen. The dining room may emanate high-gloss polish, but the solid integrity of a market table leavens the Deco swank of the chairs surrounding it, and the distressed wood floors keep the glamour of a gilded mirror and bronze chandelier in check.

There are antiques—the wife had owned an antiques store before starting a family—but the overall furnishings are custom and reflect



DIFFERENT STROKES

Varied seating helps define terrace areas serving distinct functions: Shadow lounges from David Sutherland for relaxing, metal Klismos chairs by Michael Taylor Designs around the dining table for meals, and Janus et Cie's Etruscan-inspired Amalfi sofa and chairs for conversation.



SOFT SELL

Supple textures and a soothing palette of whites invite unwinding. A silk rug from Sam Kasten Handweaver in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, grounds Dennis & Leen's Louis XV lounge chairs covered in Rogers & Goffigon fabric, a Loire four-poster bed from John Rosselli and the owners' antique Scandinavian Biedermeier chest.



WATER VIEWS

The master bathroom feels airy and light thanks to a Maax soaking tub from Klaff's (with P.E. Guerin fixtures), which stands before Torrance steel French doors and looks out onto Long Island Sound.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 232

a "historically referenced contemporary style," says Cummings. They are comfortable and unpretentious. "Understated furnishings are still elegant. We try not to bring attention to things that are already obviously beautiful, like the architecture. If you were to accent these, the spaces would become quite kinetic and less relaxing."

Oh, and the wedding? Just in case you were looking for still more proof of the wisdom of that Danish proverb...it went off without a hitch, and the couple remain happily married. **L**