

Seaside Elegance

A remodel makes the view the main event

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Above: The remodeled home evokes "old Cape Cod" outside with cedar shakes, window boxes, shutters, and monolithic granite steps.
 Below: One of the objectives was to add more windows to take in the spectacular water views.

IT WAS A HOUSE THAT LACKED A VIEW, BUT NOT BECAUSE THERE WASN'T ONE.

The Orleans home had a great location surrounded by conservation land with woodlands and amazing estuaries. The problem was the house, built in 1996, didn't take advantage of its setting. The windows weren't large enough. The open floor plan was what the new owners were looking for, but it was in need of rearranging and updating.

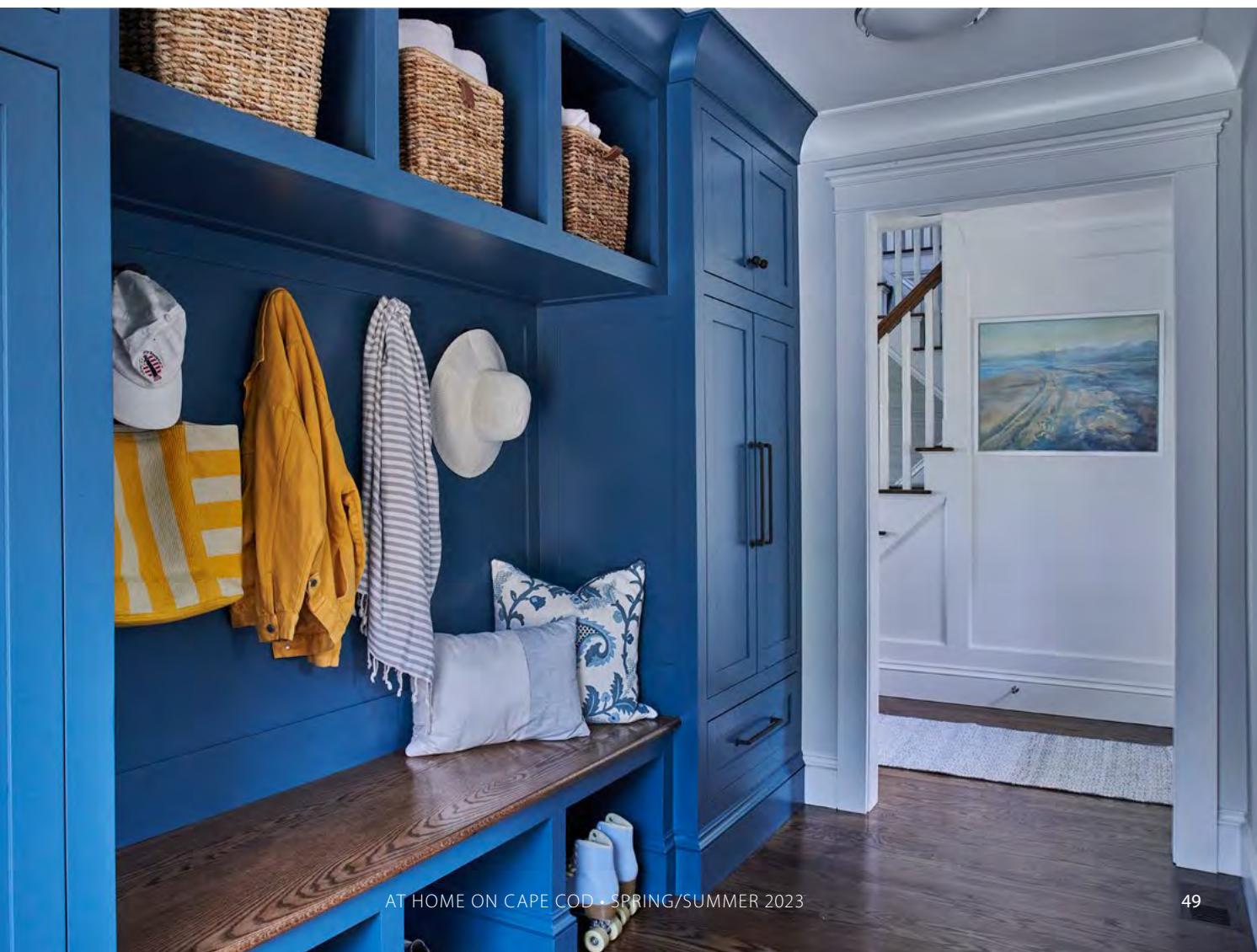
"We wanted a place in which we could totally relax...comfortable and unassuming with the amazing view doing most of the talking!" says the homeowner, who contracted SV Design in Chatham after purchasing the property in 2019. The home was completed in 2021.

The finished project was just what they had envisioned: "Coastal, welcoming with a cool and peaceful color palette."

"We worked hand and glove with our builders, the Spencers, and our SV Design



Above: A window box lends Cape Cod charm to the exterior.
 Right: A fanciful contemporary wallpaper perks up the downstairs powder room that features a custom vanity built by Spencer & Company.
 Below: The mudroom includes built-in cabinets and a bench.

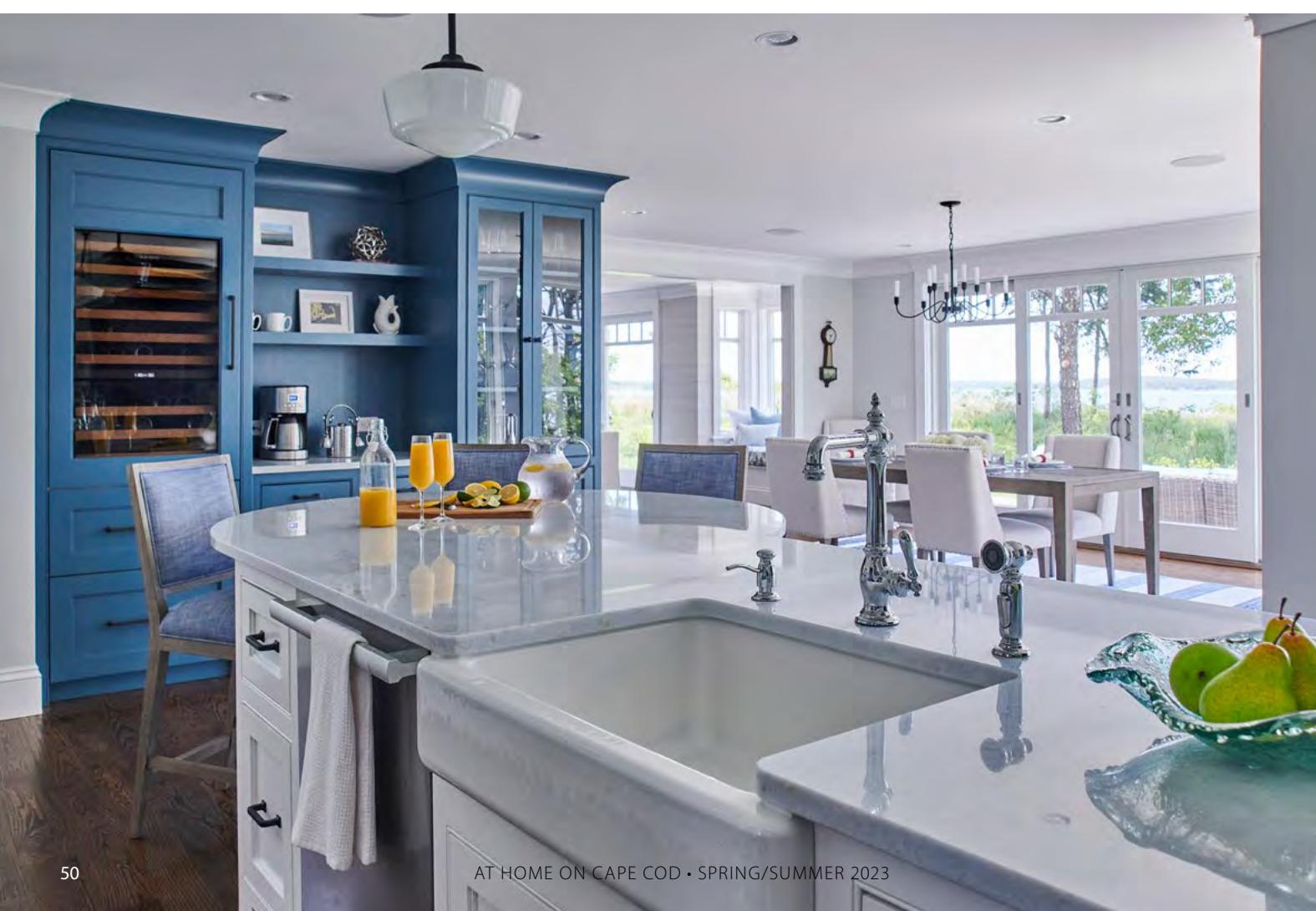


team," she said. As we did most of the work remotely (lots of Zoom calls) during the pandemic, we were able to put down time to good use."

The original transitional-style house, which now has four bedrooms and five bathrooms, was essentially gutted and remodeled into a traditional home that evokes "old Cape Cod" outside with cedar shakes, window boxes, and additional shutters. The driveway, which previously went right up to the front of the house, was pulled back and a front lawn and entry porch with columns and monolithic granite steps were added.

The home's floor plan was opened up and walls changed, while respecting the owners' desire for a classic house. Crown molding detail adds a classic feature and enhanced character throughout the home. A half-bath was added off the entry as was a mudroom with built-in cabinets for organizing coats and hats and a bench for taking off those sandy shoes and muddy boots. Windows with cushioned benches in the living room invite reading and nature-gazing.

Right: A chaise lounge is the perfect place to read a book.
Below: The blue and white coastal palette is reflected in the open plan kitchen-dining area.



Above: The dining area has a commanding view of the water. Left: Blue and white make for a soothing color palette in the main bedroom, which features built-in cabinets that replace conventional bedside nightstands and a custom tufted headboard.

The stunning bathroom in the main bedroom is a restful space made unique with a dramatic window and soaring ceiling.



For the interior, SV Design created a soothing coastal palette, mainly blue and white, and the house has a casual feel with touches of elegance such as grasscloth wallpaper in the more formal living area, and an unexpectedly exuberant patterned wallpaper in the powder room.

One of the challenges of the prior layout was that the kitchen was in the middle of the house and access to the dining room meant walking through the kitchen workspace. The new floor plan moved the kitchen back so that it flows into the dining and family living areas seamlessly. Beams were added to the soaring white shiplap ceiling in the family room for a traditional look, and the original oak floors throughout the home were refinished in a medium brown hue.

The “working” part of the kitchen features white Shaker-style cabinetry with wrought iron hardware, light blue marble counters and a curved island with seating. The whiteness of the kitchen is nicely offset

Right: Scallop-shell cedar shakes give a nod to the seaside location of this home. Below: A large deck provides seating for a crowd.





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by a wall of tall, built-in blue cabinets that accommodate a wine fridge, coffee bar, and glass door china cabinet. The new dining area is now adjacent to the kitchen, with a jaw-dropping view of Pleasant Bay through a sliding French door. The cabinetry was custom made by Spencer & Company, Chatham home builders who specialize in high-end residential construction.

"We loved the home's original open layout a lot, it just needed updating," adds the homeowner. "The view is the main event for us, and we couldn't be happier with it." 



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- **Don't rely on your nose alone**. Be alert for the many warning signs of a natural gas leak.
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