

ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

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COVER: The sun porch of a lakefront house in Michigan. Photography by Tony Soluri. See page 234. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Robert Couturier chose Asian art and antique European furniture for the living room of an apartment in a new high-rise in Manhattan. See page 250.

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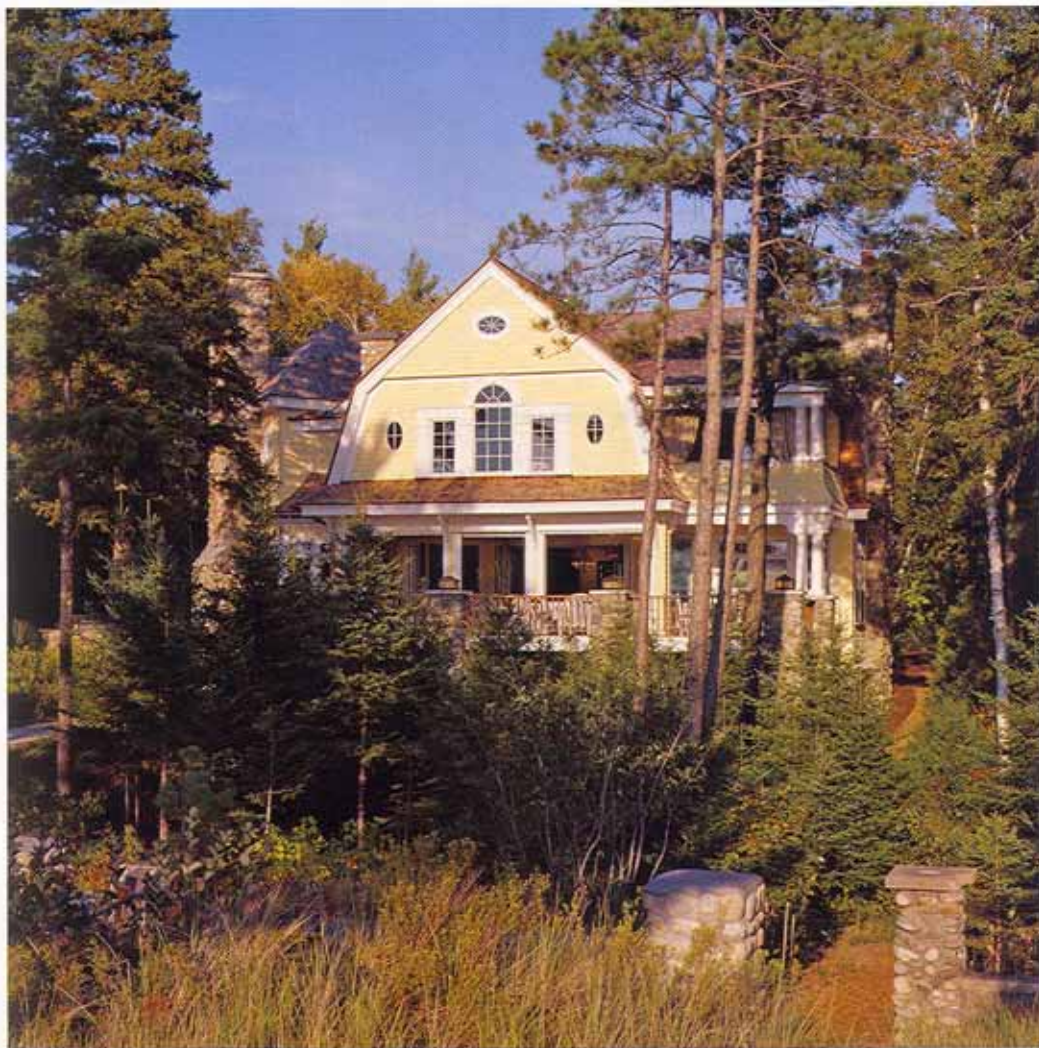
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DURSTON SAYLOR

The Spirit of Summer

ON LAKE MICHIGAN, A HOUSE CAPTURES THE SEASON'S ESSENCE



Architecture by Nicholas J. White, AIA/Interior Design by Lawrence Boeder
Text by Susan Sheehan/Photography by Tony Soluri

In Harbor Springs, a resort community on the northern shore of Lake Michigan, a good piece of waterfront property is hard to find. Summer residents pass their places from one generation to the next. A few years ago William and Patricia Anton had a chance to buy a two-bedroom cottage called Break O Day, which they had rented on and off for a number of years. Instead of tearing it down—that is not the Antons' way—they gave the cottage

to a young couple, who took it apart, moved it and reassembled it on a piece of vacant land they owned down the road. The Antons engaged Nicholas J. White, an architect who lives year-round in nearby Petoskey, Michigan, to design a spacious new house on a lot White describes as “deep, narrow, sand-dune and covered with birches, firs and pines.”

“I designed a traditional Victorian shingled cottage, with fieldstone columns supporting the front entrance porch,”

White says. “They specified that the house should be the same shade as the original cottage, so it’s lemon yellow. They wanted it to be comfortable for two people to live in yet large enough to hold a party for 200. The Antons requested an open floor plan: The idea is to open the front door and look all the way through to the large lake-side porch, where so much of life happens, and beyond the porch to the water.”

The porch has a heated limestone floor and can be screened



OPPOSITE BELOW: Architect Nicholas J. White drew inspiration from local Shingle Style cottages for William and Patricia Anton's northern Michigan summer house. BELOW: "Bright colors and warm light create an inviting atmosphere," designer Lawrence Boeder says of the living room. He continued the vivid palette throughout the residence. The oil is by Pauline Palmer. Low table, Ralph Lauren Home. Lee Jofa chair and pillow check. Sofa trim and carpet, Stark. Scalamandré drapery fabric; Brunschwig & Fils drapery sheer.



The sun porch. Lloyd Flanders wicker furniture. Ralph Lauren Home pillows. Giati sofa cushion fabric. OPPOSITE: Little Traverse Bay is viewed from the west porch. Maureen Parker chose native plants for the landscape. Weatherend Estate table and chairs, with Giati fabrics.









in or glassed in, depending on the weather, by flicking several switches. William and Patricia Anton, the founders of Anton Airfood, the second-largest airport restaurant company in America, also asked White for three kitchens: There is a family kitchen and a catering kitchen on the first floor and an outdoor kitchen overlooking the lake. "We're in the hospitality business, and we like to entertain," says Patricia Anton.

A grand entrance was another wish. White obliged, creating a dramatic main hall on axis with the living room. Crowning the space is a vaulted, trompe l'oeil ceiling. It is a hand-painted vision of blue

sky, multicolored flowers and vines, and fanciful gold-leaved ribbon floating through clouds, inspired by the ceiling in the billiard room of the Medici villa of Poggio a Caiano in Tuscany.

The vibrant hues of the ceiling hint at the rest of the house's palette. "The Antons have no fear of color," says Lawrence Boeder, the Chicago designer introduced to the Antons by White, with whom he had worked previously in northern Michigan. "It was a pleasure to jump right in and select the bright, happy colors Patricia said they liked," Boeder recalls. The first thing ordered for the living room

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Although the Antons entertain often, they eschewed a formal dining room. Instead, various informal indoor and outdoor spaces accommodate guests for meals. LEFT: Named for the original cottage on the property, the Break O Day room serves as a morning gathering place. Sofa and club chairs, Michael Taylor. Stark carpet. TOP: A sun porch offers another dining area. Scalamantré back cushion fabric; Edelman leather on seats. ABOVE: "The master bedroom was inspired by the Venetian glass chandelier and the 18th-century music stand," explains Boeder. Bed and chairs, Julia Gray. Secretary from Holly Hunt. Baker mirror.