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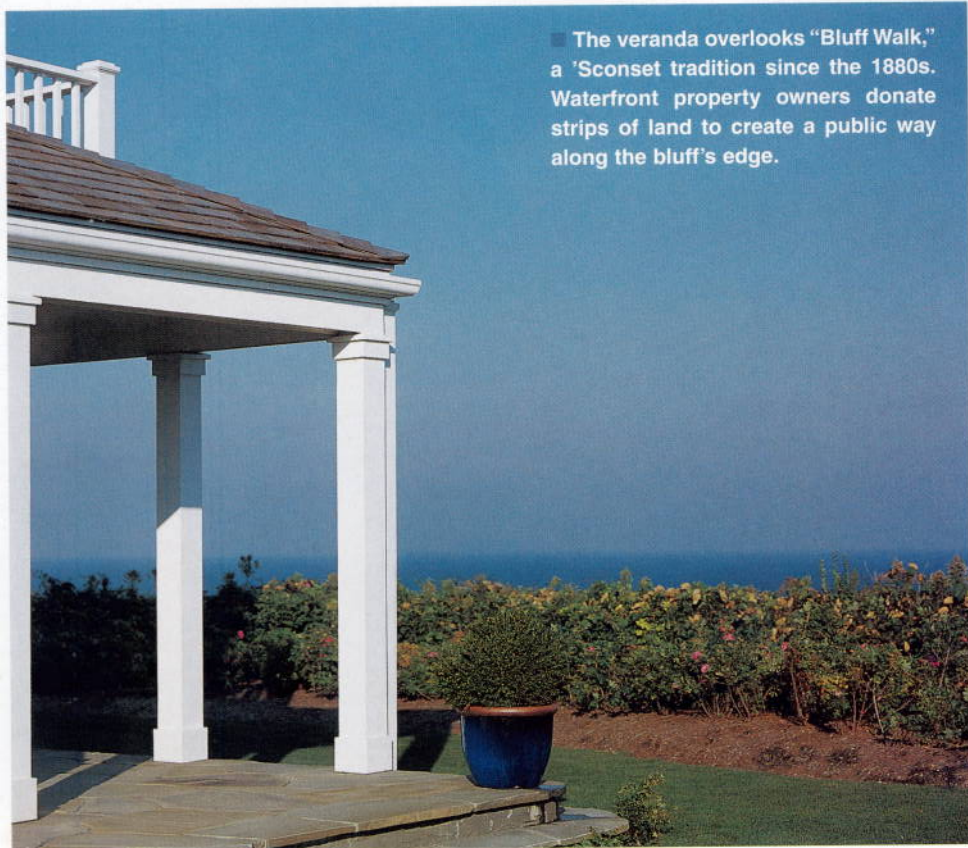
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CAPE COD LIFE PUBLICATIONS



■ The veranda overlooks "Bluff Walk," a 'Sconset tradition since the 1880s. Waterfront property owners donate strips of land to create a public way along the bluff's edge.

Lucky Stars

A NANTUCKET COTTAGE GETS A NEW LOOK WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM ABOVE



Tucked away on a tiny street in 'Sconset is "Lucky Stars," an aptly named 1920s summer cottage poised on a bluff above the rolling Atlantic. Vintage as it may appear—with its traditional cedar shingles and wrap-around bluestone veranda—this inviting cottage is really a new arrival.

TEXT BY ARLENE BOWEN
PHOTOGRAPHY BY TERRY POMMETT

■ (right) Arrivals to this completely revamped 'Sconset cottage are greeted by stars on the Stark hallway and stair carpets. The summer scent of *Rosa rugosa* is carried through the French doors on breezes from the Atlantic Ocean beyond. The barometer is one of several French antiques in the home.









Lucky Stars



■ (left) Evoking the home's era, the reproduction 1920s crackled subway tiles set the tone for the kitchen. The countertops are Jerusalem Gold limestone. Custom cabinetry houses Italian pottery and glassware. ■ (right) For the family room located off the kitchen, Dujardin Design Associates created an intimate arrangement of four wicker chairs clustered around a large ottoman. The fireplace mosaic is a custom design by Waterworks of Connecticut. The painting is by Sergio Roffo.



This full-house renovation was designed by Philadelphia and Nantucket architect Lyman Perry, AIA, and dressed in period attire by Dujardin Design Associates, a 20-year-old firm with offices on Nantucket and in Greenwich, Connecticut.

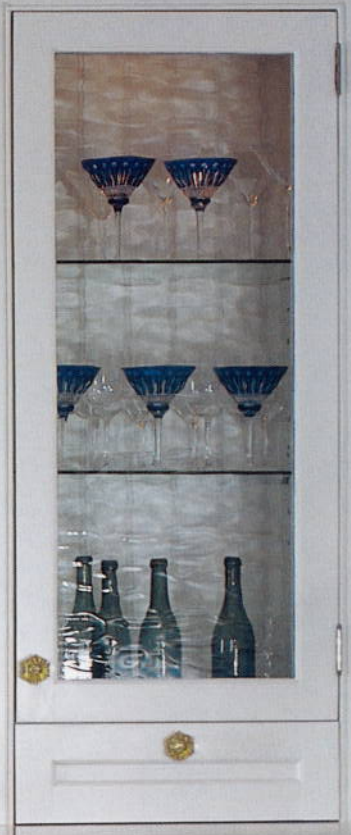
Why "Lucky Stars," you ask? Does the name refer to the magnificent ocean views, to the wide sandy beach that stretches just below, to the fortunate location in quaint and quiet 'Sconset, or to the luminous, star-filled night sky visible from the master bedroom's private balcony? All are plausible reasons, but the true inspiration goes beyond these to include the aesthetic form and far-reaching significance of the star image. For the Shaker Heights, Ohio couple who owns this genial home, it's a personal celestial attraction!

Stars on the exterior light fixtures greet callers at the front door, and when the door opens, starry carpet cascades down the stairs and then carries along the hallway toward the veranda and the sea. In the dining room, guests see stars—on the glassware and in the corners of the painted floor. They may not know it immediately, but they are leaning on stars too. The backs of all the dining chairs are upholstered with blue stars on a field of

yellow, a fabric that also winks out from the welting on the generous ottoman in the family room. Child visitors may hide away with the owners' two little boys in their third-floor retreat, where white stars on bright red quilts cover the six ship's berths in the bedroom.

Stars are delightful exclamation points in this ingeniously decorated home. Says Trudy Dujardin, "We wanted to create a 1920s 'Sconset cottage. Built-ins are characteristic. So is the beadboard ceiling in the family room. There's an old-fashioned sleeping porch feeling, especially when the doors are open to the veranda." Dujardin sees her firm's work on the island as "clean, simple, true to the history of Nantucket." "Lucky Stars" is just such a design. Every piece of hardware and plumbing is a precise reproduction, selected to "give the illusion of a 1920s cottage."

In the kitchen, Dujardin Design achieved a vintage feel by using reproduction 1920s subway tile for the walls. The "rolled" glass doors of the built-in dining room cabinet have the appearance of hundreds-of-years-old wavy glass often seen in historic old houses. Although the light from the chandelier in the dining room comes from halogen bulbs, they are concealed behind tinted hand-blown







Lucky Stars



■ (left) The star motif carries in the living room through the Dujardin-designed ornaments affixing the drapes to the window frame. The sofa and window treatments are also Dujardin creations. Beadboard ceilings contribute to the cottage effect, while the columns delineate the family and living room spaces.

■ (right) The distressed dining room table by Ralph Lauren fits the Arts and Crafts bungalow style of the home's period. The antique Lenox plates, depicting champion sailing vessels, are from the owners' collection. The floor, designed by Trudy Dujardin, was hand-painted by a local artist.

glass, creating “a nice candle glow,” says Dujardin. An antique shipboard silver service in its original wooden box adds its character to the room.

Elemental to this design story is the personal antique collection of the homeowners. Before the project began, Dujardin knew well the couple’s passion for collecting, especially antiques, a priority she learned when she visited them in their Shaker Heights home. “When I met the family in their elegant every day home, I gained insight into how they live and into what their priorities are.”

Like Isabella Stewart “Mrs. Jack” Gardner, the art maven who scoured the Continent for treasures to adorn her Boston home, the owners made buying trips to Europe to find just the right antiques for their Nantucket home. They participated in the overall design plan, so they had a good idea of what was needed. To help the couple choose appropriate pieces, the firm “gave them a shopping kit—a notebook, the furniture plan with sizes, fabric, and paint samples.”

Price Connors, Dujardin’s Principal Executive Vice President, says, “It is important to focus on the client’s personality, on what the client wants. We like to use pieces from

clients’ collections. Incorporating the pieces that they love is very important to the success of a project.” For this project, he “made the backgrounds neutral enough to accept and showcase any piece.”

“They tried to go by the furniture plans,” adds Sindy Rexford, Dujardin’s design coordinator, who assisted on the project. “So when they bought, they kept in mind what we had in mind.”

Mrs. Jack’s house is now the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, but there is no museum at the ‘Sconset cottage. The size of the owners’ extended family won’t tolerate that! Two college-age daughters and their friends, two little tykes and their buddies, two dogs and loads of the couple’s own friends—this is a family who requires a “user-friendly home,” as Connors puts it. “The owners usually have a packed house,” and with the beach almost in the living room, “the whole house was designed with sand in mind. We didn’t use as much white as we usually do in a summer house on Nantucket. The house is light enough, but darker fabrics put people at ease. They can sit down without worrying about the sand they just brought in from the beach.” Hence the navy upholstery is lightened by



Lucky Stars



■ (left) Fresh and light, this second-floor ocean-view guest room invites summer breathing. The bed is outfitted in Dujardin-designed linens. Above it hangs a Delft plaque found by the homeowners in Amsterdam. The dresser is an heirloom. ■ (right) Though the window-seat offers a glimpse of the water, the tone of this first-floor guest bedroom was set by the surrounding trees.



splashes of starry yellows or blue and white stripes. Those same accents appear on pillows, on windows, and hidden inside a pleated corner on a chair here, a sofa there, or an ottoman across the room.

“The open floor plan makes rooms flow into each other, so the fabrics reappear in each area in a different guise,” Dujardin says of the playful repetition of fabrics. “It pulls all the rooms together.” An important fabric in one room becomes an accessory in the next, a decorator’s secret that bestows an informal beauty on this happy summer home.

While the open floor plan of the living areas requires that the spaces relate to each other, every bedroom has its own color scheme. The master bedroom is dressed in romantic blue and white toile linens, with matching roman shades, and a blue hand-painted antique armoire from Italy. But the cynosure of this room is the custom-made “chaise for two,” covered in soft blue linen—a fabric with a comforting lived-in look even when it is new. The white welting on the chaise harmonizes with the white “handkerchief” cotton window panels that billow in lazy summer breezes.

A first-floor guest bedroom reprises the

toile motif, but this time in soothing greens and whites. A second guest bedroom benefits from a light floral touch, with crisp white and check fabrics complementing Dujardin-designed linens. A nautical theme defines the children’s room. Stacked in graduated steps are six twin wood-framed berths, making this room look very much like a fairy tale ship’s cabin. Here, navy blues, reds, yellows, and whites keep the theme primary. Most of the bedrooms are designed to accommodate one or two people, but two are outfitted for more. “The house has been known to sleep twenty-six. The owners love having guests,” comments Connors.

True to the clients’ vision, under the creative energies of Dujardin Design Associates, Lucky Stars combines modern comforts with the kindly mood and vintage beauty of the past to form an easy, bright, and welcoming summer home in ‘Sconset—the sweet little vintage town on Nantucket.

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