

*from*

**HORSE**

**STABLES to  
CARRIAGE**

A carriage house for guests is designed to seamlessly fit into the existing environment of an antique home.

As families grow and mature, separate spaces often become the solution to keeping loved ones closer together—which is exactly why carriage houses have remained so popular over time. This particular carriage house, located in Needham, Massachusetts, was built as an addition to an existing structure that originally housed horse stables. The family's main house, a classic colonial, was built roughly 80 years ago, making it imperative that the new addition fit in with the property and the existing traditional design.

**A HANDPICKED TEAM** To put together the ultimate New England carriage house, the homeowners handpicked an architect, builder, and designer that they could be sure would deliver excellence while staying true to the chosen aesthetic. Builder Greg Petrini of the Petrini Corporation says of the architect, Chris Woerner of Woerner Associates, and the designer, Cindy Hayes of Leonards New England: ▶



TEXT BY JOANNA KALAFARSKI

# HOUSE





**FAVORITE PLACES**

Textured pillows soften a custom-made English Windsor settee. An iron lamp with a burnished shade illuminates this cozy nook, a perfect space for reading or conversation.



**SIGNATURE DETAILS** Top, left to right: Brass pitchers adorn the fireplace mantel. An antique rocking horse brings character to the room. Elegant gold and red paisley fabric with nailhead trim adorns the dining room chairs. Center, left to right: Soft upholstered chairs encourage extended social gatherings. An ornate bowl graces the coffee table. Fringed pillows for textural and visual luxury. Bottom, left to right: A carved wooden eagle from the early 1900s. Antique liquor bottles in various shapes and sizes. Rich paisley in a woody palette of green, red, and brown enhances the wing chair. ▶



Hayes' major goal was to create an environment that was at once rustic and comfortable—a perfect retreat for family and guests and also a setting for casual entertaining.

"It was truly a privilege to work with people so devoted to quality."

Keeping the exterior in harmony with the property, Petrini used a cedar roof and stone clapboard siding. He also oriented the home with extraordinary care to preserve two sugar maples to which the family had grown attached. Meanwhile, inside, Hayes put her extensive knowledge of antiques and reproduction furniture to work to create a warm inviting space that was not too fussy or formal. Her major goal was to create an environment that was at once rustic and comfort-

able—a perfect retreat for family and guests and also a setting for casual entertaining.

**THE IDEAL DÉCOR** For colors, Hayes went with rich warm wood tones and an earthy palette to complement and enrich the walls and ceiling, which were made from authentic barn board salvaged from an old barn in Connecticut. Woodsy greens, browns, tans, and reds—as well as textured fabrics and upholstery—were all anchored by a large plaid wool rug. Window treatments were also purposefully left out in order to accent the

deep green painted windows and to provide views from all angles of the room.

Due to the high ceilings and large scale of the great room, the main challenge for Hayes was to make the room feel warm and homey. To accomplish this, she drew on Leonard's always changing and extensive inventory to fill the space with one-of-a-kind antiques as well as high-end reproductions—all of which commingle with the architecture and the site to create that rustic, much-admired New England charm. ■



**A PEEK INSIDE**  
Above: A cedar roof and stone clapboard siding evokes a traditional New England aesthetic. Above right: A finely finished English oak gate-leg table. At right: Intimately arranged furniture centers around the fireplace.

