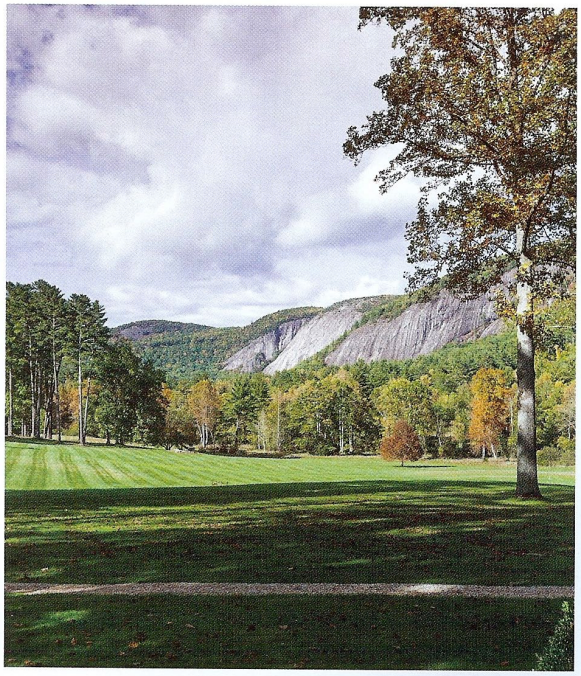
the cottage journal
Autumn
Welcome Fall with Stylish Comfort

At Home in Box Canyon

On a clear day you can see the face of Cow Rock Mountain, part of the box canyon at Lonesome Valley. But to be within feet of the gentle giant is a site to behold, much less call home.

TEXT BY **CINDY COOPER** PHOTOGRAPHY BY **MAC JAMIESON** STYLING BY **YUKIE MCLEAN**

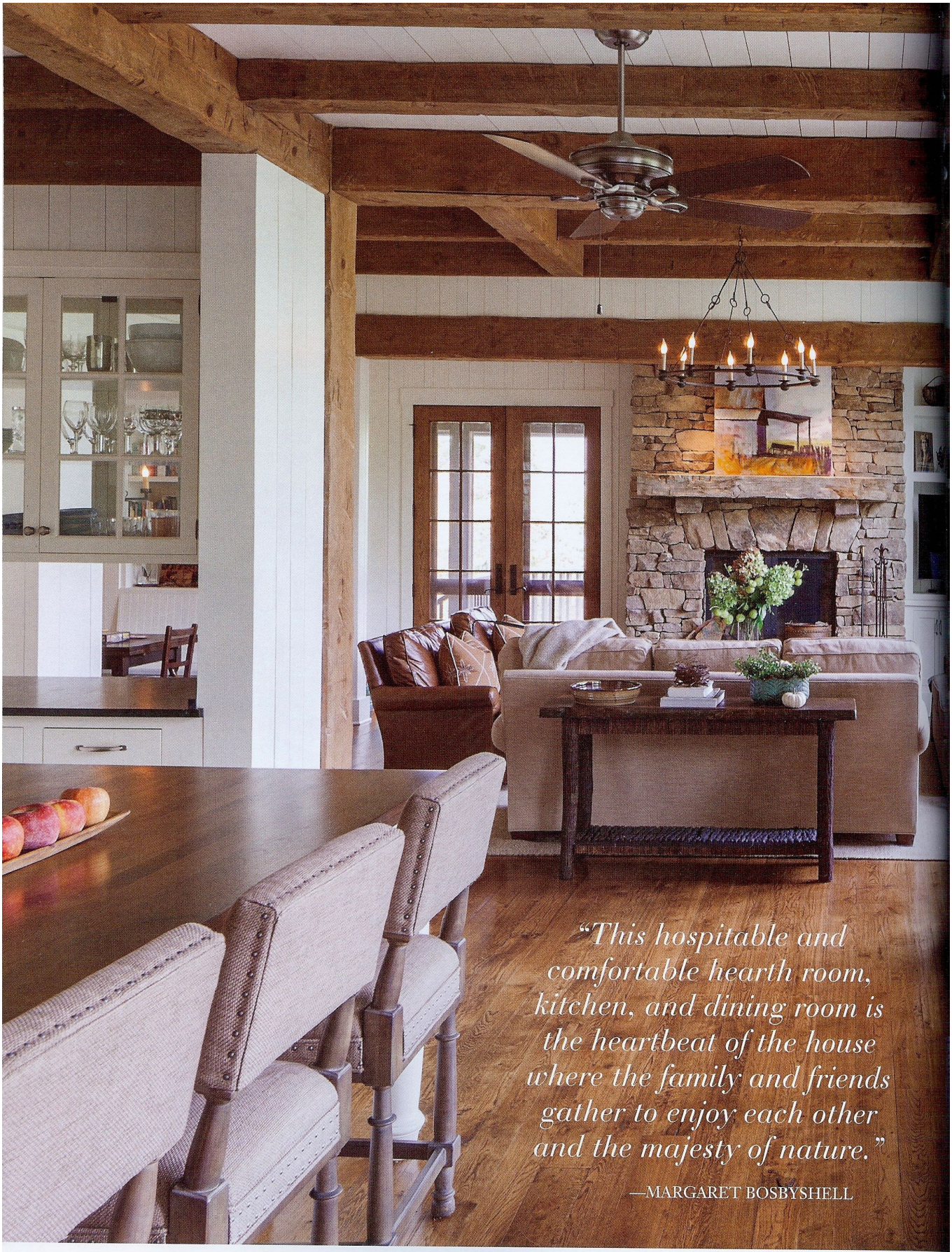


The majestic beauty of the mountains of North Carolina had lured this family for 30 years before they decided to build their own dream home in the Cashier's area, a collaborative effort the homeowner says feels so right.

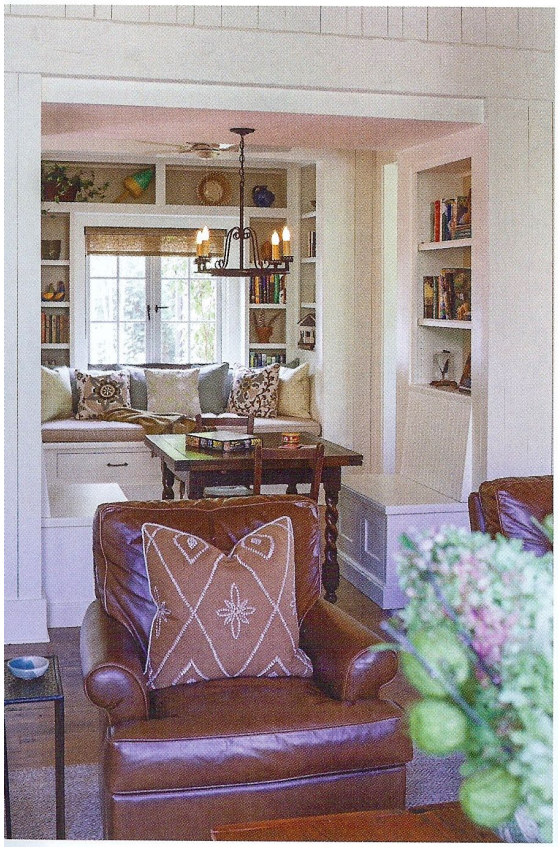
For years, the family had shared a small home with another family, but as the children grew and had children of their own, more space was needed to enjoy the hiking trails, gorgeous views, trout fishing, and fun activities that initially attracted them to the area. They also needed space to spread out a board game or curl up with a good book.

A team of two North Carolina firms was formed for the initial architectural plans with architect Sam Edgens to design the home and builder Sadlon & Associates to construct it. Designer Margaret Bosbyshell was chosen to place the clients existing and new furniture, rugs, and collections into the design of the new house.

Dutch doors open onto the screened porch adjoining the kitchen and dining area. Cool mountain air seeps in enticing you outside for another sweeping view of a flower garden border and mountain backdrop.


"This hospitable and comfortable hearth room, kitchen, and dining room is the heartbeat of the house where the family and friends gather to enjoy each other and the majesty of nature."
—MARGARET BOSBYSHELL

The family's favorite room is the fireside great room, which connects to the open kitchen and dining area, and features large windows. And whether you're gazing through one of those windows, relaxing on a porch, or nestling into a roomy window seat, you're sure to find unmatched views of the mountain face.



The kitchen includes a peep window so guests can be seen before arriving in the great room. Cleverly hidden in the backsplash below the cooktop hood, the tiny window lets the owner be ready for guests when they enter.

Lonesome Valley, a planned development with timbered bridges and 800-acres of forests and meadows, tries to keep the environment in harmony with nature by requesting house paint colors and materials, such as roofing, blend into the landscape. The homeowner says the color scheme is in sync with the setting. "We get lots of compliments on the beauty of the house and love the home's natural colors because they feel so right for the mountains," says the homeowner. Lighting also is limited by the homeowner's association so the night sky is dark, and stars shine through.

Pleased with the results from the design team, the homeowner says the home is a great place to entertain in a wonderful and familiar environment her family and friends love.

"We are thrilled with how the house turned out because it feels farm casual, is up to date, it is easy to entertain both small and big groups, and the house design is timeless," she says.

Style Idea

Using rugged beams, natural linen fabrics, woven wood shades, and the colors of the mountain flora created a serene feeling in the master bedroom.

The master bedroom balcony beckons for quiet relaxation while providing a place to read or listen to the sounds of nature.

The upstairs sleeping porch has roll-out windows and uses the family's existing furniture and rugs. Some of the pillow fabrics were made by the children. It is a great sunlit space to enjoy board games or musical instruments together.

Margaret Bosbyshell is best known for reflecting the lifestyle of the client. She has handled a variety of design projects from city to mountain to lake. From Vail, Colorado, to Nantucket, Massachusetts, she has made her design mark well known.

Growing up she learned from her father, a furniture manufacturer's representative, and was exposed early to the busy life of the Atlanta Merchandise Mart. She grew to love the fabrics, furniture and accessories. After graduating from the University of Georgia with a marketing degree, she realized she wanted to be in the decorative arts business, and worked at the Atlanta Decorative Arts center for Payne Fabrics and Kittinger Furniture Co.,while attending the Art Institute of Atlanta. She also studied in London. In 1982, Margaret started her design firm, Margaux Interiors Ltd., as a full service designer.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY WHITNEY OTT

ABOUT LONESOME VALLEY

The land that is now Lonesome Valley was purchased by E.H. Jennings in 1895, and it has remained in the Jennings family for four generations. Today, Lonesome Valley is a private, gated community just north of the Blue Ridge Escarpment. Lonesome Valley is committed to simplicity, family, and the preservation of nature, with responsible deed restrictions and thoughtful architectural guidelines that ensure the Jennings' legacy will be protected for future generations.

Canyon Kitchen, under Chef Adam Hayes' guidance, has been recognized with an Open Table Diner's Choice Award for the Top 100 Scenic View Restaurants in America. The relaxed setting hosts special culinary events and wine dinners featuring products from local sources, as well as the restaurant's own herb and vegetable gardens.

For more information on Lonesome Valley, visit *www.lonesomevalley.com*.