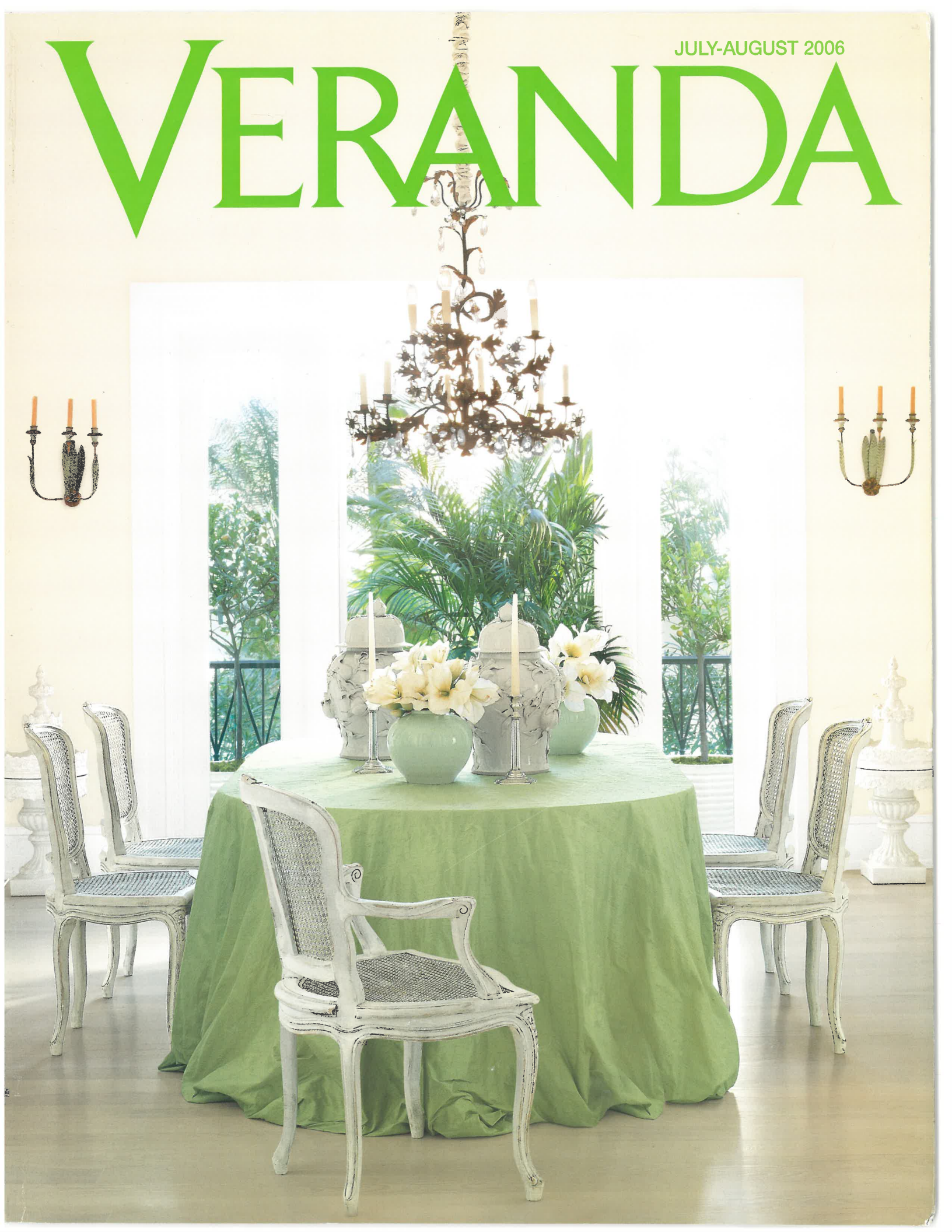


JULY-AUGUST 2006

# VERANDA





NANTUCKET



# RENEWAL

ENLARGING A CLASSIC COTTAGE

INTERIOR DESIGN BY JEFFREY BILHUBER ARCHITECTURAL RENOVATION BY LISA BOTTICELLI  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY PETER MURDOCK PRODUCED BY MIGUEL-FLORES VIANNA TEXT BY JUDITH NASATIR















## NEW YORK-BASED DESIGNER JEFFREY BILHUBER CAN MAKE DECORATIVE DETAILS SPEAK ELOQUENTLY OF TIME, PLACE AND PERSONALITY, AS SEEN IN THIS LIGHT-FILLED, BLUE AND WHITE IDEAL OF A CLASSIC NANTUCKET COTTAGE.

With an addition by local architect Lisa Botticelli, the upside-down floor plan includes the original, now vaulted upstairs living room, dining room and kitchen, and the new upstairs master suite and children's bedrooms, along with a new downstairs family room and library. The house tells a contemporary Nantucket tale—thanks to a masterful, meticulously executed reinvention of a structure previously altered in the 1980s.

Bilhuber knows the Nantucket vernacular inside and out after years of summering there in his “Rose Cottage,” the shingle-style haven he sold a few years ago. Actually, it was Rose Cottage that brought the designer together with these clients—after a forty-five minute visit to his home, says Bilhuber, “they turned to me and asked, ‘When can you start on ours?’”

Everything about the architecture of this house is designed to frame the island's seductive, ever-changing vistas, to resonate with a sense of place and to encourage the sun-drenched, indoor-outdoor lifestyle of summer. Yet, “as ravishing as the views are,” says Bilhuber, “you still head home for a reason—to look inward.” Indeed, Bilhuber and Botticelli placed extra emphasis on architectural details such as moldings and trims to create that sense of welcome and embrace. “The key to new construction is to give a sense of dignity, density and mass, to connect with the past and still look forward. Lisa played an important part as we ironed out how to make traditional, historic details—such as ship's lap, or whitewashed wood, and bead board—seem modern and fresh.”

The house is casually elegant with comfortable, child-friendly spaces that mirror the ease and hospitality of its family of six. For Bilhuber, those qualities appear in the furniture plan, which contains an exceptional variety of options—from arrangements for conversational groupings and games to nooks for sprawling on a rainy day with a good book. Fireplaces in the entry hall, living room and family room extend the welcome of hearth—with reserve. “They're beautiful, but they're not the center of attention until it's winter.”

For Nantucket and for this client, adds the designer, “Blue-and-white is a hallmark combination.” That pairing ebbs and flows on the tides of the interiors, from cobalt patterns on Delft tiles on a fireplace surround to the medium blue of upholstered banquettes in stacked bay windows to the robin's egg blue of the library sofa with whitecaps of cabled cashmere throws and white pillows. The palette is reiterated in the shimmering depths of a Mediterranean blue-and-indigo-painted floor and myriad accessories awash in aquatic shades.

“I wanted to make a direct connection with the harbor,” says Bilhuber, “so we combed in a wave pattern. It's the equivalent of standing in water up to your knees—you don't walk through the rooms, you swim through them.” □

OPENING PAGES: Jeffrey Bilhuber turned guest room fireplace to face entry area. Solaris tiles. Ann Morris sconces. Bamboo chairs and banquette from Bilhuber & Associates. White and blue pillow fabric from Shyam Ahuja; dark blue pillow fabric by Holland & Sherry; blue upholstery and matching pillows in Phillip Jeffries Ltd. cotton. PRECEDING PAGES: China Seas fabric on rattan chair and sofa. Bilhuber & Associates chair in Pallack & Associates sheepskin. Lumbar pillow and curtain fabric from Decorators Walk. Vaughan floor lamps. Holzkötter International small lamp. Lars Bolander hurricane sconces. OPPOSITE: Philippe Starck white chair. Holly Hunt light fixture.







"I INVENTED A STORY OF A SEAFARING FAMILY WITH





CONNECTIONS TO THE CARIBBEAN AND THE WORLD AT LARGE."







PRECEDING PAGES: In new family room, Bilhuber & Associates sofas in Hinson linen. Curtain fabric by Scalamandré. Pillow fabric by Zimmer+Rohde. Bilhuber & Associates lounge chair in Twentieth Century fabric. Lars Bolander sconces. Bielecky Brothers games table. Round tables from Tucker Robbins. Vaughan floor lamps. Antique rattan chairs. ABOVE: Sofa and large pillows in Bergamo fabric. Lulu DK stripe on antique chair and pillows. Victoria Hagan Home fabric on windows. Fran Taubman curtain rod. Turabian sisal rug. OPPOSITE: Bookcases by Bilhuber & Associates. Cafe curtains in Rogers & Goffigon linen. White pillow fabric by Zimmer+Rohde. Banquette fabric by Country Swedish. Tucker Robbins coffee table. Patterson, Flynn, Martin & Manges carpet. Ann Morris lamps.









ABOVE AND RIGHT: Bedroom ceiling and latticework inspired by Bahamian and West Indian architecture. Bilhuber & Associates sofa in Rogers & Goffigon linen. Waterworks tub in bedroom offers harbor view. Curtains, headboard and bed skirt in same Raoul Textiles fabric. Hinson wallcovering. Ann Morris lamp. All florals by Trillium Flowers. BELOW: Mirrors by Zecca Mirror & Glass. Counter, faucets and sink from Urban Archaeology.





