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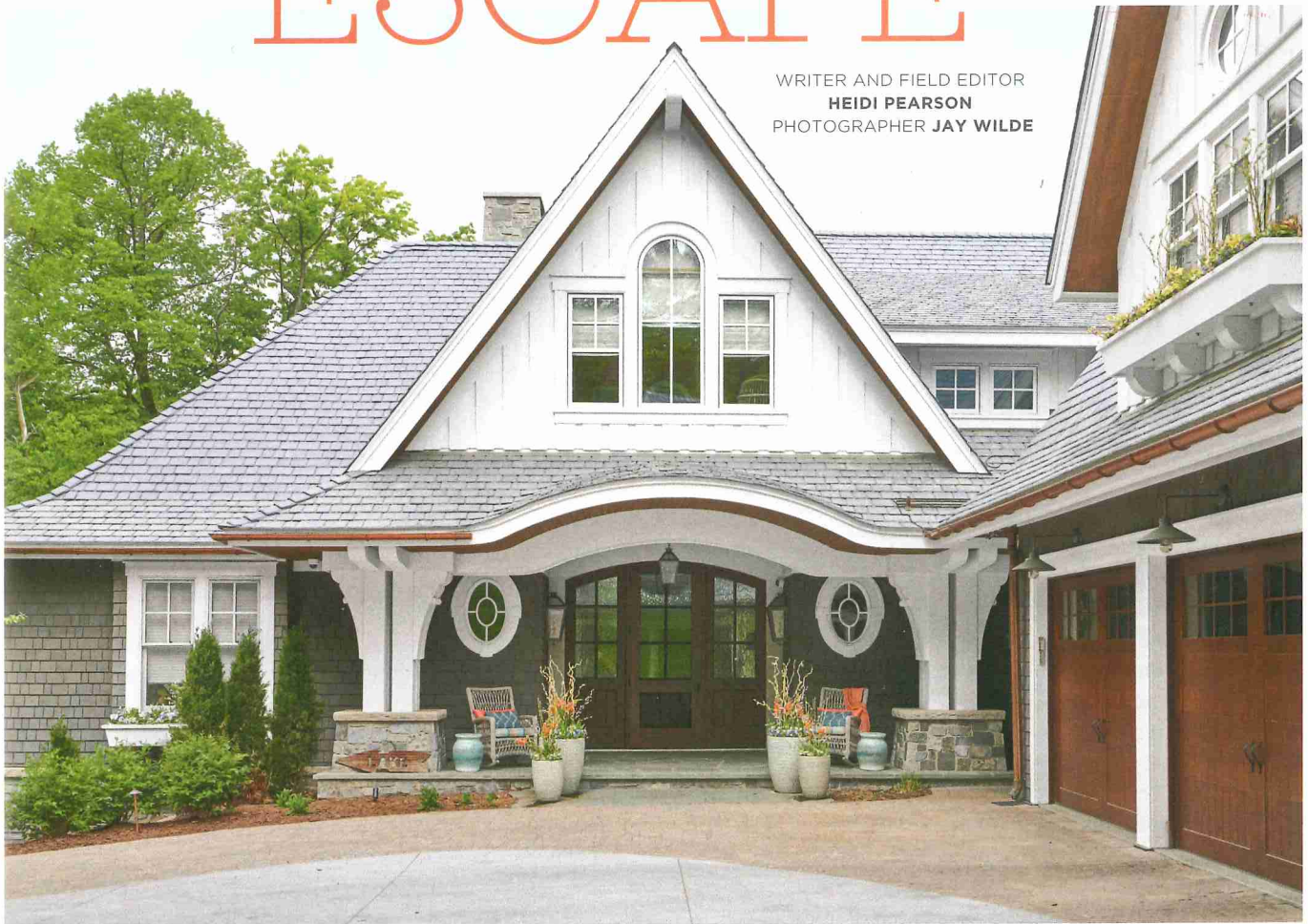
This photo: Reclaimed ceiling beams and an aged-iron light fixture add to the traditional Minnesota lake cabin vibe in the hearth room. *Opposite:* Tucked into a hillside overlooking Lake Minnetonka, the Quist home features a slate roof, cedar shakes, and handsome stonework.



Eager to experience big-city living and leisurely lake life simultaneously, a young family builds a warm and welcoming home on one of Minnesota's most prized urban shorelines.

sweet ESCAPE

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Some people love city life. Some people love lake life. And some fortunate people, like the Quist family, don't have to choose between the two. Joe, Casey, and their three children enjoy the ultimate in urban lake living—a newly built home nestled into a low bluff on the eastern shore of Lake Minnetonka, just 15 miles from downtown Minneapolis.

A crown jewel among the North Star State's 10,000-plus lakes, Lake Minnetonka offers all the spoils of quintessential Minnesota cabin life, including Quist family favorites like fishing, boating, and bonfires on the beach. But that ideal Lake Minnetonka locale didn't come easily. For five years, Joe and Casey explored countless lots before



stumbling upon the perfect spot: a woodsy hillside hidden from the road, with plenty of shoreline and idyllic views. Their next challenge was to build a house worthy of the setting.

Fully embracing lake life, the Quists wanted to create a home “where people feel like they can kick back and relax,” Casey says. In a nod to the lake’s storied history, they also desired a touch of classical beauty. The vision was distinctly “cottage elegance,” and it took a team of local professionals seasoned in the art of urban lake living to make it a reality.

Amy Hendel with Hendel Homes admits that building on the narrow 1.6-acre site was “extremely challenging,” but the team was up to the task. Architect Mike Sharratt situated the home unassumingly into the hill and clad it with cedar shakes and custom stonework. Large gathering areas—the great-room, hearth room, and kitchen—anchor the lake-facing side of the home, where thickly cased picture windows turn breathtaking views into year-round art.

Interior spaces amplify the home’s serene setting. Interior designer Leah Fasching selected a statement-making recycled-glass chandelier for the

foyer as the perfect tee-up for the fresh color palette and casual-yet-polished furnishings throughout. Every room is beautifully detailed, but looks never supersede livability. A whitewash stain on the wide-plank floors creates a light and airy feel—and also hides dirt and dog hair.

A foyer closet was jettisoned for a simple bench and wall hooks where guests can hang their beach bags. The mudroom is both handsome and hardworking with cubbies and a Dutch door leading to a cozy kennel room.

“The home is stylish, pretty, and smart,” Fasching says. “But it’s also welcoming, relaxed, and practical.” It’s a kicked-back classical approach to urban lake living—a best-of-both-worlds lifestyle that the family hopes to enjoy for many years. □

For resources, see page 95.

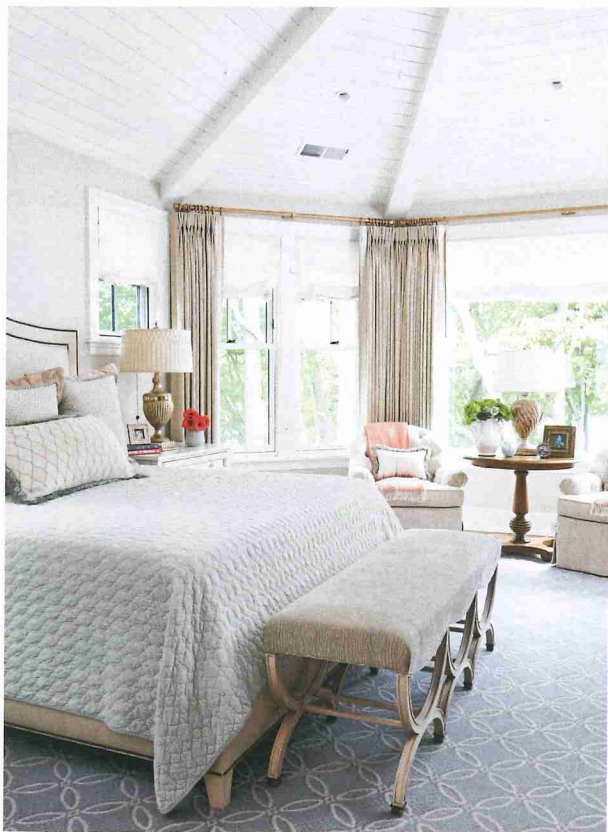
Above: A recycled-glass pendant pops against the classic tongue-and-groove barrel-vault ceiling in the foyer.

Opposite: A white oak island topped with white macaubas quartzite is the heart of the Quists’ light, bright kitchen. The room gets a pleasing punch of contrast from black Alberene soapstone countertops and a walnut-paneled backsplash along the perimeter.





Above left: The hearth room features a wet bar with white oak cabinetry and a custom pewter countertop. A glass-front beverage fridge makes it easy for guests to grab a beer before stepping out onto the deck to enjoy the lake views. *Above right:* The dining room built-ins are painted an “ambiguous color that can look green or black or sometimes dark blue, but always blends in with everything else going on in the open floor plan,” says interior designer Leah Fasching. *Below left:* Enameled shiplap and beams add texture to the vaulted master bedroom ceiling. *Below right:* The master bath’s quiet color scheme gets a boost thanks to subtle patterns like herringbone flooring and a quatrefoil tile backsplash.



This photo: Custom lockers in the mudroom—one for each family member—are essential to keeping organized. An alder Dutch door leads to a room for the family dogs.

