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HOME life

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Cottage life on Walloon

Wequetonsing for the summer

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Weque chic

This resort home says a cottage doesn't have to be rustic

By Maggie Peterson • Photography by G. Randall Goss

This Wequetonsing cottage is the essence of chic.

It has been an evolution of years, as Carrie Blanck, owner and designer with Tres Belle Interior Design in Harbor Springs, has worked her way through, changing a room or two per year at the owner's request.

And for this season, the focus was on the dining and living rooms.

The cottage has been in the family for more than 90 years, since its purchase in 1920; the cottage was built in 1890. The owner wanted to keep the room colors the same, along with much of the furniture, but it needed an update.

The dining room furniture is all from the house, but had seen the wear that comes with decades of use. The table, which comfortably seats 10, had lines and scratches in it. The owner wanted the color to be as close to the original as possible, which was a green flecked and antiqued with brown.

Faux painter Dannielle Ottimer of Harbor Springs was brought in to bring a new finish to the old look. ▸

The built-in server

The cottage has been in the family for more than 90 years, since its purchase in 1920; the cottage was built in 1890.

Carrie Blanck at Tres Belle Interiors in Harbor Springs guided fabric choices in the living room. All pictured are in Thibaut, but for the cocktail ottoman in Lee Jofa and the sheer draperies in B. Berger.

Weque chic

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She also spruced up two side tables in the room, and took a '60s-era buffet into the present. For that piece, which sits under large windows, she incorporated elements of the draperies' Jane Shelton fabric pattern into the door faces.

Another standout element in the room is a server built right in to the wall. Originally used to pass serving dishes from the kitchen to the dining room, it now works as a cabinet for china and glassware.

Blanck said because the dining room and living room are so open to each other, she wanted to continue the color scheme from one to the other. The custom-matched trim paint, along with walls in Benjamin Moore Prescott Green and ceiling in Benjamin Moore Marble White, carry through both rooms.

Much of the living room seating is new, and what isn't was reupholstered. While most feature cool greens and blues, there are pops of coral in the fabric on the chairs.

"It gives it a little lift, punches it up a little bit," Blanck said. HL

Called "Grandfather's chair," as it was the favorite of the owner's grandfather, this piece was reupholstered in Thibaut fabric to tie in with the rest of the living room scheme.

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