



modern love



In with the new: A white exterior and metal roof transform Jo and Norman Goodman's Naples home from Southern cottage to contemporary showpiece.

A COUPLE WITH A TASTE FOR CONTEMPORARY UPDATES AN OLD NAPLES BEACH COTTAGE.

BY NANCI THEORET

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TIM STAMM

JO AND NORMAN GOODMAN LOVE EVERYTHING about contemporary design and architecture: clean lines and surfaces, stark white walls and a sweeping linear expanse of windows—lots of them. They count Richard Meier, creator of the Getty Center in Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C.'s Hugh Newell Jacobsen (who talked about his work in Naples in the October issue of this magazine) among their favorite architects. So it may seem strange that the former Michigan couple bought one of the oldest homes in Naples, a Southern cottage with cedar shake siding overlooking the Gulf and Naples pier just off Gulf Shore Boulevard.

The exact opposite of their tastes, the house took little advantage of its site. In fact, only a second-floor attic guest room, with a steep-pitched ceiling that barely provided room for an adult to stand up, did the views justice, says Jo Goodman: "You had to stand in the middle of the room and tilt your head sideways to see the Gulf." But the couple immediately saw the house's potential, and they decided to buy it and expand it with a two-story, contemporary-style addition.

The house was originally joined to the neighboring Walter Haldeman estate. (Walter Haldeman was the owner of the *Louisville Courier-Journal* and an unofficial ambassador for Naples). The Haldeman home, which is now on the market for \$20 million, was built in 1886. A number of additions to the original structure were made several times during occupancy by three generations of Haldemans, and the two homes were eventually separated; but matching roof lines still indicate where they'd once been joined. Inside the Goodmans' home, revisions over the years included a sound room with carpeted walls and a two-story garage for one former owner, an Emmy-winning musician; but the house lacked many of the comforts of modern luxury living.

"It was a perfect vacation home. It just

“YOU SIT DOWN AND IT’S LIKE A STAGE.

Room with a view: Below, storefront windows show off pier views from the bedroom. Opposite, the beach is steps away from the backyard; a sitting area in the master suite is near the water and out of the way.

wasn't compatible with full-time living," says Jo. They initially decided to build a two-story addition towards the front of the original structure, but an unexpected mishap revealed how much work the house really needed. "They were moving the refrigerator, and it fell through the floor," says Jo. "We had to demolish room by room."

Fifteen months later, an almost brand-new home had taken shape. Not only had the damage of time and termites been repaired, but the house had been transformed from cot-

tage to contemporary inside and out.

The Goodmans worked with Naples interior designer Lori Wegman and John Melton of Integral Building Contractors, selecting finishing touches well into the drawn-out construction process. Their new bi-level bedroom is Jo's favorite room. It captures the views through 10-foot tall sliding glass doors and multiple levels of special-made storefront windows that wrap around the walls and give the 16-foot-tall room a horizontal look. The lower level has a sitting area.

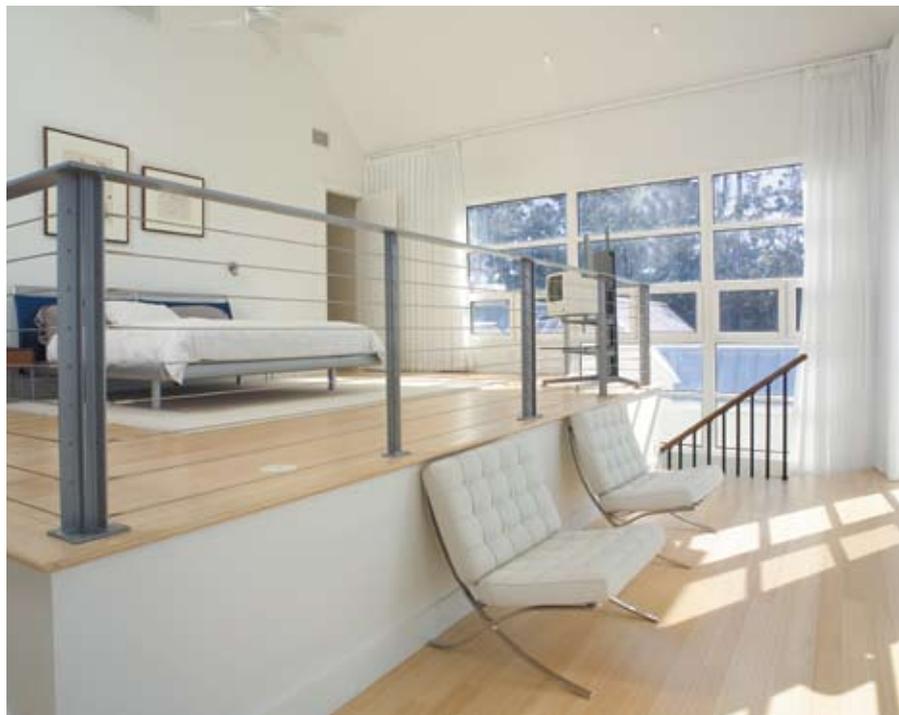


THE THEATER IS THE GULF AND THE SKY.”

Their bed is on the top level, positioned so they can gaze out at the Gulf. A powder-coated metal railing, found in a marine supply catalog, melts into the views. “You can look directly at the Gulf and not see the furniture,” says Jo. Ceiling-to-floor drapes provide privacy and a bit of pomp—just push the button to reveal the views.

“You sit down and it’s like a stage. The theater is the Gulf and the sky,” says Jo.

A concrete balcony off the sitting room was left raw and natural. From the balcony, if you





Feels like home:
Left, the Goodmans
in their modernized
kitchen. Below, the
family room blends
Southern charm with
sleek furnishings.

lean forward just right, you can see where the two homes once joined. You also get a sense of old and new, the contrast between the sleek, white architecture of the Goodman home and the cottage style of the neighboring Haldeman home.

The minimal design is brought outside to the pool area, where a wooden deck creates a linear pattern that is repeated in the simple rectangles of the pool and alternating grass and stone.

White is the predominant color inside as well, providing a canvas for artwork and the couple's contemporary furniture, which



“WE BROUGHT THE BEST PART OF THE HOME INSIDE—THE VIEW.”

Clean lines: The sophisticated tables and chairs in the living room and dining room reflect Norman Goodman's background in the furniture business.

reflects Norman's former career in the furniture business. The new kitchen has white cabinets, an Italian stainless-steel hood and large windows with a view. An industrial metal spiral staircase was imported from Italy; bamboo floors were installed throughout; and a two-story curved glass-block window was added near the entry.

But despite all the modern touches, the older home makes its presence known, particularly in the family room with its original

beamed ceiling (an element of the old home the couple loved), a brick-lined fireplace and white beadboard walls. But those old white walls are accented by African art and punctuations of purple contemporary furniture.

Windows, almost as abundant as white, are the most important new element of the home. “We tried to get this view from everywhere we could,” says Jo, her arms sweeping out toward the Gulf. “We feel we brought the best part of the home inside—the view.”

