



CONTEMPORARY COTTAGES

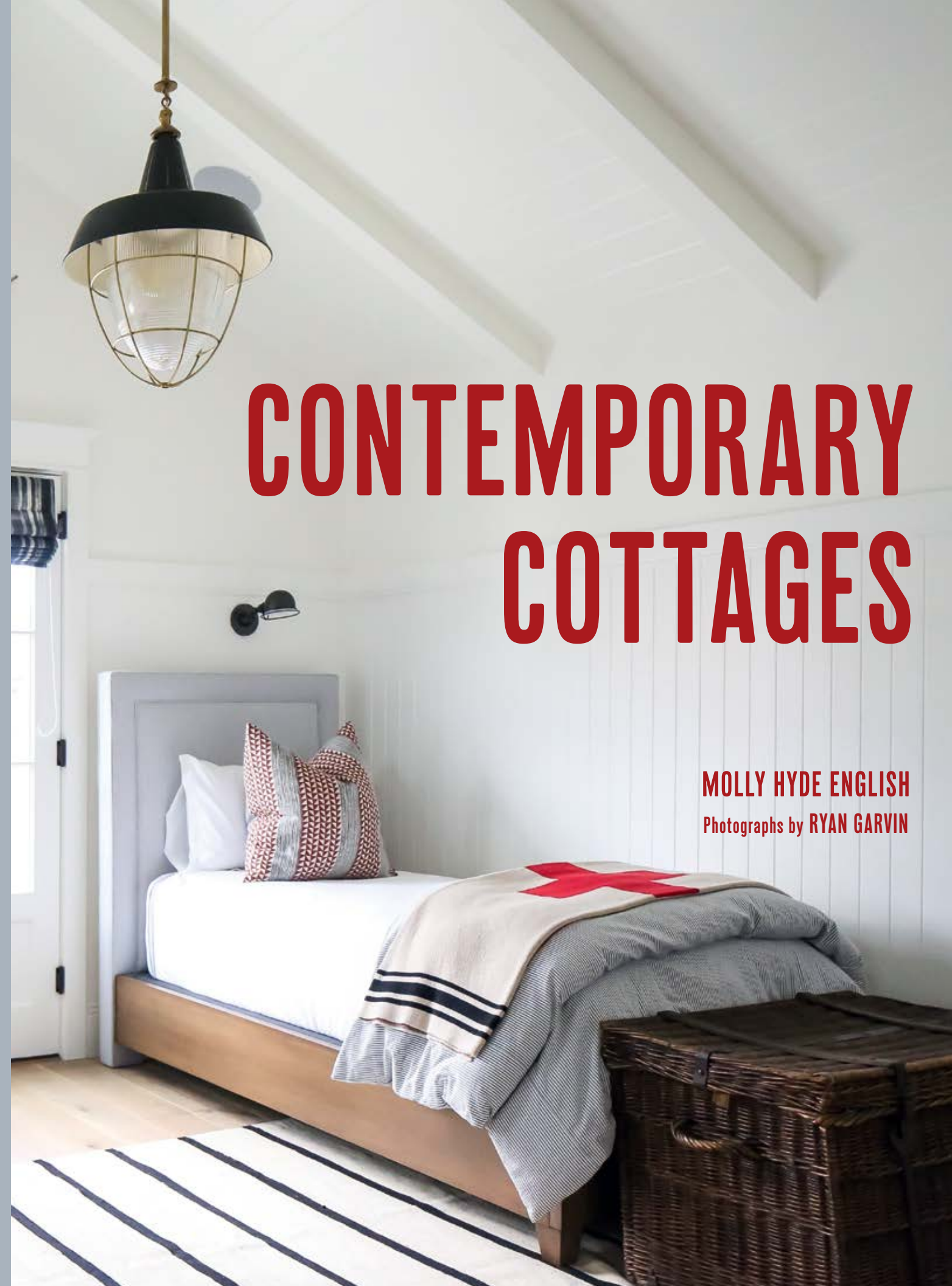
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CONTEMPORARY COTTAGES

MOLLY HYDE ENGLISH
Photographs by RYAN GARVIN



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leads to an equally impressive kitchen, dining area and great room sporting wall-to-wall windows that capture sunlight from dawn to dusk. A hardwood staircase with a geometrically designed guard railing leads to a series of airy and uncommon bedrooms and bathrooms.

Laurie has appointed the cottage with furniture, textiles, fixtures and objects that combine to complete her vision, though often in contradictory ways. “We made great effort to steer clear of catalogues,” Laurie said, preferring instead to deal with local businesses, custom craftspeople, and one-of-a-kind vendors in her quest to make each space a vignette that grabs attention and reflects the family’s spirit and outlook.”

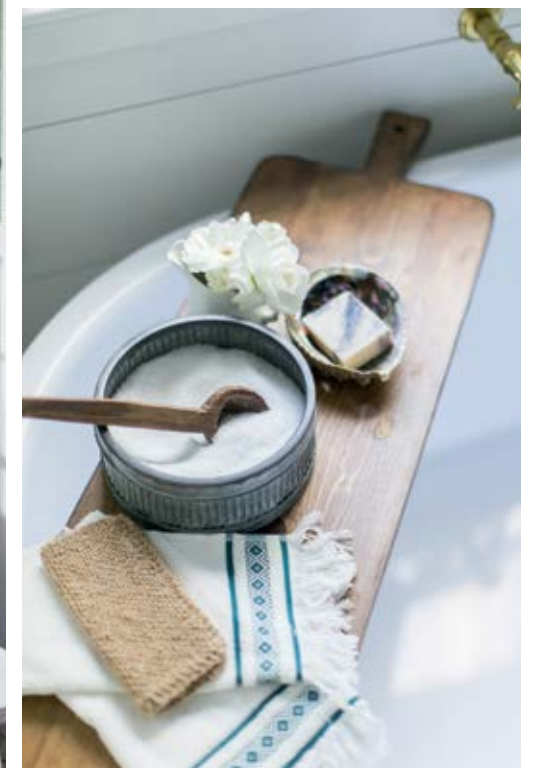
Following the inspiration of their father, Laurie and



OPPOSITE: Im harcim alic te conem reresia ped estiundis
ex exere preptis aute nes dolorpos quist re coresequo
occus sum qui volori oditias mint liquam,

ABOVE: Alic te conem reresia ped estiundis
ex exere preptis aute nes dolorpo.

LEFT: Te conem reresia ped estiundis ex exere
preptis aute nes dolorpos quist.





BALBOA COTTAGE

**My dream is to be on my boat. Or on an island. Or in my house
in the country. That's my dream.**

—CAMERON MACKINTOSH

Owners Sue and Greg had lived in an iconic country village in Connecticut and spent time visiting the museums, architecture, parks, theaters and shops in New York. They knew these cultural experiences would forever be a part of their choices related to both home and lifestyle.

When a job offer took them to back to their native California, the couple moved their family into in a larger home until the nest started to empty. Then they chose a 1932 island cottage and tastefully redesigned it to blend their love of the country with their bond to the sea. Sue's idea was to convert the small outdoor footprint into an additional "room" that would be accessible from each of the downstairs living areas and provide an indoor-outdoor flow to make the cottage enjoyable year-round.

The two-story cottage is thoroughly contemporary, with a youthful approach to flow, functionality and feel. Their daughter, a design consultant with Hillary Dean Design, worked with Sue to ensure that each room was made inviting, where guests would sit or read.

The couple believe that the soul of a cottage is reflected in its art and family heirlooms. "To that end, we have highlighted paintings and sculptures that we acquired over time by an eclectic mix of artists including Emil Kosa Jr., Richard MacDonald, Chris Gwaltney and Guy Buffet."

Though located on a California coastal island, this cottage is imbued with the vitality, richness and tradition of the Connecticut countryside.





ORCHID COTTAGE

One new feature or fresh take can change everything.

—NEIL YOUNG

A newly constructed getaway for a young couple and their four children, Orchid Cottage was “a total collaboration between architect Cynthia Childs, designer Kelly Nutt, and us to ensure that our goal of a light, airy and organic space was achieved while blending harmoniously with the look and scale of the nearby homes,” say the homeowners. “We wished for the space to be sophisticated and yet approachable.” They achieved that by employing unique materials and lighting throughout the cottage, including reclaimed beams, wide-plank hardwood flooring and millwork that is the result of second-to-none artisanship.

The cottage design is heavily influenced by the owners’ long-time interest in an old-school New England sensibility. It is open and warm with an abundance of natural light. The homeowners continue, “This cottage has all the benefits of a Mediterranean climate. We’ve chosen French doors, exposed closets and cabinetry throughout, which allows us to break down the distinction between outdoor and indoor living year-round.” The architectural flow and functionality enables maximum enjoyment for the entire family.

The interior is appointed throughout with a collection of classic furniture and textiles. Kelly suggested fabrics that would appeal to the couple’s old-school sensibilities and got it just right—classic stripes and seersucker.

The owners note, “We are happy to share visits to our new cottage with family and friends, and trust that they leave with the same sense of warmth and joy that we experience each day as its owners.”





In reality, most cottages are located in neighborhoods. The arrangement of this outdoor space makes excellent use of a small space. The greenery makes it feel more private, and the furnishings make it comfortable for the family and guests.



For the whole home Clark chose colors to contrast light and dark. The dark color is Benjamin Moore Jet, which she describes as a “smoky dark gray.” It is used on the trim, the kitchen island, bathroom cabinets and in two bedrooms, including a powerful master bedroom wall. While employing a clean, neutral and uncluttered look throughout her home, she has added some special touches, not the least of which is a vintage 1940s basketball scoreboard that she had re-wired and which has been installed in her son’s bedroom.

