

# EXPLORE: Hampton Designer Showhouse In Its Thirteenth Year

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deck areas are always an afterthought, after all the budget has been blown." Mr. Genes said, laughing, as he directed furniture placement. "But not here. I have a little bit of everything. Let's just maximize this space because, really, this is where people live."

Inside the three-story estate, designers tackled their spaces with construction and moving crews. Amid the flying dust and loud buzz sawing, a few of the designers created everyday living areas inside not-so-traditional rooms, such as the first-floor guest suite—Francisco Biscardi's territory.

The idea began with a "great" green rug, explained Southampton-

ten-based Mr. Biscardi of Brady Design. He loved its look and its heathering, he said, and so his vision was born. He installed an earthy green, textured grass cloth on the walls and set down a queen bed upholstered in a wool and silk blend—"sort of like a Chanel suit," he said.

But the most important element, by far, was the mattress. "It's a mattress that can sit uncovered, so in the winter, this room could function as another family room," he said. "People can just step down on the bed as if it's a deep, comfy sofa and watch TV so the room doesn't have to sit vacant like most guest rooms do all winter."

The traditional family room, located on the opposite end of the house and designed by Manhattan-based Sherri H. Canet, is anything but. Drawing from Middle-Eastern influences, the space heavily utilizes a Turkish suzani print, as well as window grilles instead of curtains.

And, unexpectedly, it is splattered with hot pink pillows, furnishings and accent pieces.

"It's interesting. We have two pink rooms that are finished," Mr. Manning said. "We haven't seen that. A lot of times, people think of pink as a little girl's room, so it's interesting to see it because it's a fun color, especially when it's bright like this." Designers Lillian August and Patricia Fisher both relied on pale chateaux to lend a burst of color in their dining and keeping



Family room by Sherri H. Canet.



Ken Genes reviews his plan for the Hampton Designer Showhouse's back patio.



Back patio by Ken Genes. Right, upstairs bedroom by Barbara Page.

rooms, respectively. The stand-out piece in Ms. Fisher's area, which is the great room off the kitchen, is the voluminous, silver-gilded chandelier by Ballard Designs, she said. It echoes a metallic trend throughout the house.



Upstairs bedroom by Barbara Page.

"When it showed up in this huge box, I thought, Oh my God, it's so big," Ms. Fisher said. "But I think it works so nicely because you can see through it, so it's light."

Metallic accents are realized in picture frames and lighting fixtures in many of the rooms, but stands out most notably in designer Kevin Rattimone's guest bedroom, wallpapered, printed with a silver, branch-like pattern.

"I'm always amazed that every year, I see more wallpaper."

Hampton Designer Showhouse Operations Manager Mary Lynch said, standing on the home's staircase, "I mean, if you take a look, it's all over the downstairs and now we're going up for more."

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Living room by Brian del Toro. Below, dining room by Skye Kirby Westcott and Tina Anastasia of Lillian



dining room by Skye Kirby Westcott and Tina Anastasia of Lillian



Patricia Fisher designed the keeping room.

I think the wallpapers being used so subtle you could actually live with them a good amount of the time, if you wanted to. They're not screaming at you because sometimes, they do."

Helen Amy Murray of The Rug Company, a gold wire chandelier and a Lactea table—consciously named "Monoco"—that is covered with books and mementos, including a shell from Santorini, Greece.

"She helped me with the artwork. She picked it out for the room," Ms. Page said, noting that this is her debut showhouse. "It was great to have her on board."

The designer smiled to herself. "She was inspiring for me. And I'm very pleased with the way the room's coming. So is曹曹. She's seen it and she loves it. She would love to have this room."

"I bet she would," Ms. Lynch laughed. "The 13th annual Hampton Designer Showhouse will open with a gala preview cocktail party on Saturday, July 20, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$225. The showhouse will be open from Sunday, July 21, through Monday, September 2, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Admission is \$35 and proceeds will benefit Southampton Hospital. Children under 6, strollers and pets are not allowed in the showhouse. For tickets or more information, call 800-3008 or visit hamptondesignerhouse.com.

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