

# DESIGN

new england

## HOUSE REDUX

The Second Life of a  
Second Empire Home

## SPRINGTIME PASSIONS

Nantucket Estate With  
Native Glory

Global Chic in a Boston Manse

Cape Cod Vacation Home on  
the Water's Edge

Colonial House + Contemporary  
Addition = Wow In Waban



VINTAGE-  
LOOK  
KITCHEN

SLEEK  
TILE BATH

GORGEOUS  
WALKWAYS  
& GARDEN  
PLANTERS

## BACK TO 1905

A kitchen renovation relies on style cues from its past



Written and Produced by **JANICE BYRD**  
Photography by **ERIC ROTH**

**T**WO YEARS AGO WHEN ZOYA AND David Soane and their two children moved from California into a Victorian house in Chestnut Hill, they inherited a kitchen made up of a hodgepodge of pantries, halls, and storage nooks as well as the main part of the room that had been renovated in the 1980s. Guided by a lifelong passion for design and a respect for period homes, Zoya Soane wanted to create a room that conceivably would have existed in the period 1905 house.

Embarking on the renovation project with contractor Andrew Sheehan and cabinetmaker Paul Guido, Soane drew inspiration from existing architectural details in the house. For example, as Sheehan was gutting the room, he discovered an original window that had been covered over and sealed. Soane asked that all the kitchen

**THE MARBLE-TOPPED ISLAND** acts as both work surface and gathering spot in the renovated 25 by 33-foot kitchen; vintage piano stools fit under the overhang. An apronfront sink and beadboard island base add to the vintage theme.



**VINTAGE APPLIANCES** give the kitchen an authentic period look. The stove (ABOVE) has been restored to working order and is used daily. It rests on a tumbled marble mosaic inlay in the beech plank floor. The only dark wood cabinetry in the kitchen is the icebox-style cherry front, designed by Zoya Soane, that covers a new refrigerator. A vintage icebox (LEFT) was restored for use as a storage piece and media center; its mirrored inset is original.

windows be duplicated from it. They also copied the back hall's simple beadboard paneling and installed it along the kitchen walls and on the island base. The original cabinets and the hardware in the butler's pantry became the prototypes for the new custom-made kitchen cabinets. For the countertops, Soane chose period-appropriate marble, making her selection by matching a slab of white marble that she discovered in the recesses of the cellar. And although they considered installing a period-appropriate black-and-white tile floor, in the end they chose beech planks finished to match the colors of the floors in the rest of the house.

In an unusual bit of renovator's luck, the white enamel circa 1926 Wedgewood stove that they brought from their home in California fit perfectly into an existing niche; there was even room for a vent hood to be built into the niche



## Our Awnings are Classy!

An Eastern retractable fabric awning will add beauty and elegance to your home. You'll also save money by lowering air conditioning costs on those hot summer days. With hundreds of fabric styles to choose from, you are sure to find one to compliment your home.

Call our professional sales staff today for your Free color brochure and estimate.

The Dorchester Awning Company has been in business since 1901.



### THE DORCHESTER AWNING COMPANY

Authorized Eastern Awnings Systems, Inc. Dealer.

230 Oak Street, Pembroke • 1-800-649-8686

Falmouth 508-457-0099 • Needham 781-433-0808

Pembroke 781-826-9001

[www.dorchesterawning.com](http://www.dorchesterawning.com)



The Best Awnings Under the Sun.

## kitchens



**PINE ANTIQUES** include an English table, country Swedish clock, and French butcherblock sideboard with a curving backboard. The furniture's wood tones stand out against the white beadboard paneling, which was inspired by paneling that existed in another area of the Victorian house. Mounted on the wall (foreground) is a wine bottle opener that the homeowner bought in a Paris department store.



## Outstanding style outdoors.

From pergolas and pool enclosures, to arbors, gates, trellis, and outdoor furniture Walpole matches your taste with your outdoor needs. To schedule a free consultation to help you choose handcrafted structures in cedar, AZEK®, vinyl, or iron, or to receive a free Selections Brochure featuring all our outdoor products, call 800-343-6948.

### Walpole Woodworkers.

Quality fence since 1933

For all our store locations visit [walpolewoodworkers.com](http://walpolewoodworkers.com)

ceiling. Next bit of luck: "We found a vintage icebox of the same era that was in pieces in the garage," says Soane. "David wanted to chop it up and throw it in the dumpster. Instead, we shipped it to an antique appliance restorer in Georgia, who repainted it and re-chromed the hardware." Retrofitted for storage and media equipment, the vintage icebox is now a focal point of the room and perfectly matches the stove in period and finish. The vintage icebox also gave Soane the style cues for the cherry panels she designed to camouflage a new refrigerator.

Preferring a serene backdrop, Soane chose white for the walls and cabinets, adding some visual punch with such vintage items as a Swedish country tall clock, French butcherblock sideboard, pine corner cupboard, and a crisp black-and-white loveseat. The kitchen is a fine example of Soane's love of vintage pieces—from appliances to chairs—lovingly put to new use. "Vintage kitchen appliances are beautiful and invoke a feeling of coziness and hominess," says Soane, who recently launched Soane Interieurs, a decorating business. "It reminds me of my childhood." ■

**RESOURCES**  
page 100