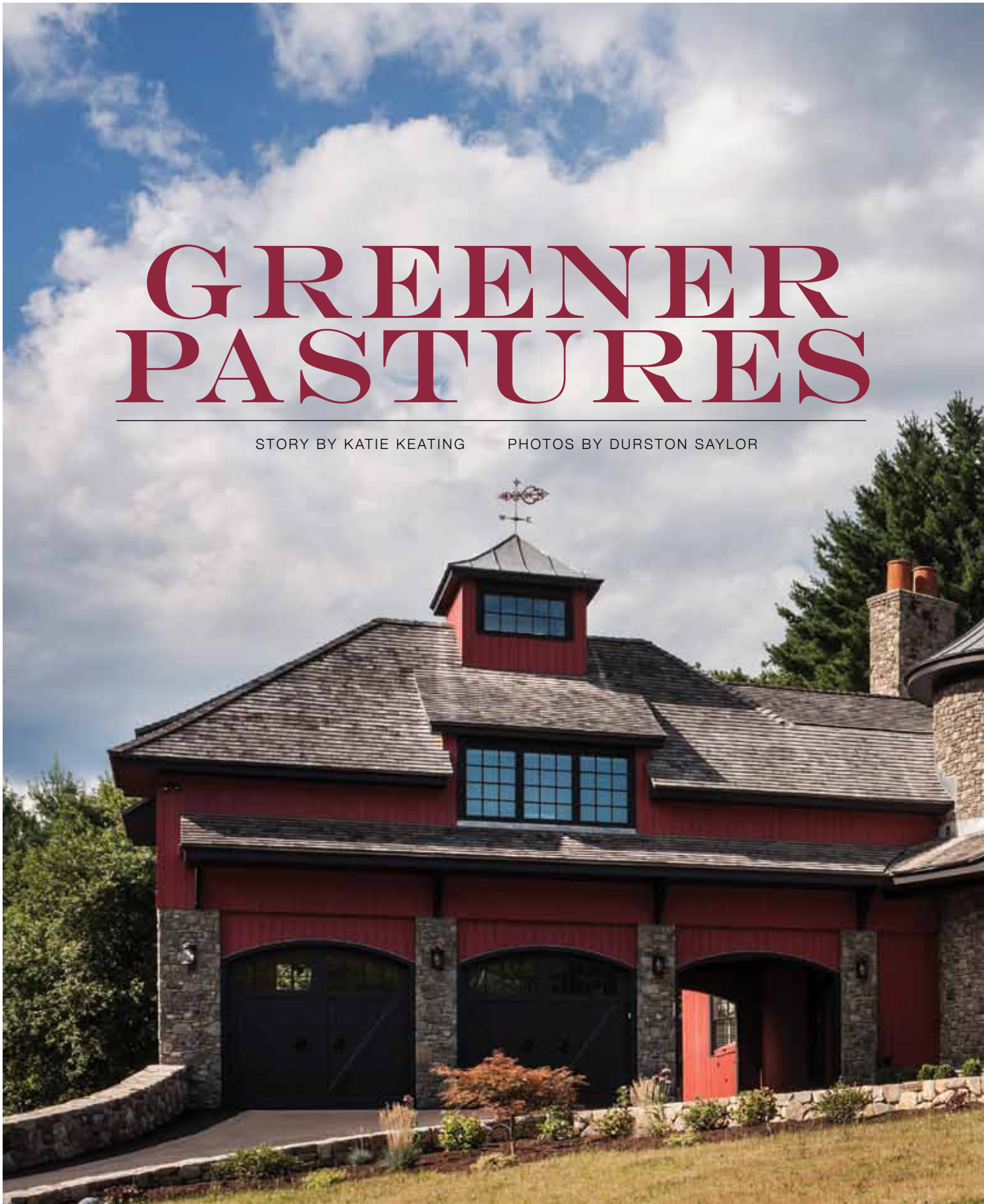


# GREENER PASTURES

STORY BY KATIE KEATING

PHOTOS BY DURSTON SAYLOR





Sited between a nature preserve and local golf club, the design of this modern day farm house was inspired by its owners' cherished memories of time spent in Vermont.



Designed by Westport architect, George Dumitru, the medieval style front door offers just a hint of the eclectic interiors that lie within.



Anchored on opposing ends of the home by fieldstone chimneys, the house is clad in cedar ship-lap board and washed in a rich shade of red.

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et against a lush backdrop of mature trees and a sky of blue, this contemporary Fairfield farm house was brought to life through the collaborative talents of esteemed Westport architect, George Dumitru of Studio Dumitru and celebrated builder, Jeremi Jablonski of New Canaan based, Jablonski Associates. With a commitment to excellence in design and focus on customer service, both gentlemen have

built a reputation for producing high-end residential properties throughout the tri-state area for years.

Inspired by his clients' cherished memories of the times they spent in Vermont, Mr. Dumitru designed the home to give them the New England charm they longed for but married that charm with the latest in modern day amenities and building technology.

Nestled between a golf course and local nature preserve, the home is sited to take advantage of the bucolic views and gently sweeping property that lies before it. Anchored on opposing ends of the home by fieldstone chimneys, the house is clad in cedar ship-lap board awash in a rich red tone. Farmed locally, the fieldstone used throughout was cut to create a specific pattern. A third chimney rises from the central portion of the home on the rear façade. Wood shingles cover the roof while a lead coated copper roof tops

the stair-hall turret. The medieval looking front door designed by Mr. Dumitru and fabricated by Mr. Jablonski offers just a hint of the eclectic interiors that lie within. Constructed of oak, its distressed finish was done on site. Reclaimed oak ceiling beams within the home were sourced by Mr. Jablonski and distressed on site as well.

Inside the home, an open circulation plan defines the public spaces on the first level. Random width oak flooring stained a deep shade runs throughout the home and unifies the rooms. The entry hall connects the family room to the billiard room. An over sized fieldstone fireplace provides a focal point in the family room while a smaller scaled counterpart mirrors it down the hall in the billiard room. Fieldstone was used to wrap columns in different areas as well adding to the eclectic mix of materials. A wet bar within the billiards room was outfitted with custom



Perfect for seasonal entertaining, the outdoor kitchen and bar area are just a few steps away from the pergola covered dining area. OPPOSITE A rusticated fieldstone fireplace provides a strong focal point across from the dining area.

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cabinetry stained to blend with the copper sink and counter surface there. A copper backsplash has been finished with copper pennies adding a bit of whimsy to the scheme. The circular stair case within the stair-hall turret connects the first and second levels of the home. The interior walls were custom finished by the homeowner. In the kitchen, a thoughtful mix of texture and finishes fill the room. Designed by Mr. Dumitru, the custom oak cabinetry frames the space. The grand center island offers plenty of space for food prep and use as a serving counter. Travertine counters play off nicely against antique

terra cotta tile found by the homeowner and used to make up the backsplash design behind the stove. A custom zinc hood crowns the stove. Cabinets running along the appliance wall are designed by Mr. Dumitru as well and outfitted with custom designed hardware. The dining area connects the kitchen to the billiards room. In the master bath upstairs, natural stone tops the custom vanities in the room. Designed by Mr. Dumitru, their center panels were out outfitted with antique mirrors. Connected by cleverly designed shelving, they appear more furniture like in their design. Twin mirrors

chosen for above the vanities are a perfect fit. Stone tiles cover the floor.

“The home was built to meet the latest and greatest standards in residential construction,” said Mr. Dumitru. Spray foam insulation within the walls protect the home from both the cold and the heat and as is his practice with the other homes Mr. Jablonski has built, this home was constructed as well with a geo-thermal HVAC system and equipped with Energy-Star rated appliances. Highly efficient, these systems will help the homeowners cut their fuel costs for years to come. Gently sloping roof lines at each end of



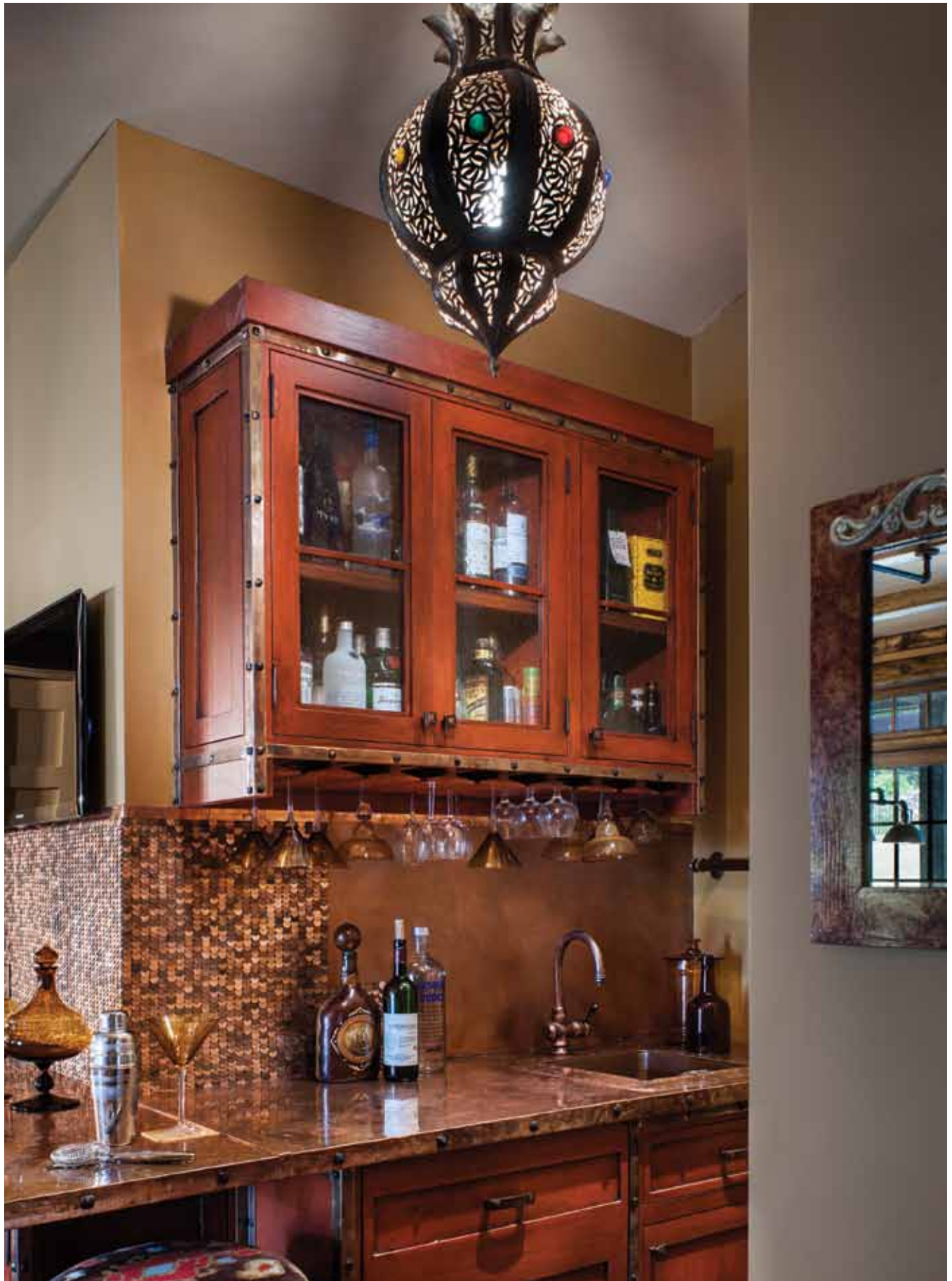


Warm and inviting, the billiards room offers a thoughtful mix of texture and finishes. Reclaimed oak ceiling beams discovered by builder Jeremi Jablonski were distressed on site.

OPPOSITE Rising up through the stair hall, a circular staircase connects the two levels of the home. Walls were custom finished by the homeowner.









the house soften the rear façade of the home. Moroccan lamps hang above the slate patios within these covered areas. No two alike, they were discovered by the homeowners while traveling in that country. A pergola extends out into the backyard creating an outdoor eating area. Next to it, the stone bar and outdoor kitchen, provide a perfect spot for seasonal entertaining. Made from the same stone, the rustic looking fireplace takes center stage in the back of this area. The raised fieldstone spa connects directly to the pool. A fieldstone wall defines the back of this outdoor room and creates a distinct and sturdy boundary between this level and the one above it.

With a nod to sustainability and gentle melding of traditional design with modern day conveniences, Mr. Jablonski and Mr. Dumitru have produced a timeless

and energy efficient home that will be enjoyed for generations to come. ■

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**OPPOSITE** Copper pennies accent the backsplash behind the wet bar in the billiards room. A copper countertop, sink and fixtures continue the theme.

Custom designed oak cabinetry defines the kitchen. Antique terra cotta tiles were used to design the medallion on the wall behind the stove.

## RESOURCES

### ARCHITECT

STUDIO DUMITRU ARCHITECTS

George Dumitru

The Mill

49 Richmondville Avenue, Suite #106

Westport, CT 06880

203.226.5156

[studiodumitru.com](http://studiodumitru.com)

### BUILDER

JABLONSKI ASSOCIATES

Jeremi Jablonski

59 Grove Street

Suite 1B

New Canaan, CT 06840

203.966.3636

[jablonskiassociates.com](http://jablonskiassociates.com)