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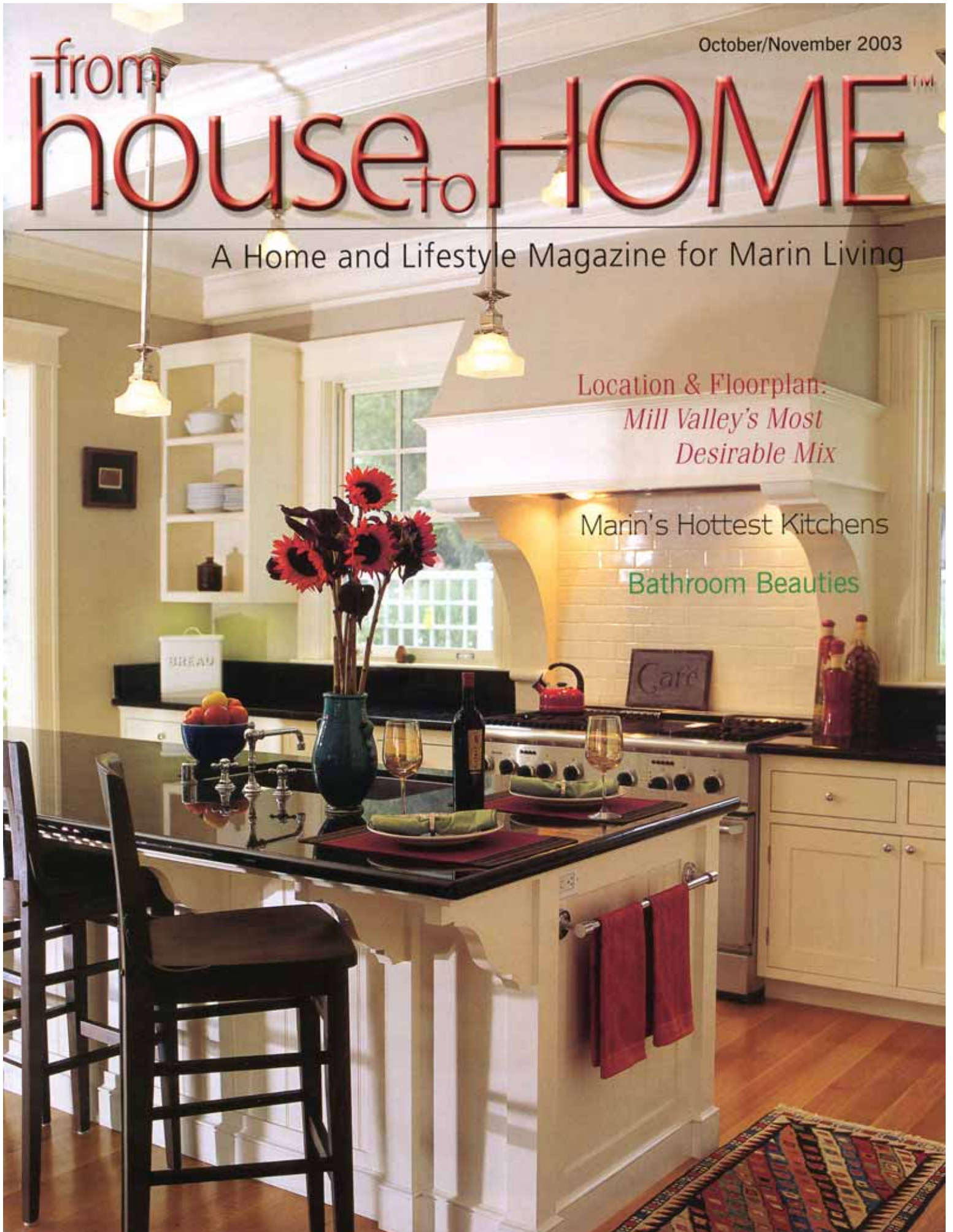
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# Revival Movement

Barbara Boughton  
Photography by  
Todd Pickering



When Katherine Johnk and Stephen Tramontozzi decided to remodel the 112-year-old Victorian they had lived in since 1995, they faced a difficult task. The Victorian home, built in a peaceful neighborhood in San Francisco near Golden Gate Park, had been subdivided into two flats, upstairs and downstairs. How could the couple and their designer, Susan Templer, turn the house into a unified whole—one that would feel like a comfortable, luxurious home—for Johnk and Tramontozzi and their four children?

The couple wanted to keep the Victorian details, including the beautiful trim moldings and high ceilings, that first attracted them to the





stairs bedroom at the back of the home.

To enhance the living room, Templer designed a new fireplace to be the centerpiece of the room. "The house had fireplaces all around, but none in the living room. It was a large room and simply cried out for a fireplace," she says. The resulting design is elegant and handsome and serves as a grand introduction to the home. It has an intricate carved mantel that matches the original millwork in the house and a green ceramic tile design surrounding the hearth. In a touch of



house. But they also felt they needed to open the rooms up to make the house more livable for their large family. Johnk, a symphony musician like her husband, had spent part of her career in Italy and wanted to include Italianate colors and materials in the remodel of the home—without detracting from the home's original Victorian design.

Just as renovation was getting underway, a furnace fire broke out. Most of the house was saved, but there was so much smoke damage a great deal of the original wainscoting and trim had to be remilled by a local company, Cairn Construction, to match the original. In addition to keeping and redoing many of these beautiful old-fashioned details, Templer strove to incorporate rich materials and colors in a more open, modern space plan. "The design required a lot of rethinking about the house's layout. We had to reconfigure much of the back of the house," says Templer, who is based in San Francisco. That meant opening up a downstairs hallway, that had been sealed up, to give the home a central passageway and moving the kitchen into what had been a down-

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whimsy, tiny metal insets in the shape of leaves outline the hearth.

The newly expanded kitchen combines Victorian and Italianate elements. Crown moldings top the paneled white cabinets selected for their ornate Victorian look. But the central island made of white and gold granite and the backsplash created from tumbled marble have a rustic Italian feel. On one wall is a mural of the Tuscan countryside painted by local artisan Willem Racke on hanging muslin. By looking at books about Italy, Johnk discovered the type of picture she wanted, down to the exact palazzo now pictured in the center of the

mural. "The mural really does look painted on, but if we ever had to move, I could take it with me," Johnk says.

With four young children, Johnk is kept busy cooking and organizing the household. "We had always lived in nice houses—but ones with small kitchens. So this was my

opportunity to get everything I needed and wanted for cooking and entertaining," she explains. The kitchen has a six-burner cooktop with an elegant copper hood, two warming drawers, a big pantry, and a double oven.

With four children—three of them boys—the family needed as many bathrooms as possible. So Templer converted a walk-in closet into a first floor bathroom and even squeezed in an enclosed glass shower. "I told Katherine that this was her chance to go crazy. She could do something absolutely fabulous in the powder room, a room out of an Italian villa," Templer says.

The room is so beautiful it won honorable mention in the National Kitchen and Bath Association's 2003 design contest. Tumbled limestone with an antique look and a rough feel comes halfway up the walls and lines the back of the shower. A salmon faux finish, reminiscent of Italy, is painted on the upper half of the walls. The countertop is made of rich black and copper marble with an unusual 3-inch rough front edge. "It was meant to look like a chunk of stone broken off an old, Italian villa," Templer says. A matching sink made of copper, finished with clear lacquer, is the final touch.

The home wouldn't be complete without a master suite. So the next task was designing a luxury bath adjacent to the bedroom. The bath, designed in blue and gold, features diamond-shaped limestone tiles on the floor as well as limestone shower walls. "We wanted as many amenities as possible," Johnk says. The room includes a whirlpool for two, a double shower, a double sink, a radiant heated floor, and towel warmers. There was already a diamond-shaped window on one side, and Templer added another for elegance and balance. Johnk and Tramontozzi can now view the lush green trees of Golden Gate Park from their new bathroom window.

In the bedroom, a blue granite surround was added to a fireplace—matching the deep rich colors of the bathroom's countertop. The fireplace, with its original Victorian mantel, can be admired from the bathroom's open-arched doorway; merely a short wall separates the two rooms. "It's ideal. It has a very open feeling, yet we're able to maintain our privacy," Johnk says. ...