

GREENSPACE

Kitchen A two-level island topped with Caesarstone divides the kitchen and dining area. Stools are from Williams-Sonoma and appliances from Sub-Zero and Wolf. Design details "Zurich" lanterns are from Vaughan Designs. The Vetrostone cooktop backsplash behind the copper hood is made with crushed oyster shells. Floors are reclaimed heart pine. Window valances are made of fabric by Lee Jofa.











Jim says. Interior walls are FSC-certified horizontal pine boards butted together. "We were looking at durability," he says. "This is a very old way to clad walls, and it's a timeless look."

Solid heart-pine floorboards from a South Carolina cotton mill were used for the house's rustic wide-plank floors. "We were able to cut each of the original 3-inch-thick boards lengthwise to create three boards [each 1 inch thick] for our floors, tripling the usage," Jim explains.

Some of the heart pine was used to build stair handrails, risers, and treads, resulting in a new staircase with the character and texture of a centuries-old home. "You grab the rail, and you can feel the holes from old nails," Jim says. "It's like it has a memory. The house really is like a big storybook."

The story continues on the living and dining room ceilings, which are finished with beams and panels of pecky cypress and reclaimed river cypress. Structural beams are boxed in the pecky cypress, notable for its pockmarked texture, created by a fungus that attacked the tree. The smoky gray flat panels were made with cypress boards milled from trees pulled from rivers and lakes.

The home's orientation and floor plan were also influenced by the environment and the desire to enjoy it. "It's all about the view and connecting with outside," Jim says. "We wanted a lot with an eastern orientation to the river. It's really pleasing to sit outside in the afternoon and see the effects of the sun behind you, radiating and illuminating the view in front of you—without being blinded by the light."

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Dining area Simple linencovered chairs and a table made of salvaged wood are from RH. French doors connect the dining area to a screened porch with a fireplace.

Exterior Bermuda shutters shield interiors from the sun while allowing ventilation. The lantern is from Bevolo Gas & Electric Lights. The screened porch on the back of the house offers views of the May River.

Homeowners Jim and Christie Bogrette.

Within a matter of months, the Philadelphia couple purchased a lot and began designing their sustainable and energy-savvy home in Palmetto Bluff, a planned resort community that prides itself on protecting the environment.

"The main appeal was the extraordinary natural landscape," Christie says. "And we were aligned with the developer's vision to preserve, protect, and enhance that incredible environment."

Jim, an architect, and Christie, an interior designer and fine artist, collaborated with Joel Newman, a Beaufort, South Carolina, architect who designed many of the resort buildings at Palmetto Bluff. The team's goal: Build a comfortable house that would take advantage of the natural setting without negatively impacting the environment.

The eco-friendly approach was from the ground up. A geothermal system that taps into the earth's consistent underground temperature was installed to heat and cool the house. The system is extremely energy efficient and quiet. "You don't hear the sounds of compressors and noises created by a typical central air system," Christie says.

A metal "cool roof" with a reflective finish deflects rather than absorbs heat. Windows are fitted with high-efficiency glass. Wide eaves, wood-slat awnings, and exterior Bermuda shutters shelter the interiors from the heat of the sun in the summer while allowing its welcome warmth during the winter.

"Every bit of wood in the house, including what was used to build the windows, was either reclaimed or FSC (Forest Stewardship Council)-certified," >