

Southern Accents

The magazine of fine Southern interiors and gardens

July-August 2003



bright ideas
for decorating



ABOVE: Fronds of fan palms in clear glass vases share the living room mantelpiece with a collection of seashells. The mantel was salvaged from an 18th-century Southern house and stripped to its early paint. A custom-colored Bennison cotton print enlivens the living room's serene palette. **RIGHT:** The walls of the alcove between the front hall and the kitchen are covered with old family photos in mismatched frames.

cross breezes and to views of the marshes. Reinforcing the shimmering vistas, sepia murals by San Francisco artist Scott Waterman wrap the walls in translucent watercolor-like scenes. Waterman depicts the South Carolina Indians who first inhabited the area. Radiating from the hall, the rest of the house continues the warm palette in a combination of tucked-away private spaces and clean, casual rooms with storage neatly hidden in paneled cupboards and clever niches. "There's very little wasted space in the house," says Handegan. "Everything is used."

Throughout, Handegan mixed European and American antiques, softened with signs of wear, and dressed them in touchable linens and cottons. The furnishings have a timelessness in harmony with the landscape. Handegan contributed some of her own favorite things, such as a slender dining room chandelier discovered in Paris and an 18th-century painted screen. The designer limited decorative flourishes to a few striking effects, keeping rooms spare and uncluttered. "The house

$\frac{77.25''}{6'7.25''}$

+ 10" 87.25"

57.25"

20"

4'9 $\frac{1}{4}$ '

1'8"



B