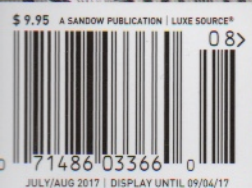


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50 TAKE TWO

AN UNEXPECTED FLOOD PROVES TO BE THE SILVER LINING FOR EAST HAMPTON HOMEOWNERS ADAPTING TO A NEW LIFESTYLE.

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INTERIOR DESIGN / NOEL JEFFREY, NOEL JEFFREY INC.
HOME BUILDER / PHILLIP KOUFFMAN, MKL CONSTRUCTION CORP.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE / MARK MOSKOWITZ
MARK MOSKOWITZ LANDSCAPE DESIGN





Floods have a way of obliging new beginnings, literally washing out the old to make room for fresh perspectives. This is what happened when the upstairs of a couple's East Hampton home flooded, tracing a moldy path downstairs through ceilings and walls and causing the owners to call upon longtime friend and architect James Smiros to help them regroup. "It was time to upgrade the house anyway," recalls Smiros. "Their two children had grown and grandchildren were now on the scene, and they also love to entertain in a big way. So they'd already outgrown the spaces."

The wife felt particularly confined by the kitchen. "It's the most important room in the house to me," she explains "I love to cook. I have a beautiful vegetable garden and everything from there goes into my food." So, Smiros absorbed the garage into the living space, creating a larger three-island kitchen with a butler's pantry, as well as a large dining area and step-down family room.

Though most of the furniture remained unscathed, some pieces required new upholstery. Says Noel Jeffrey, who had designed the interiors a dozen years prior, "The wife is very elegant, and at the time of the original design, people were decorating in a more formal way," he says. With this in mind, Jeffrey's initial mix of Louis XVI and Swedish styles still worked in the living and dining rooms, but upgrades made it feel fresher and more relaxed. "We have two kids, four grandchildren and four dogs," says the wife, practical grounds for agreeing to Jeffrey's suggestion of replacing the now-damaged painted and stenciled living room floor with a simpler, cleaner bleached-oak herringbone. The new space created by the absorbed garage was also completely revamped. "We furnished it with modern pieces that were more casual and gave it a new pale blue palette," says Jeffrey.

Upstairs, Smiros completely reconfigured the rooms, allowing for an en suite bath in each. In the master, his and her baths were combined into one larger, more luxurious

The clients' own bergere (left) and a Ferrell Mittman armchair (right), both upholstered in Bergamo fabric, face different seating areas in the living room, which showcases a bleached-oak floor by LePelle Inspired Flooring and a painting by Melanie Parke from Kenise Barnes Fine Art in Larchmont, New York.





Above the family room's Ferrell Mittman sectional, which is upholstered in Osborne & Little fabric, shell prints flank a painting by Andrea Kantrowitz from Kenise Barnes Fine Art. The Ruffled Window used more Osborne & Little to fabricate the Roman shades, and the carpet is Stark.

**“BY CONVERTING
THE OLD GARAGE
INTO A KITCHEN
AND FAMILY
ROOM, WE ADDED
ABOUT 500 EXTRA
SQUARE FEET TO
THE HOME.”**

-JAMES SMIROS