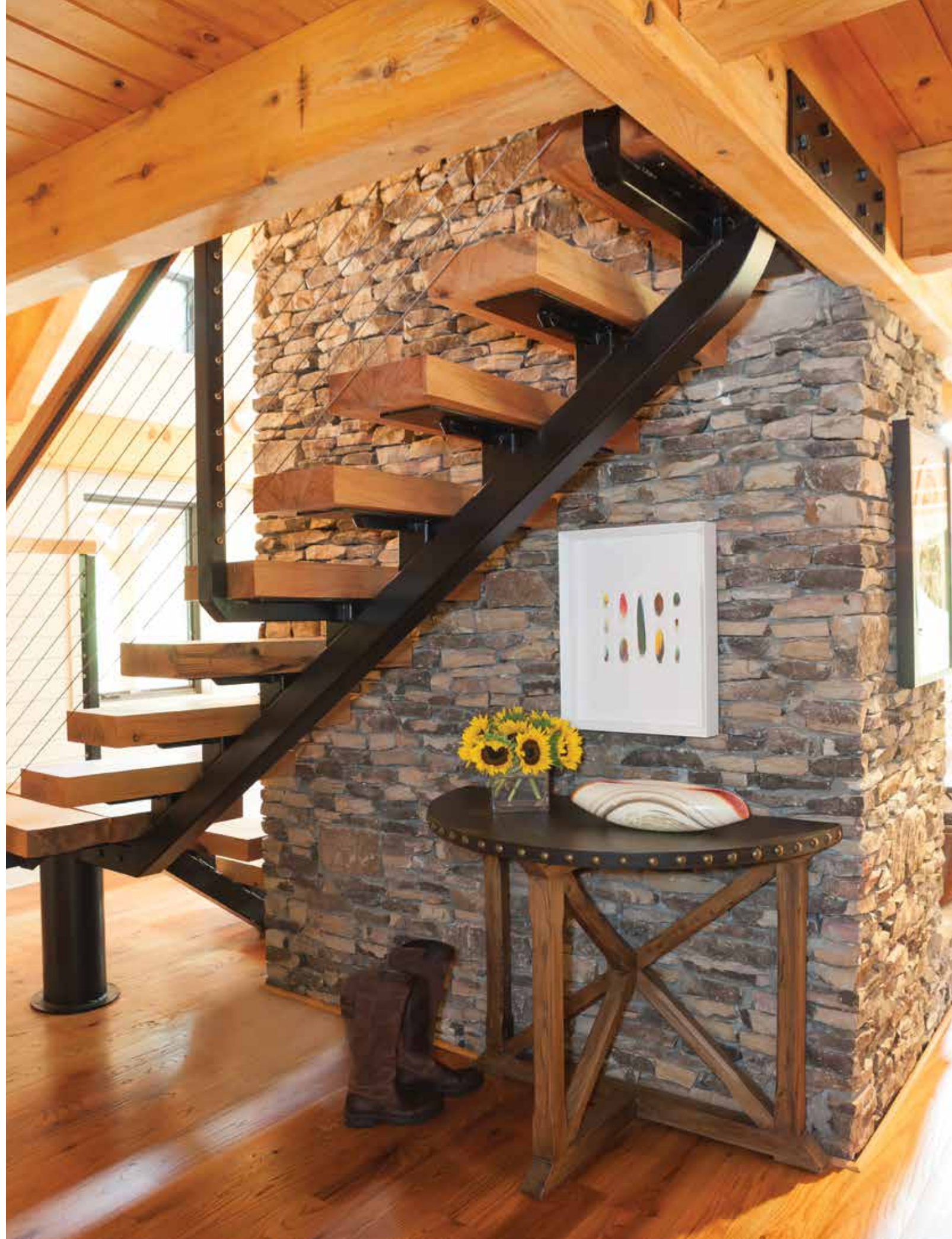




A Contemporary Country Cabin

WITH THE HELP OF SOUTH CAROLINA INTERIOR DESIGNER CATHERINE HERSACHER, THIS CABIN IN THE WOODS IS ANYTHING BUT COUNTRY.



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The deep woods of Aiken, South Carolina, may not be where you'd expect to find a streamlined, modern cabin, but designer Catherine Hersacher of Bespoke Fine Interiors created a space that seamlessly blends in with its surroundings while also making a stylish statement in this charming Southern town.

Catherine first came onto the project not long after the construction of the house—a timberline kit home. “The kit didn’t come with any kind of electrical planning, and there’s no floor-to-floor space between the first and second floors, so the homeowners couldn’t figure out how they were going to light the space,” she recalls. “So, that’s why they pulled me into the project.” It was that initial lighting issue that set the style and tone for the rest of the home. Catherine made the choice to go with tech cable lighting, which naturally lent itself to a more modern design scheme. From there, the project just seemed to flow.





The rest of the home's furnishings followed suit, with clean lines and minimalist themes in every room. Catherine chose dark hues for the windows and doors, another step in a contemporary direction. "We just kept with this simple style," she says. "It's not edgy; it's simple, comfortable, and definitely not country. I think sticking with that as our guide and making sure that everything fell somewhere close to that is what made it really successful."

With natural wood ceilings and floors and white walls, Catherine had a blank slate to work with and kept much of the space that way, adding splashes of orange and blue here and there. "I think wood finishes and white walls can go any direction," she says. "It's a very neutral background." To reflect Aiken's horse-loving heritage and the homeowners' careers as equestrians, she incorporated tasteful references to equine culture, like the abstract painting above the stone fireplace.



Though Catherine describes most of the project as smooth, she notes that the glass-topped dining table gave her a little bit of struggle. "The glass is 10 feet long. We had to have eight men bring that piece of glass in," she says. In addition to the dining table, she incorporated several pieces of glass-topped furniture to mirror the abundant windows around the home.





To complement the wood tones, Catherine selected a light color palette that accentuates the richness of the soft orange hues in the wood. "I think some people may have been tempted to paint the ceilings, but the homeowners really loved the wood."



Catherine worked with the homeowners to thoughtfully curate their décor selections to keep the emphasis on the lush surroundings outside and architectural details inside. Throughout the cabin, the lighting elements showcase clean lines, drawing the eye up to the exposed ceiling and the upstairs loft area. The stair rail and railing around the loft are thin and cable-like, also allowing for clear sightlines throughout the home. Down below, the open-concept living spaces boast plush neutral furnishings that feel both elegant and comfortable. Catherine was sure to choose pet-friendly fabrics, like Sunbrella, so the homeowners' dogs could enjoy the space alongside them. It's that blend of comfort and elegance that makes this Southern cottage a true retreat and a relaxed, contemporary cabin in the woods. 🐾

Text by Hannah Jones
Photography by William Dickey



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