



# LAVISH LODGE

STORY BY LISA MARTIN | PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOHN SMITH



In a beloved parcel of family land in an optimally idyllic setting, Dallas über-interior designer Sherry Hayslip helped create a fishing lodge/vacation home that accommodates large numbers of family and friends in unsurpassed comfort and subtle sophistication.

The enviable environs—Friday Harbor on Washington State's stunning San Juan Island—influenced nearly every aspect of the project, which Hayslip and frequent collaborator, architect Cole Smith, conceived as a low-maintenance yet stylish rustic retreat. That the property itself was so outstanding provided welcome context for the enterprises. Consider the specs: heavily wooded acreage with total privacy beside the sea and thanks to an eagle's nest that had priority for protection, the homeowners could build closer to the water than typically allowed.

"It's one of the most incredibly beautiful places I've ever seen," says Hayslip, who had worked with the homeowners on their Dallas residence and an east coast vacation house before embarking on the Friday Harbor project. "For the house, they didn't want to make a big statement or have anything remotely ostentatious. Instead, they wanted a home that was beautifully and carefully done, that would be enjoyed and appreciated by the family for generations."

And while the finished residence is anything but showy, it does boast remarkable depth of detail that truly makes each room feel outstanding and singular.

"Cole worked with the husband to come up with a lot of fantastic touches, including the custom hardware and metalwork, which is everywhere," says Hayslip. "And because the family is very environmentally conscious, we made it a point to use only natural fibers and other eco-friendly products, including reclaimed lumber. This is a family that wants to protect and renew the environment, not diminish it in any way."



OPPOSITE PAGE: HAYSLIP PLACED ENGLISH ANTIQUES PERFECTLY AGAINST THE NATURAL FIBERS, RECLAIMED LUMBER AND OTHER ECO-FRIENDLY PRODUCTS USED TO CREATE THIS GREAT FISHING ESCAPE. | THIS PAGE: THE TOWERING GREAT ROOM REFLECTS HAYSLIP'S AND SMITH'S COLLECTIVE DESIGN PHILOSOPHIES, WITH OVERSIZED COMFORTABLE SEATING. VIEWS IN THE GREAT ROOM ARE SPECTACULAR.



When it came to furnishing the house, Hayslip mingled elegant antiques and fine reproductions with custom furniture specially designed for particular spaces. Showcased in the foyer, for instance, are a pair of excellent English chairs from the Arts & Crafts period; Hayslip and Smith found them at a London antiques show.

"What's really special about this house is that it has an Arts & Crafts spirit to it without being a re-creation of an Arts & Crafts house," she says. "There's a lot of detailing in the metalwork and the woodwork, but the look is simple and straightforward, one that depends a lot on the integrity of the materials."

The towering great room reflects this design philosophy. Smith designed the hardware for the ceiling beams to resemble a Northwest Native American motif. The fireplace is made of indigenous stone. On the walls flanking the opening to the foyer

hangs a pair of antique driftwood mirrors; the coffee table base is also driftwood.

The seating in this well-used space is intentionally oversized and comfortable. Hayslip had the generous pieces covered in sturdy, low-maintenance, "feel-good" materials, including chenille, leather and heavy woven cotton.

A few paces away in the dining room, Hayslip and the homeowners opted for twin tables, which can be slid together for large gatherings. The leather and tapestry chairs are Louis XIII-style, which the designer says "works well with all kinds of looks." Above the antique Stickley sideboard is an authentic Audubon print of an eagle, an homage to the species that shares the property with the Dallas family.

According to Hayslip, the unfussy kitchen was designed to



focus on the breathtaking views beyond the minimally adorned windows. The cabinets are fronted with handmade restoration glass while the granite countertops and high-end appliances, concealed behind wood paneling, provide the cooks the best possible assistance in meal preparation. The cozy breakfast area overlooks an outdoor fireplace.

Overnight guests, meanwhile, are privy to an especially ingenious bunkroom, which sleeps six.

"The [female] homeowner had the idea of the ladder between the beds with the drawers under them," says Hayslip. "They're safer to climb up and it's a great way to maximize the space."

Michael Stallings of Dallas designed the beds and made them out of pine. He also added an extra touch of whimsy: sayings about dreams are written on the slats of the top bunk, so the occupant on the bottom is treated to some dreamy thoughts before drifting off to sleep. As a final touch, antique camp blankets (circa 1900) that Hayslip found at a New York antique show, hang over the rails of each bed.

In the master suite, Smith fashioned a pair of spectacular metal headboards that lock together so the separate beds can become one.

"Because this is a fishing lodge and a bunch of fisherman don't want to sleep together, we needed beds that can be connected or split depending on who's using the house," the designer explains.

The homeowners themselves, however, often prefer to sleep on the queen-sized Murphy bed on the back porch. No need for mosquito netting in this mild climate. Even in the middle of summer, the couple can rest easily to the sounds and smell of the sea.

"It's an inviting home with character," says Hayslip, "but it's got a very easy feel to it, which is just what the homeowners' wanted."

---

*Interior Designer: Sherry Hayslip, ASID, IIDA, Hayslip Design Associates, 214-871-9106 or [www.hayslipdesign.com](http://www.hayslipdesign.com)  
Principal Architect: Cole Smith, FAIA, AIA, of Smith, Ekblad & Associates, 214-871-0305*



OPPOSITE PAGE: LEATHER AND TAPESTRY CHAIRS FLANK THE DINING ROOM. TWIN TABLES CAN BE MOVED TOGETHER TO ACCOMMODATE ANY SIZE GATHERING. VIEWS FROM THE GRAND ROOM ARE BREATHTAKING. | THIS PAGE: THE KITCHEN WAS DESIGNED TO FOCUS ON THE SCENIC VIEWS WHILE ACCOMMODATING THE FINEST OF WEEKEND CHEFS.





**OPPOSITE PAGE: (CLOCKWISE) 1-OUTDOOR DINING IS A MUST FOR LODGE LIVING. HAYSLIP USED NATURAL FURNISHINGS AND WOODS TO CREATE A WARM OUTDOOR ENTERTAINING ENVIRONMENT. 2-DECORATING A MEMORABLE BATHROOM CAN BE AN ENJOYABLE TASK IN A LODGE SETTING. WHIMSY AND CHARM IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE IN A RUSTIC BATHROOM SETTING. 3-CUSTOM DOORKNOB UNIQUELY DESIGNED BY COLE SMITH. | 4-BEAUTIFUL IRON STAIRCASE IS CRAFTED WITH A NATURAL LEAF AND TWIG DESIGN. THIS PAGE: 1-THE PLAN WAS TO GET AS MANY VISITING FISHERMEN AND FRIENDS INTO THE LODGE AS POSSIBLE. TWIN SIZE BEDDING OPTIONS ARE PRACTICAL AND GREAT TO DESIGN AROUND FOR SECOND HOME LIVING. HAYSLIP SPOTTED THE ANTIQUE CAMP BLANKETS (CIRCA 1900) AT A NEW YORK ANTIQUE SHOW. | 2-SMITH HAD THE UNDERSIDE OF THE BUNK BEDS INSCRIPTED WITH INTERESTING SAYINGS. THIS MADE EVEN THE BOTTOM BUNKS A DESIRABLE STAY.**







OPPOSITE PAGE: OUTDOOR LIVING SPACES ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO THIS HOME. MOSQUITOES ARE OF NO CONCERN IN THIS MILD CLIMATE. EVENINGS ARE VERY SPECIAL WITH A ROARING FIRE COMING FROM THE ELABORATE STONE FIREPLACE. | THIS PAGE: SPLENDID HARDWARE MARKS THE ENTIRE HOUSE AND SHOWS THAT NO DETAIL WAS LEFT UNADDRESSED IN THIS MAGNIFICENT LODGE. 2-OUTDOOR RELAXING IS SIMPLIFIED WITH THIS EXTERIOR MURPHY BED.



THIS PAGE: THE MORNING LIGHT SPRINKLES THROUGH THE WASHINGTON STATE WOODLANDS TO STRIKE THIS BEAUTIFUL SECOND HOME AT JUST THE RIGHT ANGLE. THE FISHING LODGE WAS BUILT WITH AN ARTS AND CRAFTS STYLE IN MIND.