SPICE OF LIFE

IN ROSEMARY BEACH, A FAMILY'S LONGTIME DESIGN PARTNER CREATES A SPACE TO SAVOR

INTERIOR DESIGN L. JONATHAN SAVAGE WITH TRAVIS HILL AND RANDI STOVESAND, SAVAGE INTERIOR DESIGN, NASHVILLE, TN
EXTERIOR ARCHITECTURE LEW OLIVER, INC., CLARKESVILLE, GA
TEXT MICHELLE PAYER | PHOTOGRAPHY JULIE WAGE ROSS, MEMPHIS, TN

WITH ITS COBBLESTONE STREETS, brick sidewalks, and cachet as one of "America's Most Romantic Small Towns," Rosemary Beach lured a Nashville family to purchase a vacation home and engage longtime design partner Jonathan Savage to reimagine the property.

The client's trust in Palm Beach- and Nashville-based Savage ran so deep that they barely raised an eyebrow when he declared the entry foyer would become the dining room—a first in his long career. Savage felt

ABOVE: Benjamin Moore Knoxville Grey paint frames the home's French doors and windows, adding a pop of color to the Cloud White exterior. Cedar shaker siding offers a clean beach vibe. A stone pathway connects all the home's exterior doors to the backyard pool and outdoor gathering spaces.

From the front door, guests enter the main dining room, the spot where the home's two wings meet. A John Boone chandelier provides a welcoming focal point.

strongly that the oddly shaped room could become a fabulous combination dining area and reading room. Since the space is a connecting point between the home's two wings, he says he knew it would be the ideal gathering place and adhere to his design philosophy of "transforming spaces and making them personal."

Another Savage space transformation sits adjacent to the kitchen: the home's breakfast nook-turned-reading room. Savage says he knew that for the quirky room to work, it had to be a dual-purpose space. With only a trio of bar stools in the kitchen for seating, he believed this was a "clever" meeting spot and dining option.

"I'm a fanatic for details and for breaking the rules, but when you have clients who believe in you, you can do anything," says Savage. "It's stepping outside the box and maximizing the spaces," which was Savage's mantra throughout the 4,800-square-foot, two-story home with four bedrooms, four en suite baths and two powder rooms.

ABOVE: Jonathan Savage divided the L-shaped living room into three "intimate, convivial spaces to make it feel cozy, warm, and inviting yet casual, carefree, and durable," he says. "You can come in with a bathing suit, plop down and be fine."

Rattan Palecek bar stools abut a marble-topped kitchen island lit by two Apparatus pendants. An easy-to-clean indoor/outdoor runner covers the stairs that lead to the home's second floor. On the landing, original work by artist Wendy Westlake captures natural light.

Savage converted an oddly shaped room to create a multi-functional space. The result? A reading retreat and breakfast nook that exudes warmth and charm with glazed pecky cypress walls. Savage calls the room, "the best place to hang out and read."

Savage selected a neutral color palette with pops of color for an "overall chic, casual coastal beach house vibe—not seashells on the seashore decor." He prioritized texture with limestone flooring and Venetian plaster.

The client's main directive? A casual and tranquil environment to relax and entertain friends. That, plus a large backyard pool area where they could comfortably lounge directly from the pool or beach without fear of damaging the furniture. Savage maximized family-friendly fabric throughout—including on the Christian Liaigre sofa in one of the living room's three conversation spaces. On the first floor, he used durable fabrics, including the stain-proof Holly Hunt vegan leather Verellen ottoman that anchors four Ferrell Mittmann chairs upholstered in indoor/outdoor tweed. In the kitchen, he used easy-care woven Palecek wicker barstools.

For what Savage says is "one of the larger backyards on Rosemary Beach," the designer kept things simple to allow the home's Lew Oliver architecture to shine. He gave the family more places to gather alfresco, including a covered outdoor lounge area and conversation chairs in the pool. His final touch before he turned over the keys was to toss three black and white beach balls into the pool. "Because everyone loves a chic beach ball," he says.

TOP RIGHT: The light-filled master bathroom looks out over the home's lush front yard. Floating dual vanities in a heavy wood grain are anchored by Kohler fixtures.

RIGHT: A Michael Berman console artfully divides one of three living room conversation spaces. A quartet of Ferrell Mittmann chairs upholstered in indoor/outdoor tweed meet around a Holly Hunt vegan leather Verellen ottoman to create a lounge effect. Artwork by McKenzie Dove bookends the space.

ABOVE: Nearly every one of the home's doors leads to the pool that runs the length of the corner lot. Savage kept the outdoor aesthetic clean and uncomplicated, including four white chaise lounge chairs and Perennials-upholstered sun chairs he placed on the top step of the the pool deck.

SOURCES

DINING AREA

Table – Jean de Merry, R Hughes, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Chairs – McGuire, Baker, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Chandelier – John Boone Inc., New York, NY
Drapery – Pierre Frey, Jim Thompson, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Centerpiece – Brice, LTD., ADAC, Atlanta, GA

LIVING AREA

Sofa – Christian Liaigre, R Hughes, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Fabric and pillows – Holland & Sherry, R Hughes, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Cocktail table – McGuire, Baker, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Accent chair – Antiques and Beyond, Atlanta, GA
Sconce – Apparatus, R Hughes, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Area rug – Fibreworks, Louisville, KY

KITCHEN

Counter stools – Palecek, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Pendant lighting – Apparatus, R Hughes, ADAC, Atlanta, GA

BREAKFAST AREA

Table – J. Robert Scott, Jerry Pair and Associates, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Chairs – Palecek, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Banquette – Lee Industries, Conover, NC
Artwork above banquette – Mckenzie Dove, Pryor Fine Art, Atlanta, GA
Artwork on wall – McKenzie Dove, Pryor Fine Art, Atlanta, GA
Chandelier – J. Browning by RH, Restoration Hardware, *rh.com*
Window treatment – FRET, Ainsworth Noah, ADAC, Atlanta, GA

MASTER BATH

Window treatment – Pierre Frey, Jim Thompson, ADAC, Atlanta, GA

LIVING ROOM GROUPING

Club chairs – Ferrell Mittman, Ainsworth Noah, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Fabric – Zimmer + Rohde, Ainsworth Noah, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Ottoman – Verellen, High Point, NC
Drink table – Gregorius Pineo, Jerry Pair and Associates, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Console – Michael Berman, Los Angeles, CA
Sculpture on console – Baker, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Floor lamp – J. Browning by RH, Restoration Hardware, rh.com
Drapery fabric – FRET, Ainsworth Noah, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Area rug – Fibreworks, Louisville, KY

BACK EXTERIOR

Stripped side chair – Barlow Tyrie Inc, Moorestown, NJ
Planters – Kolo Collection Studio 321, ADAC, Atlanta, GA

PERGOLA

Teak chairs – Sutherland Perennials Studio, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Side table – Emissary, Chamblee, GA
Wall accessories – Full Pot of Flowers, Pompano Beach, FL

ABOVE: "Formal spaces are out. Intimate spaces are in to extend square footage and give the client options indoors or out," Savage says. Seeing another opportunity for a poolside lounge area, he created underneath a peaked driftwood ceiling with a Janus et Cie coffee table and David Sutherland teak wood chairs. Dried woven palm fronds add texture to whitewashed walls.