

renovation / traditional



clockwise from above: The new family room has cathedral ceilings and a large fireplace with a stone surround. The bones of the living room were preserved, but new built-ins and fresh décor brought the space up to date. With ample light from skylights above, the new stair hall doubles as an art gallery. Old and new buildings are thoughtfully connected, and the elegant staircase can be viewed from the entry. **opposite:** The original Gambrel house was carefully restored and a series of new buildings were added, creating an integrated living space.



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AUSTIN PATTERSON DISSTON ARCHITECTS

FIELD GUIDE

Many historic New England homes evolve over decades, as additions and renovations are undertaken when new owners move in. It was this “New England additive architecture,” says Mac Patterson, AIA, that inspired the renovation project and building of new structures on a twenty-one-acre country property in Redding. The eighteenth-century house with the gambrel roof was carefully preserved, its mechanical systems updated, structure reinforced and original wood used to restore the beautiful wood-and-nail floors; new windows and doors connect it to a terrace. In the center section of the 6,300-square-foot home, the interior was gutted and the roof raised to create a Greek Revival-style house that’s painted yellow and features a front porch with crisscross detailing of rough-sawn native timber beams. Each addition has a different exterior

color and materials to give it a distinct identity. “The overarching purpose here was to link off of the Gambrel and keep everything away from the center of the property so that when you’re sitting on the property, you’re looking out across big fields,” says Patterson. “You’re not trying to match but to tell a bit of a story with the buildings. That was the theme.”

Inside the main section of the house, a center stair hall functions as a gallery for the couple’s extensive art collection. Next door, a screened porch houses a large fireplace, and new standalone structures include a barn guest cottage, a writing tower, a red garage and storage barn and a pool with a pagoda-style pool house. “The homeowners wanted walkable destinations around the property,” says Patterson. “They were wonderful clients who wanted the utmost care in everything.” —MKH

