

Business/Real Estate

Eclectic style works well

It's Cottage Time! A time for change, relaxation, old friends and new decorating problems. Let's try and solve some of them as inexpensively and quickly as possible.

So you can feel you are really getting away, your cottage should be decorated in a totally different style and color than your home in the city. Therefore, if your city home is full of antiques, try a completely new look with modern, wicker, oriental, colonial or country French. All of these styles lend themselves to a relaxing and inviting feeling.

Most of us, if we can afford a second home, have no choice but to use old furniture stored in the basement or attic — what I call early basement and antique attic. Why not take advantage of what you already have and create an eclectic style using your old things and adding a few new modern pieces. Or using mostly modern and adding a few old pieces for interest. If you are on a tight budget and want an interesting cottage, it's the only way to go.

Color and fabrics are extremely important when trying to pull different styles together. If you

cover an antique sofa in a printed fabric, buy a few extra yards and make placemats or cover the cushions for your modern dining room chairs. Let your fabric pull everything together.

To help you decide what colors to use, you need to know your exposure. If your living room faces north or east, you might want to use warm colors such as yellow, orange, reds and neutrals. If your windows face south or west, you might want to cool down your warm room by using cool colors of blues, greens and white. Here again you might want to try an entirely different color scheme than what you have in your other home. Bright colors and wild prints can be used effectively because your cottage visits will be shorter and you won't tire of them as quickly. Just be careful not to get too busy a pattern or too warm a color, or you might be overstimulated and not able to relax.

You can either bring the outside in by using blues, greens and a touch of yellow or yellows and a touch of either blue or green depending on your exposure. Or use neutral colors and lots of tex-

ture and pattern for a more soothing and relaxing note. An added attraction of neutral colors is they disguise dirt well. Choose the colors that will work for you and your family, a color scheme that will allow you to enjoy your summers at the cottage.

Once you have gathered all your left-overs, you are ready to think about your walls, floors, and window treatments. If your walls are wood and in good condition, leave them, for there isn't anything easier to care for. Wood is a color too, and can be restrained or oiled to add luster. If you are panelling, it's helpful to know vertical lines make the ceiling look higher and horizontal lines make it look lower. Paint is always acceptable, and if you wallpaper, vinyl is the best.

Your window treatment should blend into the walls if possible so you can accent more important objects. If your walls are wood, wooden shutters are always nice and easy to care for. Curtains and drapes should be sun-treated and washable. Matchstick blinds are very inexpensive and add another texture.

Unless you love to scrub floors, don't put in lots of linoleum throughout your cottage or a very light or dark carpet. Wooden floors are super and can be protected with polyurethane. Area rugs can be added. Indoor/outdoor carpet is good for a warm and carefree feeling. I find a carpet sweeper does wonders and even a child can use it. Straw matting is another very cheap flooring and is long-wearing. You can get it as a rug or in squares and it can be vacuumed or washed and dirt doesn't show.

Follow my floor plan as I describe more budget ideas:

1. A floor to ceiling fireplace;
2. A sofa slip covered in inexpensive chintz, sailcloth or union cloth for easy cleaning and durability. Both sofas are done in a floral print in navy/beige and off-white;
3. An old trunk either left untreated or painted in the sand/beige color;
4. A sofa bed slip covered in the same fabric as No. 2;
5. An antique desk and chair to act as an end table and a place to write notes, etc.;

Home decor



By Margi Billesdon

Margi Billesdon studied interior design at the New York School of Interior Design and at Sheridan College. She is now teaching at Sheridan College, Brampton campus, and at the Mississauga YM-YWCA, as well as working as a freelance interior decorator. She lives on Homelands Drive in Mississauga with her husband and two children and can be reached at 823-6138.

6. Floor pillows — one done in the same print as the sofa and the others done in a blue/beige and off-white stripe.

7. Wicker chairs left in the neutral color with cushions done in a geometric pattern in blue/beige.

8. A 42-inch piece of plywood mounted to any kind of base you can find or a card table with an extend-o-top, which is much cheaper than a dining room table. Cover the top with a fabric (it takes about six yards) in the blue/beige and off-white stripe. If you can afford it, have a piece of glass made to cover the top for easy clean-ups.

9. Bookshelves to house games and books, painted in the sand/beige color.

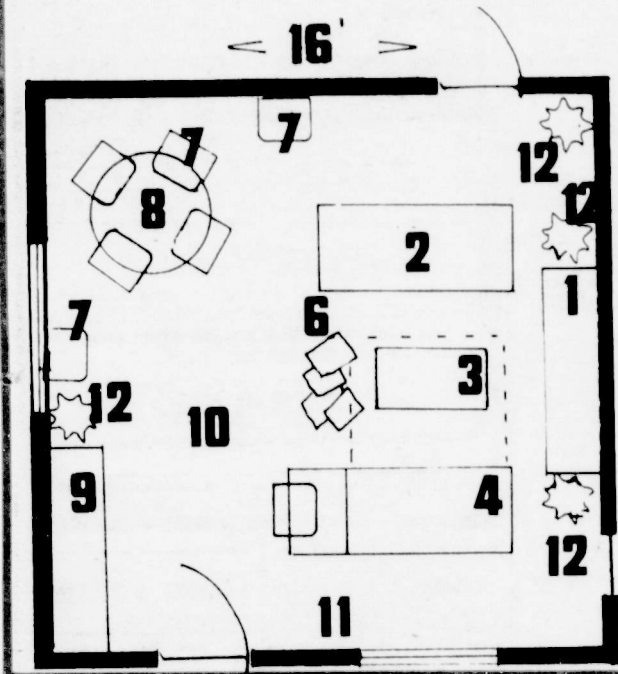
10. Straw matting to add texture and easy maintenance.

11. Walls painted in the sand/beige color.

12. Artificial green plants made of material. They look real and don't need any care.

Your cottage should reveal freedom, warmth and interest. A place where you, your family and friends can come, express themselves in new ways and go home rejuvenated!

Happy cottaging!



business briefs

Construction on addition begins

A ground-breaking ceremony was held recently to mark the start of construction of a 47,000-square-foot office building extension for Ciba-Geigy Canada Ltd. in the Meadowdale Industrial Park.

The extension, to be completed next summer, will result in a total 96,000-square-foot office complex, housing the corporate headquarters and divisional management for the pharmaceutical, agricultural and plastics and additives divisions of the company.

Local agency wins awards

Canadian Trend Sales Promotions, an agency specializing in innovative advertising and sales campaigns, has recently won two international marketing awards.

The awards are: Best Over-all Sales Aid Program, for client Northwood Mills Ltd. of Toronto, in the 18th annual Drummer Competition; and Direct Mail Advertising Campaign, First Award, for client Brazeau Transport Inc. of Ville St. Laurent, in the ATA Sales and Marketing Council Contest.

The account executive for both clients is Dave Heslop, vice-president of Canadian Trend.

Firm develops darkroom timer

Heathkit has developed a new microprocessor-controlled darkroom timer kit which has several features for ease of use and durability.

The PT-1500's programmable memory can hold times for up to nine processing steps and an enlarger step.

The PT-1500, priced at \$189.95, is available at Heathkit Electronic Centres in Mississauga, Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Ottawa and Montreal.

Association heads say provincial body failing

By JOHN STEWART
Times staff writer

The presidents of the Peel Condominium Association and the Federation of Ontario Condominium Associations (FOCA) say Condominium Ontario is failing to fulfil its mandate after a year of operation.

PCA president Ken Oakes and FOCA president Peter Carlson are both Mississauga residents who hoped the independent body set up by the province last year would bring much-needed aid to condominium homeowners who don't understand the condominium lifestyle.

But a year of experience has soured both men on the concept.

Carlson says Condominium Ontario is "destined to fail" if it doesn't revise its thinking.

Both say there is a growing estrangement between Condominium Ontario and FOCA and the regional associations such as PCA.

The 15-person Condominium Ontario board of directors decided to split Ontario into eight administrative regions, one of them Peel, each with its own board of directors.

Carlson disagrees with the decision and complains that FOCA and the regional associations

weren't consulted. He complains about poor communication from the body and claims it is not fulfilling its function to provide information service to individual condominium homeowners. "The idea was to educate the homeowners themselves," says Carlson. "They're the ones who really need it."

Oakes says Condominium Ontario is "failing to meet the intent of the people who put it there."

Oakes says the body's apparent intent to ignore the regional associations and FOCA makes him suspect "Condominium Ontario was internationally set up to eliminate them. You have

to ask yourself, were they proving to be a thorn in the side of the government?"

The PCA president also says many condominium corporations only supported Condominium Ontario because it was to provide an independent dispute-solving mechanism for corporations. That aspect has now been challenged in the courts.

After a year, Condominium Ontario hasn't much to show for its efforts, Carlson says. "It makes me wonder if maybe some of those (Mississauga) councillors were right when they complained about the potential bureaucracy and red tape. I didn't



Peter Carlson

want to believe that it could happen, but it seems to be here," says Carlson.

FOCA plans to meet soon with the Condominium Ontario board of directors to discuss the situation.

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