



PHOTOGRAPHS: JEAN ALLSOPP

*When opened, the barn doors reveal a set of handsome French doors topped with a large transom window.*

# Suited for Guests

*Deep in the South Carolina marshlands, this cozy guesthouse reflects the past while welcoming visitors in the present.*

Encouraging guests to feel at home remains a hallmark of Southern hospitality. Sometimes, though, an even greater concern for homeowners is maintaining some breathing space for themselves and their visitors. A couple on Spring Island, South Carolina, didn't solve that problem by adding more bedrooms and hallways onto their home. Instead, they chose to build a separate guesthouse that not only complements their own quarters but also allows their guests to come and go at will.



same look of authenticity. The different siding types, with the horizontal shiplap on the center body and the vertical board-and-batten covering the shed extensions, reinforce this feel. Elements such as the various window sizes and operable shutters also evoke a sense of age.

To complete this cozy retreat, the architects selected a copper standing-seam roof. At the roof's peak, a louvered cupola provides ventilation to the cottage's attic and adds a historic finishing touch. Such attention to detail is sure to make any guest feel welcomed.

*Robert Martin*

Architects Jim Strickland and Terry Pylant of Historical Concepts in Peachtree City, Georgia, as well as Suzanne Stern from the company's Albany division, designed a guesthouse that is far more than a secondary outbuilding. Based on an 1860s smokehouse from a North Carolina plantation, the 586-square-foot cottage provides guests with their own sitting area, kitchenette, bedroom, bath, and private screened porch. Its location is also an important element in the arrangement of structures on the site. "The small guesthouse and a garage on the opposite end of the yard help frame the main house," explains Terry. "The combination of these structures functions much like ancillary buildings once did on a traditional plantation."

In keeping with the Greek Revival-inspired appearance of the main house, the details and materials of their guesthouse achieve the

## SUPPORTING ROLES

Even if the secondary structure at your house is a toolshed, it can still work in harmony with your home's appearance. Here are some tips.

- As with this guesthouse, refer to your primary residence for clues. Match the siding and roofing materials on outbuildings for a look of continuity.
- Add landscaping and other elements that will soften the edges of the structures. Also, interesting paths composed of different materials will lend variety to your property.
- Arrange secondary structures so that they complement the location of your house.
- While a guesthouse may not be on your list of priorities, you might be in need of a detached garage. If so, consider building a structure that complements your own house.

