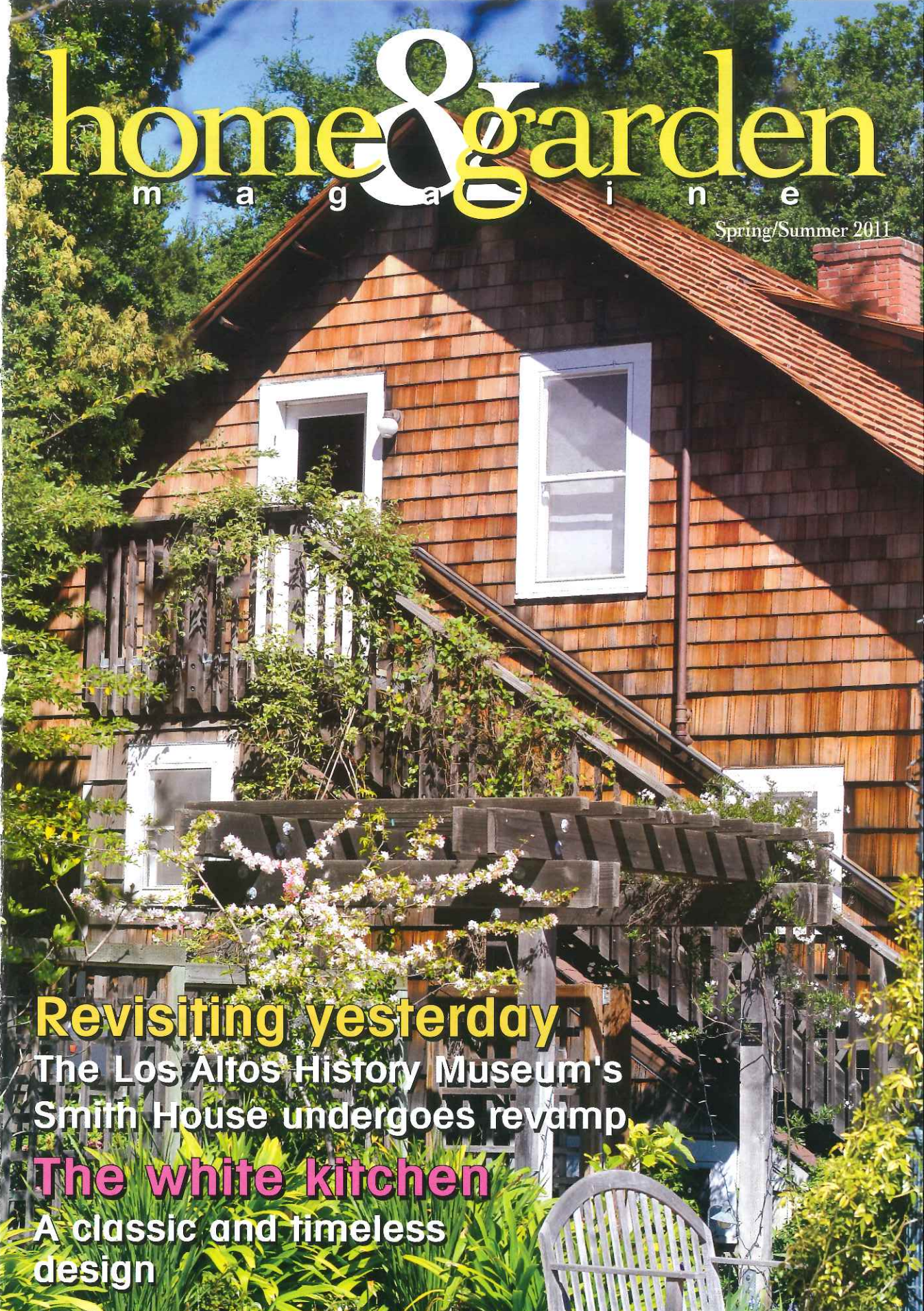


home & garden

m a g a z i n e

Spring/Summer 2011



Revisiting yesterday

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The white kitchen

A classic and timeless design

A Los Altos Town Crier Publication

The white kitchen

A trend that will never end

By Gina Viscusi Elson

As an interior designer and kitchen design specialist, I am often asked about the latest kitchen trends. My answer always remains the same: The latest trend is whichever design best fits your family's lifestyle, your home's architecture and your personality.

When it comes to trends that I consider timeless, nothing is better than the clean, white kitchen. Wall colors, fabrics and accessories tend to come and go with the seasons. Did you know that this year's color is honeysuckle? But a white kitchen – like the little black dress – will never go out of style. It will transcend the fads and you'll always have a clean canvas on which to enhance your vision.

Ho hum, you say? When designed correctly, with a talented professional, a white kitchen will never be boring



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A clean, white kitchen – like the classic little black dress – transcends the fads and will never go out of style.

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or predictable. It may be hard to believe, but white comes in hundreds of shades, from bright and crisp to warm and creamy, with all kinds of tints and shades in between. The variations multiply even further when you add levels of sheen such as flat, glossy, high-gloss acrylic and eggshell.

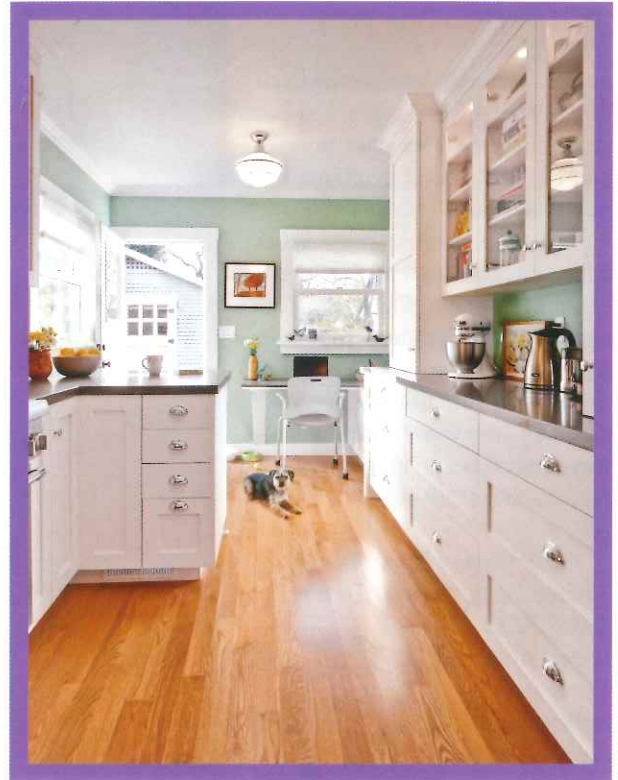
A white kitchen serves as a neutral background to express your personality through appliance selections, countertops, backsplashes, hardware, artwork, accessories and more. For example, just change the wall color and you'll achieve an entirely new look.

You can take your design very contemporary with stainless backsplashes and island accents, or lean it toward traditional with glazed finishes, moldings, turnings and antique glass. Maybe you're interested in having fresh, fun, eclectic spaces. With a white kitchen, it's easy to accomplish with a bold splash of wall color, fun artwork (framed children's pieces are one of my personal favorites) and open shelves with some objets d'art.

You can also go retro with vintagelike light fixtures, apron-front sinks and handmade subway tiles, or rustic with whitewashed, grayed woods. The possibilities are endless and equally unique and inspiring.

No matter where you take your white kitchen, keep in mind that design layout, flow and function of the space are most important, and the styling and detailing of the cabinetry are the finishing touches. Put your money into

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COURTESY OF VISCUSI ELSON

A white kitchen serves as neutral background to express personality through appliance selections or countertops.

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quality cabinetry and professional design so that your space will last throughout the ages. Use finishes and fabrics to breathe unique life into your space.

What I appreciate most about white kitchens is that they are a neutral but chic foundation for exploring and building your own style, a canvas on which to paint the story of your life. So, live your dreams – love your home – and always remember to create designs (and kitchens) that celebrate your life.

Gina Viscusi Elson owns Viscusi Elson Interior Design, 382 First St. in Los Altos. For more information, call 941-7800 or visit www.VEinteriordesign.com.



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Island accents, vintage light fixtures and open shelves displaying objets d'art make this white kitchen an original design.

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