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SERENE TAKES
ON CLASSIC
DESIGN

HOME GROWN

THIS FARM-FRESH FAMILY TURNED
THEIR DREAM BUILD INTO A BOND
THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME

WRITTEN BY SALLY FINDER WEEPIE WITH ELLA SCHULTE
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MANOLO LANGIS



Porch Shannon and Andrew Patterson rock in the best seats in the house. **Pool** While old oaks provide shade, the pool is where the Patterson girls cool down. **Kitchen** Oak cabinetry, a tiled backsplash, and quartzite countertops make the kitchen both functional and stylish. "With clean lines made of beautiful materials, it's special," Wendy Blackband says of the interiors she designed with teammate Rachel Azzolina. **Previous pages** With open walls on both sides of the fireplace, the living room delivers a showstopping live painting of the property's natural surroundings.



Buying land to raise a family while planting pastoral roots firmly in the ground had always been Andrew Patterson's dream. Maybe his inherent love for nature or his grandpa Fred's fondness for animals caused the craving. Regardless, Andrew always promised himself, "Someday I'm going to make enough money, and I'm going to buy a farm."

Then, one day, it became a reality. A custom residential builder based in Newport Beach, California, Andrew is no stranger to planning. However, sometimes the best things in life are unplanned, at least that's how it worked for Andrew, his wife, Shannon, and their three daughters. "One weekend, my family and I camped in Santa Barbara County," Andrew says.

"It was so beautiful that, on a whim, I looked to see what property was available there. I saw this 20-acre parcel overlooking a valley and made a lowball offer. When it was accepted, I started freaking out. It was happening. I was really going to buy that farm."

Yet transitioning untouched acres to a curated farm fit for a family of five wasn't effortless. Before starting the build, adding a few essential elements was necessary: power, a road, a septic system, and water, for example.

"I had to drill a 150-foot-deep hole and send the septic into a tank the size of a Volkswagen bus. It comes out as safe treated water," Andrew says. "Everything was a struggle. The amount of information that I wasn't aware of when I

went into this was staggering. But at the same time, it was worth it."

It wasn't long before buying dirt turned into, well, camping on dirt. The family spent alternate weekends at the acreage. They soaked up the sun before enjoying nights huddled together around the bonfire outside their Airstream trailer. "It was some of the best family moments of my life," Andrew says.

Designed by Chris Brandon of Brandon Architects in collaboration with Andrew's team from Patterson Custom Homes, the house and property began to shape up quickly. Every detail was accounted for, down to the specific placement of the soon-to-be home.

"We wanted the house on the ridge near the oak tree. To abide by Santa





■ **Den** This entertainment hub's sleek black palette pairs nicely with rustic finishes. "The heaviness of this space balances the rest of the light, airy house," Blackband says. Pops of color, fresh flowers, and funky patterns are lively yet livable. "It's playful," Azzolina says, "a great family hangout." **Hallway** A countryside painting is appropriate for a property the Pattersons call The Farm.

■ **Guest bedroom** A pivot door invites guests into a space with incredible views, organic wood tones, layers of texture, and soft color. The inclusion of colors, such as a salmon-hue throw and deep yellow pillows, turns an otherwise white space into a nest of neutrals.

Barbara County rules, we had to cut down the building site 10 feet so the house wouldn't be higher than the mountaintop," Andrew says. "I was willing to do it, though, to save that tree. That oak makes me think of my grandfather and how his spirit lives on."

Paying homage to Grandpa Fred's vision, Andrew ensured the architecture accentuated his own hopes and dreams. "Andrew wanted something that looks like it's been here a long time," Brandon says.

Inside, light streams in through a series of windows and doors, turning heads back toward the very soil that started it all.

Outside, stone, stucco, and cedar create an exterior so remarkable that relishing in it almost seems inescapable. Together, the sleek lines of the architecture and rustic harmonies of the home ooze charm.

From the start, Andrew wanted to ensure ample space for cozy and contemporary living. Placing the sleeping

It's the play of materials that

MAKES THIS HOUSE FEEL SPECIAL.

—designer Wendy Blackband





Primary bedroom Large windows and light bedding coax lively greens of the outdoors into the private space indoors. A black pendant ties in with the house's subtle sophistication. **Primary bath** Texture takes over thanks to concrete, marble, and limestone fixtures and finishes.

quarters in a hallway of their own created an unusual blend of beautiful and thoughtful design that ensures privacy for each family member. The wing culminates in a glass walkway that extends from the main house to the guest quarters over the garage.

Thus, one doesn't have to look far to be at peace on the expansive property. "Furnishings are made to be lived in," Andrew says. "Everything is durable and comfortable. We have couches that swallow you up."

Designers Wendy Blackband and Rachel Azzolina of Blackband Home &

Design developed interiors to include an array of textures and textiles that create lauded layering.

Natural hues, primitive finishes, and lush linens subtly wow. "Nothing hits you over the head," Blackband says. "The interiors are at peace with everything going on around you."

Beautiful yet not bound to any one style, this home's take on farm life is far from ordinary. "Nothing is one-dimensional," Blackband says. "It's the play of materials that makes this house feel special. It's rustic—a comfortable, organic farmhouse—but it's also

sophisticated."

Through the inclusion of carefully selected wall art, vintage pieces, and chic fixtures, the heritage of the Patterson family bond lives on.

A promise, once a distant dream, turned priceless when nestled among the old oaks of Santa Barbara County.

"It's incredible to spend time here as a family," Andrew says. "We open the doors, and the kids play hide-and-seek in the valley. We go for a family walk every evening and just stroll by the cows out there grazing. This really is a little piece of heaven and so magical." ■