

New England HOME CT

Mix & Match

*TASTEFUL PAIRINGS FOR
TIMELESS APPEAL*

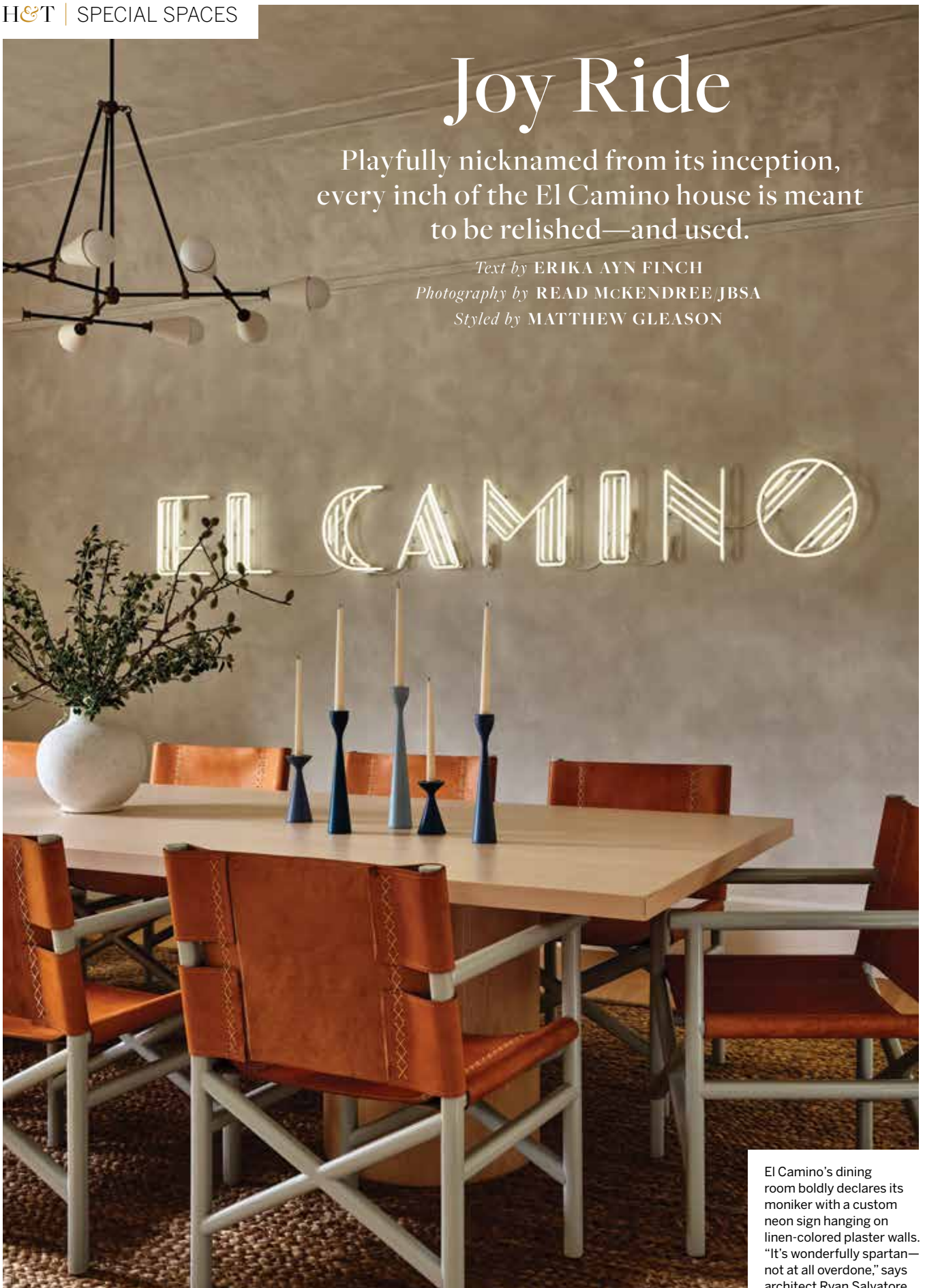
Joy Ride

Playfully nicknamed from its inception, every inch of the El Camino house is meant to be relished—and used.

Text by ERIKA AYN FINCH

Photography by READ MCKENDREE/JBSA

Styled by MATTHEW GLEASON



El Camino's dining room boldly declares its moniker with a custom neon sign hanging on linen-colored plaster walls. "It's wonderfully spartan—not at all overdone," says architect Ryan Salvatore.



ABOVE: Salvatore says the home's site, on a corner fronting a busy thoroughfare, presented the biggest challenge. A J-shaped design helps screen the backyard from traffic, while Salvatore cites turn-of-the-twentieth-century British architect C.F.A. Voysey's work as providing inspiration for the palette and composition. **RIGHT:** An archway unites the living room and main entry while also framing the serpentine staircase.

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hen you ask architect Ryan Salvatore what came first, the Fairfield County home's design or its nickname, El Camino, he says it happened in tandem. "We presented the clients with two very different schemes, and they chose the one that was curved along the entire back of the house," he says. "The design is staid in the front but fun and looser inside and in the back, so the idea of 'business up front, party around back' came from that. It became a running joke."



Interior designer Graham Veysey memorialized the moniker with a neon sign in the home's dining room. Veysey, who's known the clients for years and worked on their previous home, says the cheeky name epitomizes the fun family of five.

So does the idea of adventure. This was the family's first new build, and instead of playing it safe, Veysey recalls, they asked Salvatore a single question: If you could design our house, what would it look like? "It sparked a fire in him," says Veysey, pointing out the repeating curves and archways and, perhaps above all (pun intended), the open-web steel trusses in the family room.



“THIS HOUSE IS ALL ABOUT USING EVERY ROOM, EVERY DAY.”

—Architect Ryan Salvatore

LEFT: Located off the entry, a powder room with a stone sink that appears to be carved from the wall continues the arch motif. **BELOW:** The living room's bar with its curved brass bar top and canopy makes the space party central. The mesh doors on either side of the bar conceal wine storage.



Salvatore admits that's his favorite room in the six-bedroom primary residence. "We wanted the room to feel modern, but not in a cold way," he explains. "With the fir ceiling, white-brick walls, and glass on three sides, we were able to keep the material palette limited but animate the ceiling and introduce the curved theme into the space."

In what seems to be a feat of engineering, the enormous trusses rest on corbels supported by delicate steel brackets that reference the home's exterior. The design team used track lighting suspended on cables so

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—Ryan Salvatore



ABOVE: The bistro-like black-and-white kitchen features a curved island and glossy subway tiles. The clients cooked up the idea of the metal diner door that leads to the pantry. **LEFT:** The curved glass gallery in the back of the house acts as a gateway to the private backyard.





Steel trusses juxtaposed against a fir ceiling make the living room look like it's been enclosed over time. The ottoman/coffee table is upholstered in durable cowhide and the Avenue Road swivel chair near the fireplace is big enough for two people.

nothing would detract from the trusses.

Another favorite spot is the living room with its art deco-inspired fireplace surround and statement-making brass-topped bar that ensures the formal space receives plenty of use. The room can be accessed from the main entry,

the dining room, and a glass gallery that leads to the backyard, so it's part of the daily flow of life. "This house is all about using every room, every day," says Salvatore, making it practical—just like its namesake.

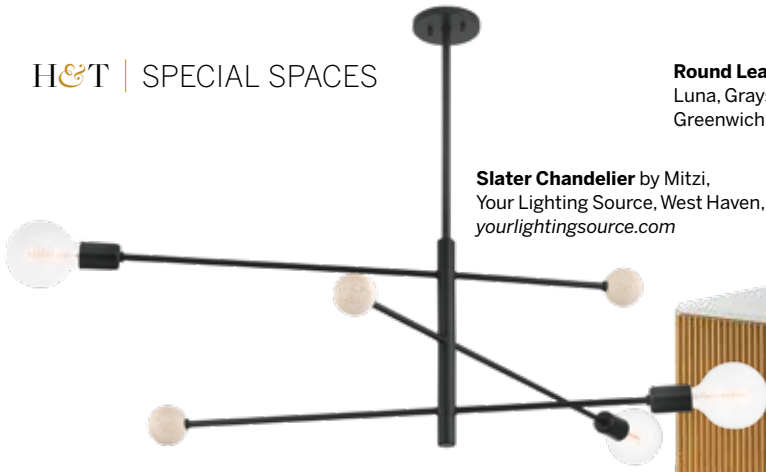
EDITOR'S NOTE: For details, see Resources.

ARCHITECTURE: Burr Salvatore Architects
INTERIOR DESIGN: Good Bones Design by Graham Veysey
BUILDER: Brooks Brothers Construction
LANDSCAPE DESIGN: Yost Design

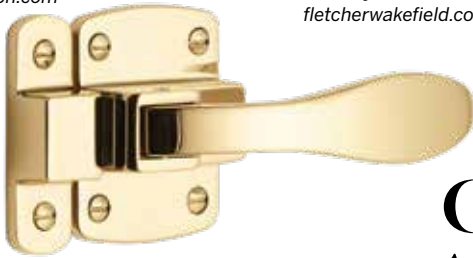
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Slater Chandelier by Mitzi, Your Lighting Source, West Haven, yourlightingsource.com



Ice Box Cabinet Latch, Rejuvenation, rejuvenation.com



Compositions Console Table by Century, Fletcher Wakefield, Stamford, fletcherwakefield.com



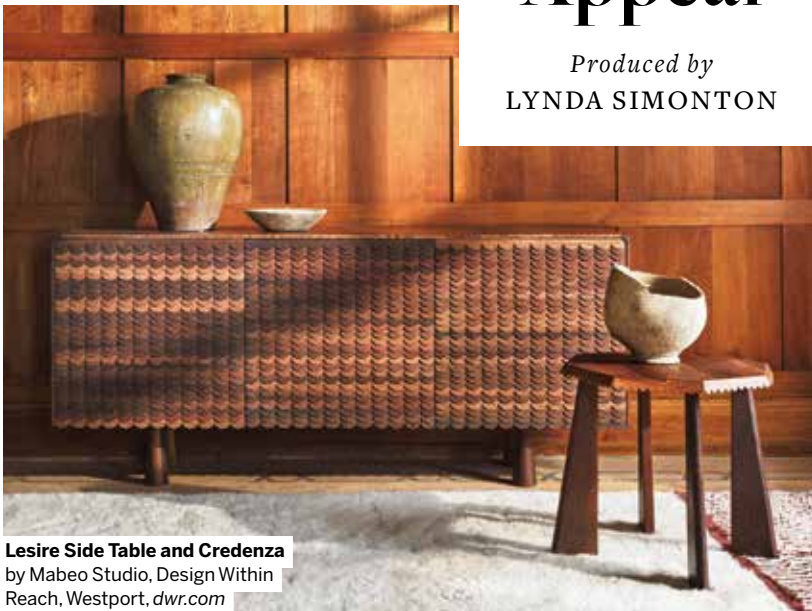
Curve Appeal

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Plumb Sconce by Anna Karlin, West | Out East, Westport, westouteast.com



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