

GUEST HOUSE

Tools no longer fill the early-19th-century shed that Skip Broom renovated for a family in Lyme. Broom, a designer and builder in Hadlyme who specializes in 18th-century building restoration, first moved the main house—a 1710, center-chimney Colonial—from its original place on the road, 1,000 feet inland, to roughly the center of the 11-acre property. Then he disassembled the early 1800s tool shed that had stood behind the house, salvaging the original oak floor and some of the original oak post-and-beam framing, and reassembled it behind the relocated house. A door was made from scratch, and new

windows installed.

Now, the 14-by-16-foot building serves as a great cottage; it incorporates a living room with a pullout sofa, a sleeping loft and a full bath, all heated by electricity. The owners, who also maintain a home in New York, stay in Lyme on weekends during the year, and for much of the summer they use the little building for overflow guests and for their five grown children, their spouses and friends. “It’s a great little place to walk out to after dinner and spend the night,” says Broom. “The family uses it year-round.”



SKIP BROOM DESIGNED THIS GUEST HOUSE TO INCLUDE A LIVING ROOM, SLEEPING LOFT AND FULL BATH.