

WEEKEND LIVING

SWEET



RETREAT

DESIGNER KIMBERLEY SELDON CREATES A SIMPLE YET SOPHISTICATED
COUNTRY HOME IN PICTURESQUE CREEMORE, ONT.

Text by **PETER SALTSMAN** | *Photography by* **DONNA GRIFFITH**



To separate the entranceway from the living and dining rooms, homeowner and designer Kimberley Seldon (shown opposite) put in a wall with geometric cutouts. It creates the feeling of a separate room without impeding the flow or blocking sight lines. A Moroccan pouf and 19th-century French chest of drawers add warmth. **Architecture, design,** Kimberley Seldon Design Group; **pouf,** *Of Things Past*; **chest,** Kanteberg + Co.

BEST ADVICE

POLISHED COMFORT

DRAW THE EYE UP Make the most of two-storey ceilings with built-ins that extend all the way up and groupings of long pendant lights.

CREATE INTIMATE SPACES Wall-to-wall carpeting in the bedroom makes the room feel inviting. Lower ceilings in sitting rooms to amp up the cozy factor.

LET LIGHT IN, SELECTIVELY A house with many large windows benefits from curtains on automated tracks, which make adjustments easy.

WEB

Tour this sleek country home on Mar. 24 on H&H TV on the houseandhome.com/apr2014



LEFT: A two-storey stone fireplace, constructed of straight-cut stone from nearby Wiarton, anchors the dining room. It was designed with glass on both sides, so it's open to the kitchen and dining room. A cluster of Tom Dixon pendant lights adds a sculptural element and takes advantage of the room's soaring height. The photograph over the fireplace, showing stylized reams of paper, breaks up the stone with another layer of texture. **Lights,** Klaus; **walnut dining table,** Kimberley Seldon Design Group; **drape fabric,** Primavera; **dining chairs,** South Hill Home; **chair fabric,** Kravet; **wall colour,** Ballet White (OC-9), Benjamin Moore.

OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT: The breezeway was added to the floor plan to capitalize on a design fluke: it connects the main house — built on an existing foundation — to an adjacent garage. It doubles as a library with its extra-tall shelving and snug sitting area. **Built-ins,** Kimberley Seldon Design Group; **lighting,** rug, Elite; **sconces,** Hallace Cluny; **chairs,** Angus & Company; **ottoman,** Avenue Road.

BOTTOM LEFT: Kimberley topped the living room coffee table with green-painted glass to bring in some colour and keep the room from looking too serious.

BOTTOM RIGHT: In the living room, comfortable seating and a dropped ceiling finished in tongue and groove feels cosy, while a glass-tiered chandelier adds sparkle. A striped rug brings a welcome hit of pattern. **Chandelier,** Elite; **floor lamp,** Mecox; **chairs, sofa,** Kimberley Seldon Design Group; **pillows,** ABC Carpet & Home; **coffee table base,** Avenue Road; **rug,** Modern Weave.

WHEN DESIGNER KIMBERLEY SELDON first visited Creemore, Ont., in 2001 to shoot an episode of her TV show *Design for Living*, she knew immediately it was where she wanted to build her country home. She loved the gently rolling hills and vast green pastures — and that it was just a 90-minute drive from Toronto. She also loved the village itself, home to a surprising number of artists, designers and craftspeople, a great bookstore, and one of the best farmers' markets in Southern Ontario.

Two years later, Kimberley and her husband, Bob Seldon, a wholesale lumber broker, bought a parcel of land 10 minutes from downtown Creemore. The land came with a charming farmhouse, which the couple loved but knew wasn't practical — it was just too small to be theirs forever. So they gave the house to a couple that owned land adjacent to theirs, and watched them have it dissected and carted down the hill for reassembly. Then, Kimberley and Bob set about building a new home on the old farmhouse's footprint,

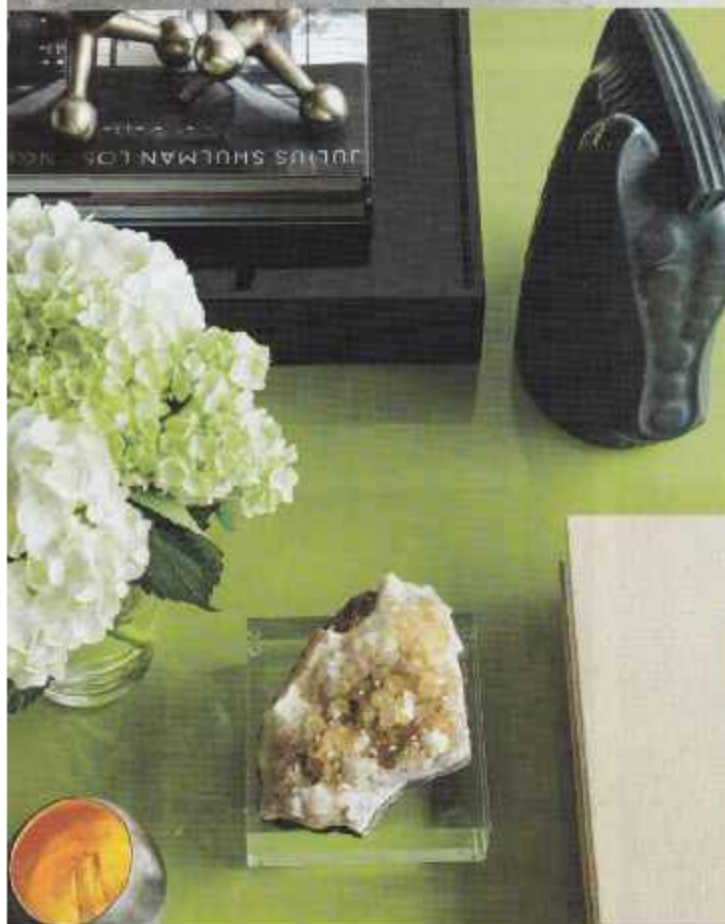
albeit one that's bigger, brighter and more suited to their lifestyle. Though Kimberley kept the farmhouse aesthetic — wood siding, metal roof — the house is truly custom. She made sure to include features she could never have in the city: a California-inspired courtyard between the main living space and the garage, multiple fireplaces and massive windows that offer expansive views in every direction.

HOUSE & HOME: How did you tailor this house to suit your life in the country?

KIMBERLEY SELDON: It had to be intimate for two people but also able to host a party for 200. We love to entertain, and we have two children, their significant others and dogs! There are often lots of people here, so I made sure there were large hallways and double-height ceilings to make the place feel open. On the other hand, sometimes it's just Bob and me, and we didn't want the place to be cavernous and uncomfortable, so none of the individual rooms are overly large.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 129

Kimberley built her new house directly on the footprint of the old farmhouse, which allowed her to place it just 10' away from a spring-fed pond, one of two on the property. The contemporary barn structure was designed to blend with the surrounding forests. Water lilies thrive in the ponds. **Pine siding**, Falcon Lumber; **choise longues**, Avenue Road.



BELOW: The entire house features large windows that let in natural light and maximize the spectacular views. Evenly spaced window frames with heavy mullions add graphic contrast in the principal bathroom. Kimberley installed floor-length drapes for the softness, warmth and acoustic absorption they bring to the space. **Drape fabric**, Robert Allen; **drape sewing**, Studio La Beauté; **windows**, Marvin; **chandelier**, Elite; **tub**, Roman Bath Centre; **Turkish stool**, bath towel, ABC Carpet & Home.

RIGHT: The monochromatic principal bedroom is a relaxing escape. A neutral palette and natural textures create a welcoming atmosphere. The bed is tucked into a niche in the wall and surrounded by full-height shelving, a small-space solution that makes these expansive quarters feel more intimate. The built-ins were Kimberley's way of eliminating clutter, which she felt would detract from the serenity of the space. Wall-to-wall carpeting adds warmth, while the floating vanity doubles as a bedside table. **Bed**, Kimberley Seldon Design Group; **bedspread**, Calypso St. Barth; **small prints**, Avenue Road; **large coral print**, Angus & Company; **stool**, South Hill Home.



An upstairs hallway feels like a luxe media room thanks to a pair of roomy chaise longues and a gorgeous painted screen. The chaises often double as beds when her son's friends stay over. **Chaise longues**, Kimberley Seldon Design Group; **throws**, Au Lit Fine Linens; **pillows**, Mecox.



TABLET EXCLUSIVE
See Kimberley's favorite Cremona hotspots