

COTTAGE *Charm*

By CAROL SORGEN

Is bigger always better? Not if you ask these homeowners, who say cottage living suits their needs just fine. The Danish, who typically live in much smaller homes than we're used to here in the States, even have a word for it—*hyggeligt*—roughly translated as “cozy.” And that coziness, or sense of being enveloped by their home, is just what these Anne Arundel county area and Eastern Shore cottages offer their owners.



THE MOMENT THE OWNERS SET EYES ON THIS HISTORIC EASTERN SHORE WATERFRONT FARM, THEY FELL IN LOVE. THE FAMILY VISITED 30 HOMES BEFORE FINDING THE RIGHT ONE.

"There were a lot of great properties. This is the Eastern Shore, after all. But this one was perfect for us," says the wife. "It had everything we were looking for—the waterfront, the forest, the open farmland, the vegetable and cutting garden, the pool, the tennis courts, and a great house. It even had things we didn't know we were looking for until we found them, like the sheep and goats."

The core of the 5,000-square-foot house was built in 1850. Two wings were added—one in the 1960s and the other in the 1980s. The house sits on 75 acres surrounded by woods, water, and pasture. The property also includes a guesthouse, a caretaker's house, a pool house, a pump house, and a helicopter hanger that's been converted into a hangout room for the kids.

The owners are professionals with two teenagers, who also have



TOP: A screened porch adjacent to the kitchen offers all the benefits of dining al fresco without the nuisance of mosquitoes and other outdoor pests.

BOTTOM: Although the home is all about relaxing casual getaways, a traditional dining area offers the homeowners the option of formal dining should they so desire.



Escaping the D.C. Hustle

The homeowner of this Tred Avon River property, which includes both a main house and a guest cottage, spends a good part of her time at her home in the Washington, D.C., suburbs. But every week, she makes the easy 90-minute drive to the Eastern Shore for a few days of blissful quiet. The cottage, which was originally used more or less as the pool house, has been renovated to include an enlarged master bedroom and bath, updated kitchen, and additional bath and laundry area adjacent to the pool.

The interior, designed by Bountiful, had a traditional cottage look or, as the homeowner describes it, "comfortable but put



Photos by Tony Lewis, Jr.