

SOUTHAMPTON, NY

chicsimple

PRODUCED BY LINDA WHITMARSH PHOTOGRAPHED BY TRIA GIOVAN
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LIVING ROOM: RUG (JODIEGARDO); THROW, BOXES ON MANTEL AND TABLE (ABC CARPET & HOME); PILLOWS (JUDY ROSS);
 SCULPTURE ON TABLE AND VASE ON MANTEL (AUTO); GLASS VASE ON TABLE (CALVIN ALLEN HOME)

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DESIGNER
BETTY
WASSERMAN
SAVES A
HOUSE IN
RUINS, CARVING
OUT A HAVEN
FOR HERSELF,
HER FURNITURE
LINE, AND A
POTENT ART
COLLECTION



before



A few prospective homeowners can see beyond a dilapidated house to an attractive outcome, but it is the rare valiant who celebrates the disrepair. "I bought this house, because it hadn't been touched in more than 60 years," says Betty Wasserman, an interior designer, art dealer, and furniture designer. "The beauty of it was that the house needed a major overhaul!"

With the help of architect Glenn Leitch, Wasserman gutted the 1,500-square-foot Southampton home on New York's Long Island. Together, they designed a new front entry hall; removed walls on the first floor; and added a roomy master bath on the second floor, taking some of the bath space from an old closet. The result: a more open floor plan with 220 square feet of additional living space. They had turned the 1930s cottage into the perfect backdrop for Wasserman's own line of furniture and an

A mantel echoing the home's 1930s roots is a natural spot for showcasing an array of art. **Inset above** The original home had not been touched in more than 60 years. **Above right** The roof was raised to fit a new master bath.