



LIVING

'A venue for gatherings that feels both timeless and utterly of the moment' — architectural salvage duo LUMBER + Salt on creating North Fork's most elegant entertaining barn

The design pair behind antiques and reclamation store, LUMBER+Salt, show that setting the scene for effortless entertaining can be part salvage and part story



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(Image credit: Hidden Jem, Photo: Eduardo Amorim)



By [Anna Last](#) published last week in [Advice](#)

Meet LUMBER+Salt

John Mazur and Brooke Cantone, the design duo behind [LUMBER+Salt](#), an architectural and design salvage treasure trove, are best known for their Jamestown, New York outpost.

The pair have built a reputation as tastemakers with a 'raw and refined' aesthetic, and their shop is a honeypot for collectors and designers alike, filled with oversized doors, industrial factory lights, piles of reclaimed floorboards, vintage glass bottles, and quirky one-off paraphernalia that can transform a room. You only have to look at the [LUMBER + Salt Instagram](#) grid to feel thoroughly inspired. Alongside the antiques and salvage sits a café, where coffee, pastries, and seasonal florals reinforce the brand's ethos: design as an everyday, lived-in experience.



(Image credit: Photo: Connor Harrigan)

Setting the scene

On a golden evening on New York's North Fork, a harvest table is set for forty inside a centuries-old barn. Guests drift in from the vineyard, settling into vintage Chesterfield sofas, leaning on a historic bar, or gathering around candlelit flowers arranged by local caterer [Laura Lombardi](#).

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When the bell – once used to call farmhands in from the fields – rings across the rafters, everyone takes their seats for a celebratory lunch. The barn itself is the star of the show: a historic structure newly reimagined as '[Hidden Jem](#),' a venue for gatherings that feels both timeless and utterly of the moment.

Here's how the journey of creating North Fork's most elegant entertaining barn unfolded.



(Image credit: Hidden Jem, Photo: Eduardo Amorim)

Uncovering 'Hidden Jem'

[Hidden Jem](#) is the latest project from LUMBER+Salt. 'We are creatives at the heart of who we are,' Cantone says. 'The way the two of us see spaces is through one lens, and to have that effortless synergy with someone is not only rare, it's magic.'

The project began when Justin and Elizabeth Mirro, the new owners of the estate, brought Mazur and Cantone into the weathered barn on a cold January day. 'We knew right away it had good bones,' Mazur recalls. 'The whole beam framework was intact, with very little renovation over the years. It felt like it had been standing in time.'

Adding drama with doorways and lighting

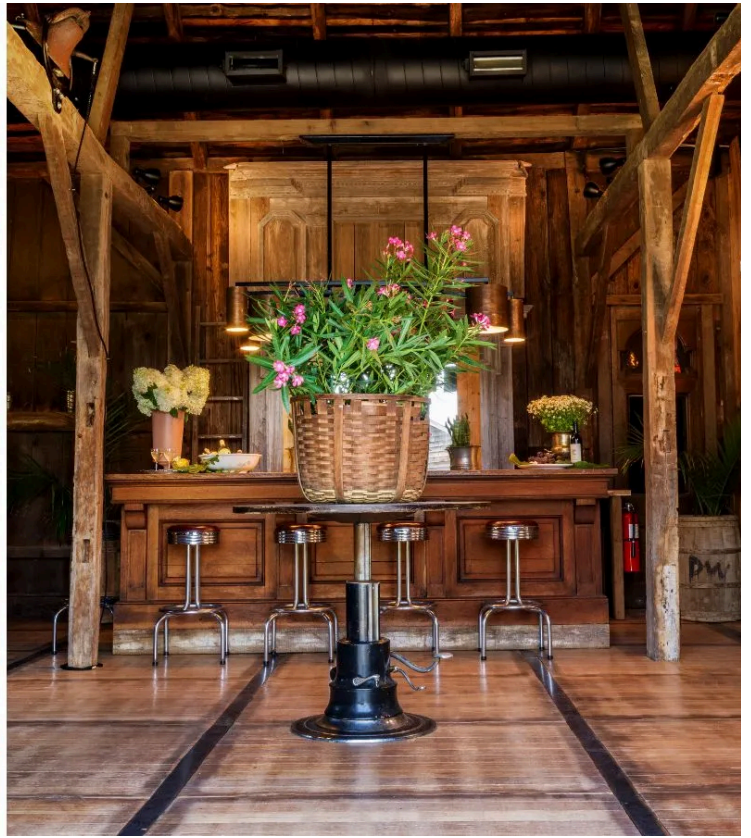
Rather than simply clean it up, the duo sought to create something layered, atmospheric, and unexpected. They opened new doorways to frame vineyard views, engineered a black metal entry inspired by the [Ace Hotel in New York](#), and installed theatrical uplighting to highlight the barn's original timbers. 'We gravitate to pieces that feel modern in unexpected ways,' Cantone explains. 'A threshold, a lighting detail – it all adds a sense of drama and transition.'



(Image credit: Hidden Jem, Photo: Eduardo Amorim)

Creating flow

From the start, the design was about flow: how guests would move from a sun-drenched outdoor patio into the Chesterfield-sofa nook, the historic bar, or onto the dance floor. Each zone was given its own 'heartbeat,' anchored by a lighting feature and layered with salvage finds. The bar, for instance is a piece of history – a Brooklyn mercantile counter paired with 1950s barber-shop mirrors and original parlour stools. Overhead, a neon duck salvaged from a Hamptons storefront lends a playful glow.



(Image credit: Hidden Jem, Photo: Eduardo Amorim)

Re-imagining materials

The dance floor, a request of the client, was laid with sandblasted brickmaker pallets, reimagined as durable planks with a patina of history. 'We take materials that wouldn't typically be used for something and use them in just that way,' says Mazur. 'It's part of our sustainability philosophy. Nothing is new.'

Vintage Chesterfields upholstered in navy leather, paired with bronze-studded chairs, create intimate capsules for conversation. Pub doors from England, a salvaged farm bell, and reclaimed harvest tables continue the narrative. 'Every piece has a story,' Cantone says. 'That's what makes a space feel soulful rather than staged.'



(Image credit: Hidden Jem, Photo: Eduardo Amorim)

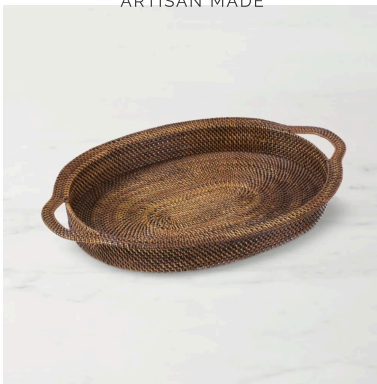
Continuing the story

What delighted Mazur and Cantone most at Hidden Jem's celebratory farm dinner was hearing owner Justin Mirro tell stories of the salvaged pieces, from the neon duck to the antique pub doors. 'That's when we knew the story was complete,' says Cantone. 'Every project is a story within a story. When people are in the space, they're loving it—even if they don't quite know why. And that's a win for us.'

Shop the LUMBER+Salt look

LUMBER+Salt curate their unique style by bringing together their eclectic salvaged pieces, but if you're not able to get to a reclamation yard, these pieces will help you to re-create their rustic, yet refined look.

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Found Antique Decorative Board

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