

BRAND NEW—AND OLD AS THE TEXAS HILLS

Carrie Glassman Shoemaker

AUSTIN, TEXAS

Old-fashioned craftsmanship unites the best of regional American architecture under one roof

AS ROBERT McCURDY, A GLOBETROT-
ting outdoorsman, regaled Carrie
Glassman Shoemaker, the archi-
tect of his retreat near Austin,
with descriptions of buildings
that make him feel good, Shoemaker paid attention.
Then, the architect melded the best of McCurdy's
worlds into a house that evokes (but never imitates)
those favored places. Her mix includes a Southwest-
ern-style bedroom wing of thick, cooling adobe, a
Nantucket widow's walk (for surveying the land,
which fronts the winding Colorado River), the tin
roof of a Texas dairy barn (designed, says Shoemaker,
with giant overhangs, so "we don't need gut-

AN ENVIRONMENTALIST,
McCurdy camped out all
over his 50 acres before
settling on a site plan.
Among the things that
mattered to him were
where his dog was bur-
ied and the location of
an eagle's nest. To leave
waterfowl undisturbed,
he located the house 450
yards from the river.

ters, and Robert can sit there and listen to the rain
falling from one roof to another") and a "stick-y,"
Florida Keys-type porch, with room underneath for
rowboats. In Shoemaker's hands, those elements—
and McCurdy's memories—merge into a startlingly
fresh, thoroughly all-American homestead.

Produced by Susan Weinberger; Written by Fred A. Bernstein

CARRIE SHOEMAKE se-
lected different crafts-
men to create McCurdy's
furnishings (including
the porch pieces, below)
so they would look "col-
lected over time."



MATTHEW FULLER

ARTISANS made the ter-
ra-cotta sconce (above
Shoemaker) and door
with hammered nail-
heads. See Resources



PAUL HESTER



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