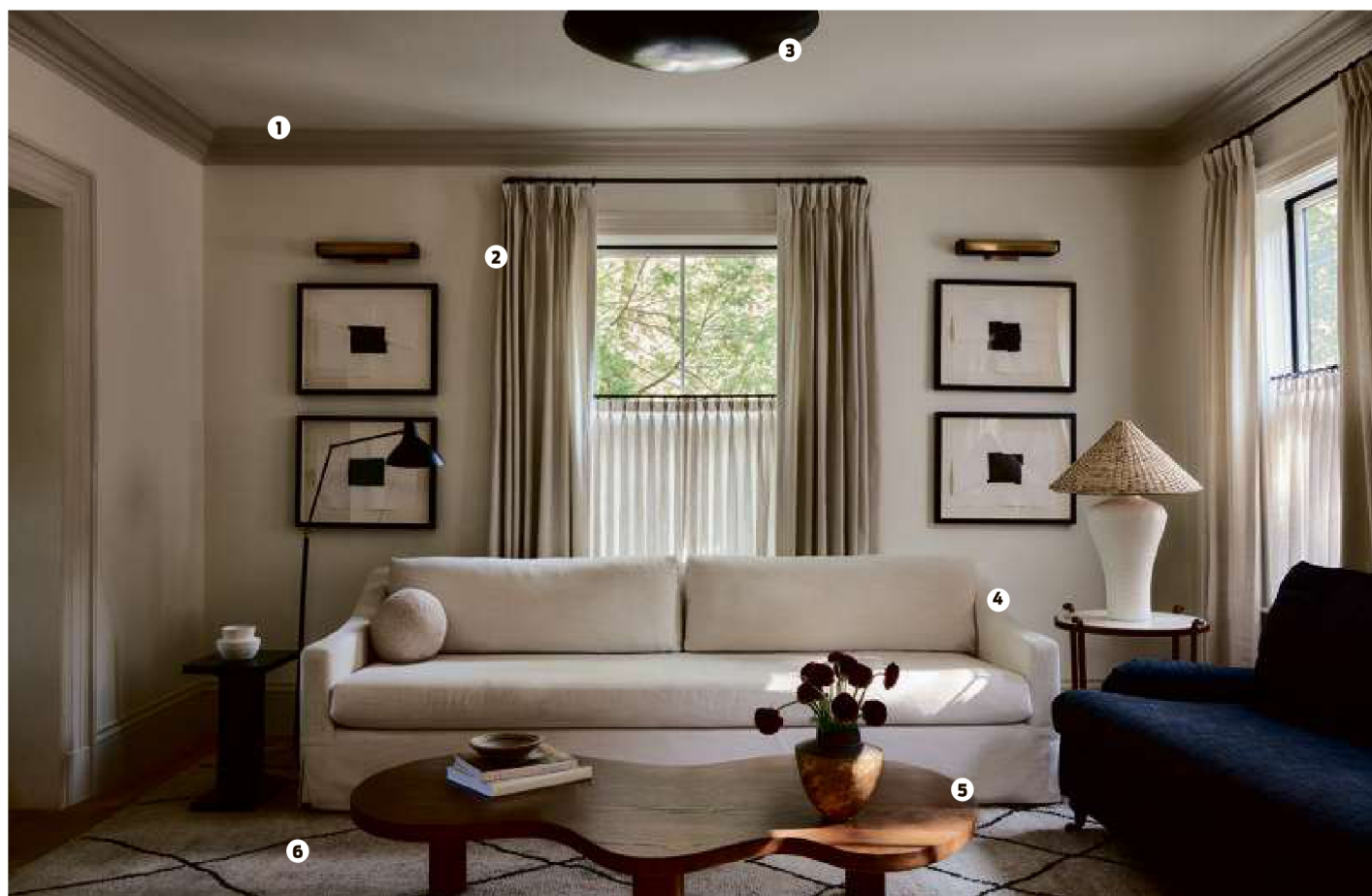


STYLE WATCH



Chasing Shadows

THIS LIVING ROOM IN NEWTONVILLE IS A PALETTE CLEANSER THAT FEELS ANYTHING BUT STERILE.

BY MARNI ELYSE KATZ

Victorians are inherently moody,” Lindsey Crowley, founder of Lindsey Crowley Interiors, says. The designer describes this Victorian in Newtonville, which is home to an artistic, well-traveled family, as shadowy and lacking in natural light. As such, it was important that the furnishings didn’t feel heavy or chaotic. “We leaned into classic, cleaner lines that play nicely against the more ornate architecture,” she says. Despite the pared-back palette and distinct moments of symmetry, the ensemble feels as though it were collected; note the mismatched sofas and side tables. Black infuses interest with contrast and there is an intentional mix of styles. “Multiple eras, origins, and materials make a space interesting,” the designer says. “It’s not a modern room, or a traditional one; I like that you can’t put your finger on it.”

1 The team painted the dark mahogany trim Farrow & Ball’s Shadow White, a soft, taupe-y gray that contrasts the creamy white walls, painted in Greek Villa by Sherwin-Williams. “It feels fresher and respects the architecture without accentuating it,” Crowley points out.

2 Full-length **drapery** frames the windows while café curtains provide privacy. Both are made from unlined linen that lets in light. “Pinch pleats are more formal, but the heft of the millwork supports it here,” Crowley says. Matte-black rods hang two-thirds of the way up to the crown, the designer’s go-to positioning.

3 The flush-mount ceiling **light** is modern, sculptural, and unexpected beside the chunky crown molding. It also relates to the sconces in the nearby stairwell.

4 The **sofas** are upholstered in the same performance fabric, albeit in different colors. “Each sofa has its own identity — the black one has a traditional silhouette and is done in an edgier color while the lighter one is curvier and more minimal,” Crowley says.

5 The custom walnut coffee **table** echoes one the owners admired, but is sized to fit and made to better withstand their kids’ tendency to climb on furniture. The black marble side table is from CB2 and the round side table from Serena & Lily.

6 An antique Moroccan **rug** anchors the space. “The owners wanted a traditional rug going in, but realized it felt stuffy, so gravitated to this textural, timeless design in a sooty black-brown,” Crowley says.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATT KISIDAY; STYLING BY KERRYNN CONNOLLY