

ADIRONDACK-STYLE RETREAT | NEW FARMHOUSE DESIGN



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FALL 2019

COVER STORY
Creative
Kitchen
Design in
Andover

FRESH STYLE

AUTUMN GARDEN IN WEST NEWBURY
IPSWICH COTTAGE ON THE WATER

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A modern farmhouse is designed to honor the passions of a nature-loving husband and dad.

BY JANICE RANDALL ROHLF

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TMS Architects and Howell Custom Building Group create a breathtaking Adirondack-style retreat in a woodland setting.

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An architect and his wife combine a vacation vibe and year-round living on Little Neck in Ipswich.

BY JENNIFER SPERRY

ON THE COVER

Kitchen design by Holly Gagne and Howell Custom Building Group

Photograph by Jared Kuzia



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kitchens

OPEN TO THE OUTDOORS

AN ANDOVER RENOVATION LETS IN THE LIGHT

By Katherine Gustafson
Photographs by Jared Kuzia

Interiors designer Holly Cagline collaborates with Howe's custom building group to create a beautiful inside-outside kitchen.



FOR THE OWNERS OF A 1990S COLONIAL IN ANDOVER, remodeling their kitchen and other elements of their ground floor was a project of letting in the light.

The professional couple and their three children found their 360-square-foot kitchen too shallow and too dark. Their goal was to open it up on the inside and also to create a strong connection to the outdoors by adding large windows overlooking the patio and swimming pool. "They wanted to get better visibility of the pool and bring more light into the kitchen," says Steve Prittie, vice president of project development for Howell Custom Building Group. "They wanted that to feel that it was almost an indoor-outdoor space."

Prittie and the project team expanded the kitchen's footprint to 460 square feet, in part by bumping it out 4.5 feet at the back. They pushed the sink

and some cabinetry out into the new space, and in a unique and important piece of the project, they lifted the ceiling of the bump-out by about a foot, which allowed them to stretch the windows over the sink up above the kitchen's main ceiling level. This gives those entering the room the impression that the windows go all the way up to the ceiling, a striking effect that suggests openness.

"With traditional window headers, it's kind of like pulling the brim of your hat down over your eyes, and it's blocking your view," says Prittie. "The homeowners really wanted to get as much of the sky and the sun as they could."

Two of the five tall, south-facing window panels over the sink slide open and incorporate retractable screens. A curved granite countertop with stools that is on the deck outside the bank of windows acts as a

A large center island is perfect for prep work as well as entertaining guests.



connector between the kitchen and the deck; someone standing at the sink can easily talk with and pass things to those sitting outdoors.

"A lot of the time we spent with them was for the design and layout to make the kitchen function better for them," says Holly Gagne, principal designer for Holly Gagne Interior Design and the interior designer consultant on the project. "They wanted it to be comfy and really fit, in addition to not having a lot of visual interruptions between the kitchen and the outside."

The project also reimagined the outdoor space, modifying the back deck to incorporate wide steps leading down to the pool and reworking the patio area to create an appealing seating and grilling space.

Inside, another welcoming seating area can be found around the kitchen's large island, where the family likes to congregate in the morning before the kids head out for school. "They wanted as big an island as they could get," says Prittie. "It is quite a dramatic island space—it's expansive and the views are terrific."

The spacious quartzite countertop on the island is matched by the other counters, and the striated "Fan-



tasy Brown" pattern from Marble & Granite, Inc., in Norwood contrasts nicely with the white lacquer finish on the cabinetry, the white walls and coffered ceiling, and the black walnut of the island's base.

"Their palette was warm and neutral," says Gagne. "They wanted the big windows and the deck and pool

The kitchen windows open to a bar area for easy serving.



“They wanted it to be comfy and really fit, in addition to not having a lot of visual interruptions between the kitchen and the outside.”

— HOLLY GAGNE

area to be what you focus on when you're in the space, so all the finishes that are in the kitchen are meant to support that and to provide texture.”

That same dark wood also shows up on the sliding door that closes off the walk-in pantry with its own bar sink situated opposite the back door. The space to build that pantry was taken from the front office, which was originally a larger room than was needed. Next to the pantry is the doorway to the family room, which the project widened, along with the doorway to the dining room.

Another change was the relocation of a powder room, which used to be next to the kitchen and is now off of the main entry hallway, opposite the basement stairs. The homeowner's desire to move the powder room was, in fact, the impetus that kicked off the new design. With the powder room relocated, plus the additional 50 square feet taken from the front office and the extra room created by the bump-out, the vision of an expanded, light-filled kitchen came into focus.

Prittie enjoyed working with the homeowners, who had a clear vision and helped the team bring their ideas to life. “It was really a nice collaboration, which doesn't happen all the time,” he says. “They got what they really wanted.”

And he got the satisfaction of a job well done. ■

hollygagne.com; howellcustombuild.com

A sliding bar door conceals a pantry and coffee station.



KATHY MARSHALL DESIGN

From perfect little powder rooms to indulgent master baths, Kathy Marshall transforms bathrooms that make these oft-overlooked spaces into design gems in their own right. A frequent collaborator with *This Old House*, she is particularly adept at renovation work, blending bold colors and styles with original details for unique and authentic spaces. 300 Main St., Wenham, 978-468-7199, kathymarshalldesign.com

READERS' CHOICE

B&G CABINET, NEWBURYPORT

INTERIOR DESIGN/CONTEMPORARY

EDITORS' CHOICE

PB + C (PETER COHEN INTERIORS)

Though designer Peter Cohen brings a crisp, minimalist sensibility to his work, he is not afraid to mix historical and antique influences into his designs. The resulting spaces are clean and inviting, functional, and inspiring. 23 Chestnut St., Salem, 206-412-3334, petercohen.us

READERS' CHOICE

SV DESIGN, BEVERLY

INTERIOR DESIGN/ TRADITIONAL

EDITORS' CHOICE

KENNERKNECHT DESIGN GROUP

Style without stuffiness is the hallmark of Kennerknecht Design Group's work. The group's designers work collaboratively with clients to understand their needs and their aesthetic, creating interiors that are both easy to live in and a delight to look at.

26 West St., Suite 200, Beverly, 978-720-8173, kennerknechtdesigngroup.com

READERS' CHOICE

HOLLY GAGNE INTERIOR DESIGN, ROWLEY

KITCHEN DESIGNER

EDITORS' CHOICE

HEARTWOOD KITCHENS

For a kitchen that seamlessly combines function and beauty, look no further than Heartwood Kitchens. With a focus on space planning and cabinetry design, they are dedicated to making your space work; their passion for quality and craftsmanship will ensure your kitchen looks as good as it feels. 75 Newbury St., Danvers, 978-762-7472, heartwoodkitchens.net

READERS' CHOICE

**KRISTINA CRESTIN DESIGN,
MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA**

DAVID NELIGAN ANTIQUES



Since 1992, David Neligan Antiques has been located on the North Shore of Massachusetts in the town of Essex.

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