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Projects: Multi-Room Design

Curb Appeal



Set in Bethesda, Md., this home started a story shorter and with less appeal than its more updated neighbors. Designed by Justin Wigfield of Potomac, Md.-based Glickman Design Build, this home renovation started with the goal to update and expand a Cape Cod-style home and maintain its quaint architecture.



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Just north of the capital in Bethesda, Md., quaint homes and historical architecture draw both tourists and upper-class residents. In one such neighborhood, a family hoped to renovate their home to catch up with the remodels many neighbors had already undergone.

"The goal of this whole-house renovation was to update and expand an existing Cape Cod-style home while maintaining the architectural structure of the original house," said Justin Wigfield of Potomac, Md.-based Glickman Design Build. "It was important to the homeowners that the remodel fit in with the rest of the neighborhood and be less obvious than many of the other recent nearby remodels."

Stressful Stories

The changes the homeowners hoped for were no small feat. Along with renovating the kitchen and bath, they wanted to add a laundry room, side-entry mudroom, covered entry and a screened-in porch – and that was only the first story.

"It was an overwhelming project," said Wigfield, who explained that this was his first project involving a second-story pop-up. "Adding on that second story especially required extra planning ahead prior to starting. The good thing about it was that the clients weren't living there at the time – they rented a home down the road – so it wasn't as bad as it could have been."

Tackling the first story was nearly as challenging as designing and building a second. The homeowners wanted a larger kitchen, but expanding on the original in its current space would have created a very narrow room. Instead, Wigfield proposed moving the entire kitchen to the other side of the house.

"This allowed for the perfect space for an expanded kitchen with an ideal layout," he added.

The new kitchen took on an open-concept appeal in a newly renovated space with several French doors and large windows. To give the kitchen the most room possible, the design team built an island with enough bar seating for the whole family. A prep sink and stove sit directly across from the seating area so the cook can still interact with guests or the children, while a second apron-front sink adjacent to the island allows for close proximity to the dishwasher and refrigerator.

"I liked the idea of having the whole first floor open," said Wigfield, adding that even though the new kitchen space was still narrower than preferred, the openness of the layout made it seem bigger and lighter.

In addition, the simple palette of painted cabinetry and white subway tile expands on the well-lit room.

Gray Caesarstone countertops and stainless steel appliances, mixed with rounded knobs, create a modern yet transitional style in the new kitchen space.

Creating a Second Floor

Although the aesthetics of the design were simple and the clients were easy to work with, adding a second story with a full slew of rooms and baths was challenging. Along with three bedrooms, an office and four walk-in closets, the new floor needed to include a master suite and a Jack-and-Jill bath for two daughters.

"Once the original roof was off the house, a new floor system and new walls were added," said Wigfield, explaining that this created problems like water leakage after a heavy summer storm.

Once the bones of the project were set, bringing the designs for the baths to life were fairly straightforward.

"She [the owner] was more into solid colors," said Wigfield. "That's why we went with off-white cabinetry in the master bathroom."

This off-white cabinetry – reminiscent of the cabinetry in the kitchen – pairs well with porcelain flooring and porcelain tiles in the shower. The double island features two round sinks and parallel storage for the couple, whose space is separated by one tall cabinet. A freestanding tub at the opposite end of the room gives the bath a luxurious touch.

The off-white palette continues into the kids' bathroom, which features a smaller version of the master vanity. An extra mirror on a sidewall provides for the teenage girls' makeup needs, and the separate shower/bath room includes white subway tile and a neutral mosaic tile detailing in the nooks and in a decorative band. The white palette, simple details and functional layout of the bath connect with the rest of the home and its updated interior, while the new exterior with its white stone and gray paneling fits in with its neighbors without making too bold a statement.

"The homeowners could not have been more thrilled with the end result," said Wigfield. "The family loves that they now have seating at the bar in the kitchen for quick meals and couldn't be happier with all of their new bathrooms. The additional space allowed for all of the changes they wanted to make their house work perfectly for them now and down the road."

Source Listing

Designer: Justin Wigfield, Glickman Design Build

Photographer: John Cole, John Cole Photography

Kitchen

Apron-Front Sink: Kohler

Backsplash: Florida Tile

Cabinetry: Crystal Cabinets

Countertop: Caesarstone Pebble

Prep Faucet: Delta

Pullout Spray Faucet: Mirabelle Amberley

Master Bathroom

Bathroom Floor and Shower Wall Tile: Opulence Statuario Porcelain

Cabinets: Crystal Cabinets

Countertop: Caesarstone Misty Carrara

Freestanding Tub: Hydrosystems Estee

Lavatory Faucets: Grohe

Mirrors: Murray Feiss Infinity Collection

Toilet: Kohler

Girls' Bathroom

Cabinets: Crystal Cabinets

Countertop: Caesarstone

Faucet: Moen

Mosaic Accent: Sonoma Vihara Puka Iridescent Mosaic Glass

Toilet: Kohler

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