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August 2002

Master Design Award Winners

Make Small Projects Profitable
Siding Product Trends
Doors Reference Guide

Best of Show

The 2002 Master Awards were the most competitive in the 24 years of the contest, with a record number of projects being entered in the competition.

The judges gave 57 awards in 20 categories, as well as special Best of Show Awards to a whole house project from Auger Building Company, Portsmouth, NH, and a bathroom project from Bauer Interior Design, San Francisco, CA.

Entries were judged on aesthetic appeal, construction techniques, handling of unusual situations, attention to detail, functionality of space, financial success and overall impression by a panel of expert judges in June in Milwaukee, WI. For a complete list of winners and judges, see p. 37.

The first place winners are pictured in the following pages. For the other winners, visit the *QR* Web site at www.qualifiedremodeler.com.



The owner of this home wanted a livable primary residence that would also provide the extended family with a retreat for 15 to 20 guests on summer weekends, including infants and pets. The addition and remodel included six bathrooms, six bedrooms, two

kitchens, office space, landscaping and state-of-the-art communications, audio and video. The goal was to open up the home, but still maintain its small, livable feel.

The remodelers had to overcome restrictive zoning laws, poor site access and extreme weather condi-

Kitchens

Below \$40,000

FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Rodgers

Contracting,

Greenville, SC

Project location:

Greenville, SC

Cost: \$37,578

Square footage: 340

Photos: Deborah Rodgers



BEFORE



The homeowners were unhappy with almost all aspects of the kitchen – the door style, the cabinets, the location of the appliances, the style of countertops and the hardwood floors. As this was the first remodeling project the homeowners had ever done, they needed to be educated through multiple meetings. The room also had to stay consistent with the rest of the home and within a limited budget.

The judges were impressed with what the remodeler was able to accomplish in such a small space.

Best of Show

Below \$200,000

FIRST PLACE

BATHROOMS \$50,000 & ABOVE

Contractor: Bauer Interior Design,
San Francisco, CA

Project location: San Mateo, CA

Cost: \$75,000

Square footage: 165 before
remodel; 179 after

Photos: David Livingston

Second Place:
Home Equity Builders,
Great Falls, VA

Third Place:
Thomas Buckborough &
Associates, Concord, MA

SELECTED PRODUCTS

Bath fixtures: Dornbracht

Flooring: Echeguren Slate



This bath remodel was done as part of a larger project that also included a kitchen that won a Master Design Award (see p. 27). With the kitchen having a very colorful design, the owners wanted a more subdued look for the master bath.

The bathroom had originally been remodeled in the late 1980s, but had a poor layout, an unattractive shower and utilized off-the-shelf materials. The remodelers changed the location of the door and removed a bay window to improve the layout and make room for a Jacuzzi tub, a separate toilet room and a large steam shower. To soften the elongated room, vanities were installed across from one another, but in opposite configurations, for a "yin and yang" effect.

The judges' comments: "The flow leads you right to the outdoors."

"Awesome. Not a detail missed!"

The judges were so impressed with the project, they gave it a special award as the Best of Show below \$200,000.

Baths

\$30,000 to \$50,000



FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Architectural Building Resources, Madison, WI

Project location: Madison, WI

Cost: \$48,240

Square footage: 75 before remodel; 78 after

Photos: DeMaio Photography



This project was a complete gutting and renovation of a 1950s second floor bathroom to better reflect the contemporary Asian theme of the home's interior. The completed bath features a small, deep soaking tub and a custom Shoji screen to create light while maintaining privacy.

"Good use of small space," the judges said. "It flows well for a bathroom."

Baths

Below \$50,000



FIRST PLACE

Contractor: The Bainbridge Crew, Charlotte, NC

Project location: Monroe, NC

Cost: \$27,982

Square footage: 120

Photos: sandy e photography

This project was a complete rework of an existing bath into a luxurious master bath. The existing room had been a his-and-hers bath, but the new design called for the opening up and sharing of existing space, to create an open, functional room. A Jacuzzi tub was added, along with a custom double-bowl vanity with a Corian countertop. To make room for the tub, the contractor utilized dead space in the form of a build-out under a fixed window. The Jacuzzi was accented with custom cubbies to increase storage space.

The judges were impressed by the efficient use of space.

Basements



FIRST PLACE

Contractor: M/A/Peterson Designbuild Inc., Edina, MN
Project location: Edina, MN
Square footage: 1,294 before remodel; 2,517 after
Photos: Susan Gilmore Photographer



As part of a whole house remodel the homeowners want to transform the basement into a functional space ideal for entertaining and family living. The existing unfinished area, though, was too small to accommodate everything the family wanted to do with the space. To make more room, the remodeler had to excavate under the existing home.

"This lower level has it all," the judges said. "It does not feel like a below-grade space."

Exterior Facelift



FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Titus Built, LLC, Wilton, CT
Project location: Westport, CT
Cost: \$560,406
Square footage: 3,529 before remodel; 4,563 after
Photos: Jeffrey A. Titus



This 1980s builder spec house needed a new look to fit into its neighborhood of turn-of-the-century historic homes. The exterior was enhanced by the installation of period style moldings, trim and corbels. Native stone and mahogany wood were used to create a more permanent and established appearance for the home. To keep the project on budget, the remodeler used stock moldings available at local lumberyards, but combined them to create a unique look. The only custom feature was the corbels at the eaves, which were manufactured on-site.

"An excellent job fitting into the neighborhood," the judges said. "It looks like it was here for a long time."

Conservatories & Sunrooms



FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Crane Builders, LLC,
Nashville, TN
Project location: Nashville, TN
Cost: \$203,872
Square footage: 6,500 before remodel;
7,120 after
Photos: Robert Pierce, Robert
Photography



The homeowners wanted to create a room that would allow them to enjoy their swimming pool and the hillside that lies behind the home. A fireplace and wet bar were added to provide warmth and character. The level of the floor had to be raised to make it level with the existing home. The remodeler also faced a challenge in getting access to the site with only a narrow stairway to get up to the pool deck.

The judges appreciated the use of different colors and materials and how the project was incorporated into the home.

Outdoor Living



FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Boardwalk Design Inc.,
Pittsford, NY
Project location: Canandigua
Lake, NY
Cost: \$220,000
Square footage: 1,690
Photos: Paul Zachman



The goal of this project was to create an outdoor living space that would flow with the existing home and take advantage of its lakefront setting. A field-stone facade was put on all of the exposed foundations. Matching stone was used to construct an outdoor fireplace and chimney. A balcony cut into the roof of the new structure serves the second-floor master bedroom, preserving the view. A flagstone patio expands the useable space out from under the roof.

"There's no reason to go inside when you're out here," the judges said.

Detached Structure



FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Breska Associates, Inc.,
Oakland, CA

Project location: Oakland, CA

Square footage: 1,014

Photos: Britta Stratton



The homeowners wanted off-street parking as well as a private office for their home-based business. They decided to combine these needs in one project by building a detached garage with an office on the second floor. The new structure had to blend with the existing home, but still meet restrictive local requirements, such as a 15-ft. maximum height. To keep within that requirement, the contractor planned for a deep excavation. As the area was being excavated, a previously unknown underground aquifer was uncovered, triggering a landslide that nearly buried the main entryway of the existing home. The water had to be channeled into a diversion pipe while construction was being finished.

The judges were impressed by the way the project fit into the landscape and the final look of the exterior.

Light Commercial



FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Kirk Gross Co.,
Waterloo, IA

Project location: Oskaloosa, IA

Cost: \$1.7 million

Square footage: 13,600 before
remodel; 15,665 after

Photos: Dale Photographics, Inc.



This bank had last been remodeled 30 years ago, and the management felt it was in dire need of an update to more efficiently use modern technology and improve customer service. Almost the entire main level was going to be remodeled, but the bank intended to stay open.

Cherry raised panel doors, millwork and custom cabinetry all give the new lobby an inviting feel. Materials like Corian, granite, ceramic tile, stainless steel and glass block also helped to modernize the feel of the facility. The exterior was also updated with the use of copper-colored architectural panels.

Insurance Restoration



BEFORE

FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Gary E. Reid Construction, Inc.,
Youngstown, NY

Project location: Grand Island, NY

Cost: \$248,512

Square footage: 3,175 before remodel;
3,355 after

Photos: Gary E. Reid



A fire that started in the basement necessitated the restoration of the entire basement and most of the first floor. The homeowner wanted more space and natural light on the first floor, so the kitchen was expanded out the back of the home, and the wall between the kitchen and the living room was removed to provide for better flow. The ceilings in the first floor bathroom and living room were vaulted and two skylights were added to the living room. The exterior of the house was also redone with new windows and siding.

Residential Specialty



FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Small Carpenters at Large, Atlanta, GA

Project location: Atlanta, GA

Cost: \$27,215

Photos: Erica George Dines Photography

The client wanted the grand foyer of this sixth-floor condominium restored to its original 1919 appearance. Originally, each floor had two apartments, each with its own foyer. In the 1960s, each apartment was divided into three separate units with the foyer becoming a common area. The client purchased three units to combine into one condominium and wanted to restore the foyer, replace the door to the patio with a vintage 1800s door and hide the mechanicals that ran below the ceiling.

"A beautiful transformation of the space," said the judges.

Winnerslist

Best of Show > \$200,000

Auger Building Company

Best of Show < \$200,000

Bauer Interior Design

Whole House > \$500,000

First Place

Auger Building Company

Second Place

M/A/Peterson Design/build

Third Place

Neal's Remodeling

Honorable

DeMattei Construction

Whole House \$200,000 to \$500,000

First Place

Master Plan Remodeling

Second Place

DeMattei Construction

Third Place

DaMont Inc.

Honorable

Professional Remodeling Inc.

Whole House < \$200,000

First Place

Architectural Resource

Second Place

Silent Rivers

Honorable

Repp Construction Co.

Honorable

San Fun Remodeling

Additions > \$100,000

First Place

BDS Remodeling Services

Second Place

Evel Interior Concepts & Construction

Third Place (tie)

Crickshaw, Inc.

Third Place (tie)

SEI Design/Build

Additions < \$100,000

First Place

DaMont Inc.

Second Place

Rodgers Contracting

Third Place

Pete Builders

Kitchens > \$75,000

First Place

Bauer Interior Design

Second Place

Woodenwings

Third Place

Feinmann Remodeling

Honorable

Woodenwings

Kitchens \$40,000 to \$75,000

First Place

Lunga Trebbi General Contractors

Second Place (tie)

ART Design Build

Second Place (tie)

Kitchen Design Studio

Honorable

Ronnette Riley Architect

Kitchens < \$40,000

First Place

Rodgers Contracting

Second Place

Kliethermes Homes & Remodeling

Bathrooms > \$50,000

First Place

Bauer Interior Design

Second Place

Home Equity Builders

Third Place

Thomas Buckborough & Assoc.

Bathrooms \$30,000 to \$50,000

First Place

Architectural Building Arts

Second Place

ART Design Build

Third Place

Pequot Remodeling Corp.

Bathrooms < \$30,000

First Place

The Bainbridge Crew

Second Place

The Bainbridge Crew

Residential Specialty

First Place

Small Carpenters at Large

Second Place

Weatherguard Roofing Co.

Conservatory/Sunrooms

First Place

Crane Builders, LLC

Second Place

Bartelt Filo Design Build Remodel

Rebuild on Existing Foundation

First Place

Harrington Custom Building

Finished Basement

First Place

M/A/Peterson Design/build

Second Place

CRS Custom Contracting

Third Place

Dave Fox Remodeling

Outdoor Living

First Place

Boardwalk Design Inc.

Second Place

PK Construction Co.

Third Place

SEI Design/Build

Honorable

Sean Clay Building & Remodeling

Exterior Facelift

First Place

Titus Built, LLC

Second Place

Small Carpenters at Large

Third Place

The Bainbridge Crew

Honorable

Case Design Remodeling Inc.

Detached Structure

First Place

Besska Associates

Second Place

DiCantia Construction

Third Place

Small Carpenters at Large

Light Commercial

First Place

Kirk Gross Company

Second Place

Techcon Dallas

Insurance Restoration

First Place

Gary E. Reid Construction

Second Place

Showcase Construction Co.

Tim Benkowski, CKD, CBD, CRA, is a partner in Groskopf Construction Inc., Okauchee, WI. He is an educator and trainer for design and business practices and is a speaker at trade meetings and conventions.

Dan Luck is the president of Modern Kitchen, Madison, WI. He has served as an officer with the National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA) at both the local and national levels.

Tom Callen is one of the owners of Callen Construction, a specialty and full-service remodeling firm in Muskego, WI. He has served on the board of directors of the Milwaukee chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI).

Maurice Forde is the president of Forde Windows & Remodeling Inc., Northbrook, IL. He has held both local and national officer positions with NARI. He currently chairs the NARI education committee.

Bruce A. Johnson is the owner of BDC Building Design & Construction, Inc., Milwaukee, WI. He is also an alternate member of the board of directors for the Milwaukee NARI chapter.

Shawn McCadden, CR, CLC, is the president of Custom Contracting, Inc., Arlington, MA, and co-founder of the Design/Build Institute, an organization dedicated to training and promotion of design/build.

QR Judges:



Whole House

\$500,000 and above



FIRST PLACE WHOLE HOUSE

Contractor: Auger Building Company, Inc.,
Portsmouth, NH

Project location: Portsmouth, NH

Cost: \$2.4 million

Square footage: 3,375 before remodel;
5,350 after

Photos: Dan Grair, Blind Dog Photo, Inc.

Second Place:
M/A/Peterson Designbuild,
Edina, MN

Third Place:
Neal's Remodeling,
Cincinnati, OH

**Honorable
Mention:**
DeMattei Construction,
San Jose, CA

SELECTED PRODUCTS

Doors: Marvin; Morgan

Windows: Marvin



tions, with the house located 50 ft. from the Atlantic Ocean.

The judges were impressed by the interior details and colors. As for the exterior, "the style of the design was so nice, it looked like the addition had always been there," said one judge.

WholeHouse

\$200,000 to \$500,000

BEFORE



FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Master Plan Remodeling,
Portland, OR

Project location: Portland, OR

Cost: \$337,000

Square footage: 2,850 before
remodel; 3,082 after

Photos: Roger Turk, Northlight
Photography Inc.



Second Place:

DeMattei Construction,
San Jose, CA

Third Place:

DaMont Inc., Spring Lake
Park, MN

Honorable Mention:

Professional Remodeling
Inc., Kihei, HI

This 1941 ranch home required a total renovation to meet the needs of the new "empty-nester" owners. The entry was upgraded with a 64-sq.-ft. addition to improve the curb appeal of the home. The one-car garage was enlarged to allow for two large vehicles, and extended over the existing basement, and the kitchen and bathroom were extensively remodeled.

This remodel was part of a two-phase plan designed to meet the long-term needs of the homeowners as they age. The second phase of construction is scheduled for 2005.

The judges thought the project was "stunning" and "well thought-out." The entry was singled out as impressive: "A good, inviting front elevation. When you look at the front of the home you know what the interior will be like."



SELECTED PRODUCTS

Exterior Doors: Kolbe & Kolbe

Insulation: Owens Corning

Kitchen cabinets: Neff

Kitchen appliances: Gaggenau,
Wolf & Sub-Zero

Paints/stains: Sherwin Williams

Roofing: Owens Corning

Windows: Milgard



WholeHouse

Below \$200,000

FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Architectural Resource,

Ann Arbor, MI

Project location: Ann Arbor, MI

Cost: \$113,794

Square footage: 1,078

Photos: Stanley Livingston, Photographer



Second Place:

Silent Rivers,
Des Moines, IA

Honorable Mention:

Repp Construction Co.,
Inc., Orchard Park, NY

Honorable Mention:

Sun Fun Remodeling
Inc., Marietta, GA



SELECTED PRODUCTS

Insulation: Louisiana Pacific

Paints/stains: Sherwin Williams

Siding: James Hardie

Windows: Pella

The existing house was badly deteriorating and aesthetically unappealing after years of neglect. The home had been used as a boarding house for years, and undergone a series of alterations that had resulted in many awkward spaces. The owners wanted to recreate a classic bungalow.

The entire front porch was replaced, the first floor was completely redesigned with the relocation of the front door and shifting of the central circulation spine. Cross-tied columns and oak wall paneling were adopted as core design elements.

Room Additions

\$100,000 and above



FIRST PLACE

Contractor: BDS Remodeling Services, Chester, NJ

Project location: Warren, NJ

Cost: \$598,000

Square footage: 9,600 before remodel; 10,200 after

Photos: Michael Slack

The homeowner wanted to enhance his property with a major reconfiguration of the master bedroom and guest room. The result was a Tuscan style master suite consisting of an expanded and extensively upgraded master bath, sitting room with fireplace and a sleeping area with a faux painted tray ceiling.

The judges were impressed by the "artistic details" of the project and called the finished product "distinguished and elegant."

SELECTED PRODUCTS

Bath fixtures: Kohler

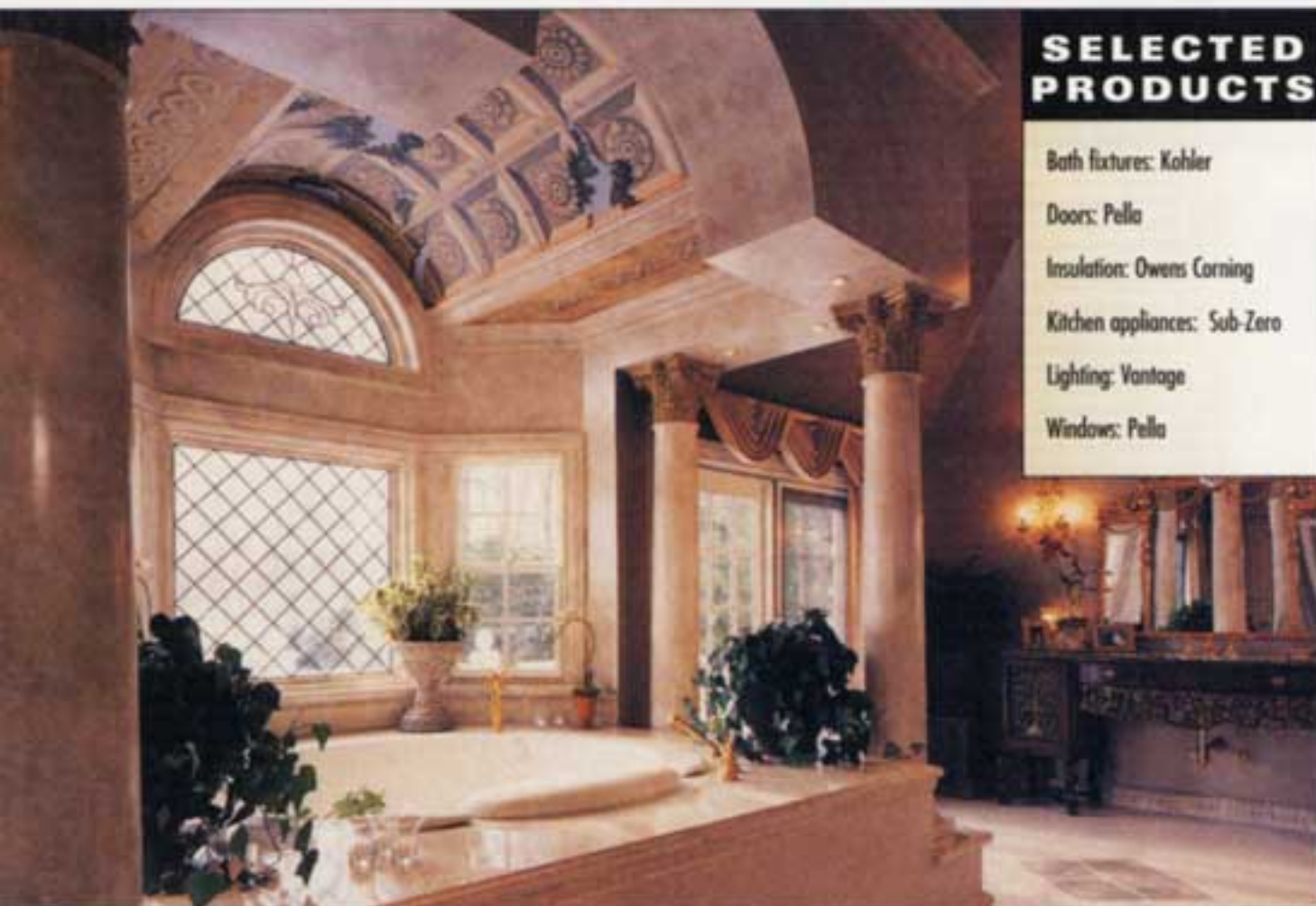
Doors: Pella

Insulation: Owens Corning

Kitchen appliances: Sub-Zero

Lighting: Vantage

Windows: Pella



Second Place:

Excel Interior Concepts & Construction, Lemoyne, PA

Third Place (tie):

Cruickshank, Inc., Atlanta, GA

SEI Design/Build, Vienna, VA

Additions

Below \$100,000

FIRST PLACE

Contractor: DaMont, Inc.,
Spring Lake Park, MN
Designer: Ron Buslow Associated
Architects
Project location: St. Paul, MN
Cost: \$82,000
Square footage: 375
Photos: Dave Monte

Second Place:

Rodgers Contracting,
Greenville, SC

Third Place:

Prete Builders,
Vermillion, OH



The homeowners wanted to add a family room to the rear of the house on a small lot. Any addition also had to retain the original architecture and style because of the historic area in which it was located.

The clients wanted to join the new family room to the existing home on one side and the detached garage on the other, without disturbing the existing rear entry door to the kitchen. To solve that problem, the new room tapers into the existing home at a 45-degree angle to accommodate the door.

Special knives were manufactured to cut the exterior millwork to match the existing profiles of the home and others in the neighborhood.

The judges liked the way that the addition "brought the outside in." They were also impressed by the beaded ceiling, built-in cabinets and the flow of the room.



SELECTED PRODUCTS

Paints/stains: Mautz

Windows: Pella

Kitchens

\$75,000 and above



This kitchen remodel was part of a larger project that also included a bathroom remodel (see p. 30).

The new owners of the home wanted an environment that was more reflective of their tastes. One of their favorite pieces of art was a lithograph of a circus scene. The challenge for the designer was to make the kitchen fun, without looking like an actual circus. The kitchen also needed to be expanded and updated for a larger family and an avid cook.

"It was a creative solution," the judges said. "It has a great geometric design that goes beyond the cabinets."



FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Bauer Interior Design,
San Francisco, CA

Project location: San Mateo, CA

Cost: \$250,000

Square footage: 203 before; 324 after

Photos: David Livingston

Second Place:

Woodenwings,
Palo Alto, CA

Third Place:

Feinmann Remodeling,
Arlington, MA

Honorable Mention:

Woodenwings,
Palo Alto, CA

SELECTED PRODUCTS

Kitchen appliances: Sub-Zero
refrigerator; Thermador cooktop

Kitchens

\$40,000 to \$75,000

FIRST PLACE

Contractor: Longo Trebbi General
Contractors, Fort Lauderdale, FL
Project location: Fort Lauderdale, FL
Cost: \$63,874
Square footage: 980 before
remodel; 1,120 after
Photos: Ronald G. Trebbi



This 1950s vintage kitchen needed to be improved both functionally and aesthetically. The goals were to visually enlarge the kitchen while staying within the original footprint and design the kitchen to become the heart of the home. The homeowners also wanted a display space for their collection of glass and dinner wear, a dishwasher and a wet bar incorporated into the plan.

The judges said the new kitchen was a much better use of floor space. "It added a lot of pizzazz in a small area."