

# DESIGNNY

## HOME & DESIGN RESOURCE GUIDE

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# AN EXPRESSION OF STYLE IN FORM, FUNCTION, AND FAMILY



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Photography by Acorn Studios*

Initially, visitors see a stately residence settled into a pastoral landscape punctuated with lovely, natural water elements and beautiful, mature trees. What isn't seen is the fact that this gorgeous estate was built from scratch and harmoniously fulfills a list of challenging and divergent needs.

The residence is a dream house reflecting the homeowners' contrasting tastes: rugged and rustic for him, elegant and formal for her. The "natural" landscape started as a virtually blank slate and, although disguised by the exterior, the largest part of the design was centered on incorporating a living area for her parents. The residence is really two homes in one. "We wanted the closeness of family but complete privacy and comfortable traffic patterns for both parties. We also wanted space to accommodate our visiting older children. It's a multi-generational house," say the homeowners. "It was a daunting task!"

The homeowners started with an architect spending two years to develop the concept and floor plan but it was Greg Bowering of Bowering Homes who brought the concept to life. Bowering recalls, "They needed a residence that reflected and accommodated two separate sets of needs: one for each family. We had to figure out the ultimate design of spaces and pull it together so everyone would get exactly what they wanted with an overall unified, seamless look and flow." The homeowners also worked closely with interior designer, Bev Deminski and Kimberly Martin, owner of Custom Kitchens by Martin and Company. Bowering started





with the commonalities. The parents trusted their daughter's tastes. The daughter laughs, "The bigger issue was the difference between my preferences and my husband's! He loves loud music but my parents need quiet. He likes a rugged look while I prefer a formal, traditional interior." It became an inside joke. During the project, everyone – homeowners, parents, and service providers – agreed the husband got the outside and one room over the garage while his wife took care of the interior. The formal interior and rugged exterior proved to be a successful formula, reminiscent of an elegant Adirondack camp tucked into a carefree landscape.

Bowering developed the framework that encouraged good aesthetic and functional flow. The in-law suite portion is near the back of the home and has two bedrooms, a kitchen, a living area and a study.

The overall footprint is extremely large so Bowering used hip roofs, valleys, details and shadowing to break up the mass and minimize the roofline's size appearance. The garages are in different locations and hidden from view.

Inside, the two-story kitchen is central to the home and is seen from the front foyer and down from the second floor. It's a family gathering spot. In addition to a table there is seating for six at the 20-foot island. There are two sinks, two work stations, plus a fireplace and hearth so everyone can work and be together. Martin also worked closely with detail and trim throughout the house so the kitchen's taste and style conforms to the rest of the home. Moving from the front foyer through the living room, dining room then kitchen there is a gradient flow of extremely formal to casual-dressy.

