



Brand-New Bungalows:
part of a series on new construction
in the Craftsman spirit

A SITE FOR ALL SEASONS



BY DOUGLAS MACK

THE ENTRY SETS THE TONE FOR THE REST OF THE HOUSE, INCLUDING WOOD PANELING WITH IRIDIZED GLASS INLAYS AND CUSTOM-MADE LIGHT FIXTURES. ARTS AND CRAFTS STENCILING ADDS A DISCREET TOUCH OF ORNAMENTATION.

NOT ALL PRECIOUS HEIRLOOMS can fit inside a box. For one Minnesota family, a piece of lakefront property has become a prized possession handed from one generation to the next. The site's tranquil environs and natural beauty are its shining jewels, but it also has a new centerpiece that captures the sense of place, a new retreat modeled on the Arts and Crafts aesthetic of Greene & Greene.

This new lake residence is the legacy of the family matriarch, who purchased a cabin on a parcel of land in the 1950s and whose passion for thoughtful, timeless design and respect for the site's northwoods environs provided the guiding principles for construction of this new home. The family loved the small original cabin, but yearned for a more functional and more spacious



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THE LIVING ROOM IS THE CENTERPIECE OF THE HOME - IT IS BOTH THE PRIMARY GATHERING AREA AND THE ROOM MOST ALIVE IN ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS, NOT ALL OF THEM OBVIOUS. THE WOOD PANELING TO THE LEFT OF THE HEARTH OPENS TO REVEAL A TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM, AND THE SPEAKERS! THEY'RE HIDDEN BEHIND THE LEAFY TEXTILE FRIEZE BELOW THE LOFT AREA.



THE KITCHEN IS A SHOWCASE OF ARTS AND CRAFTS FORMS MARRIED WITH MODERN-DAY FUNCTION. A REFRIGERATED DRAWER AND A DISHWASHER ARE SHEATHED BY CABINETRY, WHILE THE FULL-SIZE REFRIGERATOR, LESS DISCREET BUT NOT ENTIRELY OBVIOUS, STANDS SENTINEL AT THE END OF THE KITCHEN. SLATE FLOORING STANDS UP TO THE WEAR AND TEAR OF A CONSTANT STREAM OF TRAFFIC THROUGHOUT THE DAY. JUST OFF THE KITCHEN IS THE BREAKFAST ROOM, WHERE A BUILT-IN BENCH OFFERS A PRIME BIRD-WATCHING SPOT. HERE, AGAIN, A CUSTOM LIGHT FIXTURE, ORNAMENTAL STENCILING AND BUILT-IN CABINETRY FURTHER THE ARTS AND CRAFTS AESTHETIC AND CAPTURE THE ARTS AND CRAFTS MOVEMENT'S EMPHASIS ON CRAFTSMANSHIP, NATURAL MATERIALS AND LETTING NO SPACE GO TO WASTE.

residence, one that could host larger groups of family and friends and that could be used year round. It would be, they dreamed, a home rich in architectural details and natural materials befitting the surroundings, a "new old house" evocative of a different time but outfitted with modern amenities.

Architect Craig Helenske designed the exterior of the residence; for the interior architecture and design, the family turned to

David Heide Design Studio, based in Minneapolis. The studio has a reputation for finely detailed restoration and remodeling work and a portfolio thick with Arts and Crafts projects. As a new structure, the home presented a fresh challenge for the project team of David Heide; Mark Nelson, AIA; Brad Belka; and Michael Crull.

The family made it clear to Heide and his colleagues that while the interior should build on an Arts and Crafts aesthetic, the overall

IN THE ENTRY, A CUSTOM-DESIGNED LIGHT FIXTURE AND DECORATIVE STENCILING SET THE TONE FOR THE RESIDENCE, WHILE SLATE FLOORING CREATES A NATURAL CONNECTION TO THE SURROUNDING FOREST.



effect should be that not of a museum of historic relics but of a resilient structure that could stand up to the wear and tear of vacation life and all the sandy feet, dirty hands and leisurely living it entails. The joys of lakeshore "cottage" living, after all, include spontaneous gatherings with neighbors, with no time or concern for tidying up; the sight of young guests traipsing through the house in dripping swim suits; and a prevailing attitude of carefree amiability, where





THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE, THOUGHTFUL DESIGN AND MATERIAL SELECTION CREATE A SPACE THAT IS ORGANIZED AND INVITING. DAY BEDS WITH TRUNDLE BEDS ARE SEPARATED BY TILE-TOPPED CABINETS FOR STORING LINENS AND OTHER ITEMS.

AN UPPER-LEVEL BALCONY REACHES INTO THE TREES AND OFFERS STUNNING VIEWS OF THE LAKE. CUSTOM-MADE LIGHT FIXTURES AND RAILINGS ADD TO THE ARTS AND CRAFTS AESTHETIC OF THE STRUCTURE ITSELF.

the preferred daily chores are finding a new fishing spot or reading a good book while curled up by the hearth.

Heide's team selected durable, natural materials that would wear well with time and suit the many activities going on within the house. Slate tile throughout the entire ground floor stands up to wear and tear, and built-in fir cabinetry in each room provides storage for everything from linens to snowshoes, while providing architectural interest and casting a warm glow throughout.



THE ENTIRE HOME IS A SHOWCASE OF BUILT-IN CABINETS, BUT THE SIZE AND LAYOUT OF THE BATHROOMS NECESSITATED SOME INGENUITY IN THE CABINETRY DESIGN. THE SAME MATERIALS AND MOTIFS FOUND ELSEWHERE REAPPEAR HERE, BUT IN NEW SIZES AND SHAPES.



THOUGH SMALL, THE GUEST BATHROOM ABOUNDS IN FUNCTIONAL DETAILS AND ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST. CUSTOM-MADE TILE SURROUNDS THE MIRROR, WHILE THE DOOR, CABINETS, LIGHT FIXTURES AND OTHER DETAILS ECHO THE AESTHETIC OF THE HOUSE'S PUBLIC SPACES.

A BUILT-IN BENCH, CABINETS, AND OTHER FEATURES MAKE THIS GUEST BEDROOM COZY BUT WELL ORGANIZED. CAREFULLY PLACED SCONCES HELP CREATE A WELCOMING, INTIMATE FEEL WHILE LARGE WINDOWS LET IN PLENTY OF NATURAL LIGHT DURING THE DAY.



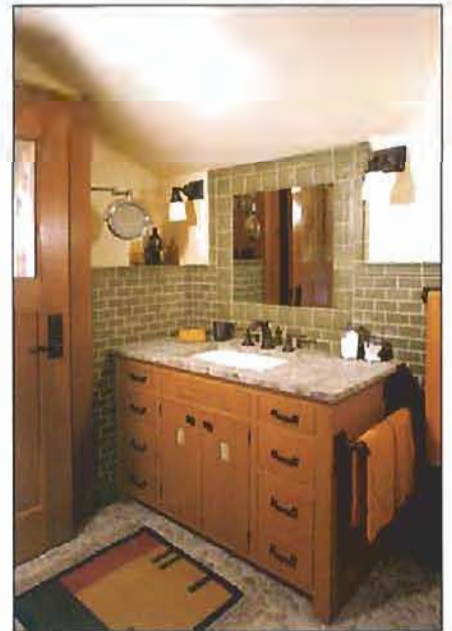
In well-traveled areas, cabinetry is topped with tile to provide what Heide describes as "coaster-free living." Upstairs, cork flooring provides a barefoot-friendly, long-lasting surface while serving as an homage to the original cottage, which also had cork floors.

Other elements link past and present in a more direct manner. The homeowners recycled a room's worth of redwood board-and-batten paneling, re-using it inside one of the new bedrooms. Similarly, several pieces of historic furniture from the original house were restored, reupholstered and put into use in the new one. Outside, the old tree house used by the parents when they were children has been reconstructed to the exact original specifications, even including the paint color. Throughout the residence, memorabilia from the old family business is on display, offering yet one more subtle connection to generations past.

Life at the Lake

Throughout the year, depending on the season, days spent sailing, horseback riding or cross-country skiing give way to evenings of conversation and relaxation. At mealtime during the warmer months, an outdoor kitchen area on one side of the house, an expansive terrace on the other, and a screen porch offer multiple options for alfresco dining. In the indoor kitchen, modern appliances are sheathed by cabinetry. An informal dining room is just off the kitchen, with large windows and a built-in bench giving the space a porch-like feel, and a custom-made Arts and Crafts chandelier adds a touch of elegance. The open living room, surrounded by the loft areas of the second floor, provides an inviting space for evening conversation and relaxation. A fieldstone hearth is the focal point, its roaring fire proving an irresistible gathering spot in the winter.

A closer look around the room reveals other discreet features that help make the good life at the lake even better, even more relaxing. Wood panels beside the fireplace





open to reveal a television and stereo, and the speakers for the entertainment system are even more carefully concealed, hiding behind a leaf-print textile frieze below the loft area. The breakfast room's built-in bench perches in a prime bird-watching spot, a favorite pastime of the family matriarch, and binoculars and bird guides are always close at hand in the adjacent cabinetry.

At the end of the evening, lighted newel posts serve as beacons for those headed upstairs to bed, a final flourish of Arts and Crafts whimsy, the final sight of another day packed with camaraderie and carefree cottage life.

The residence's combination of rich Arts and Crafts character and functional resiliency calls to mind a quote from William Morris: "Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be



beautiful." Here in the north woods of Minnesota, a family has realized this ideal and created a home at once vibrant in design and bustling with life throughout the seasons. 📖

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