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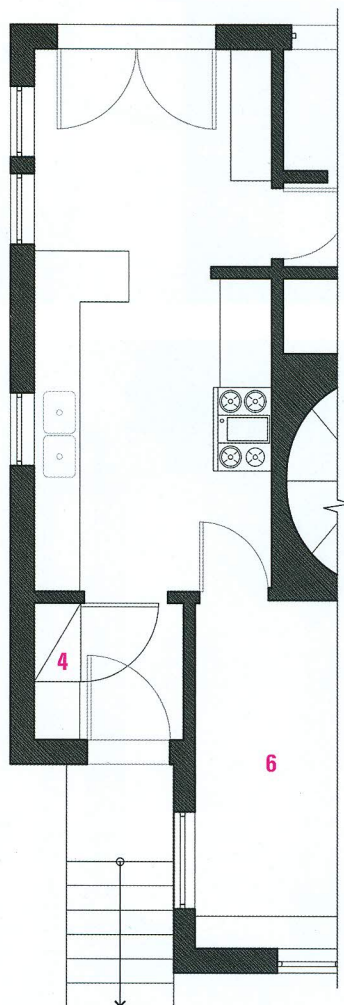


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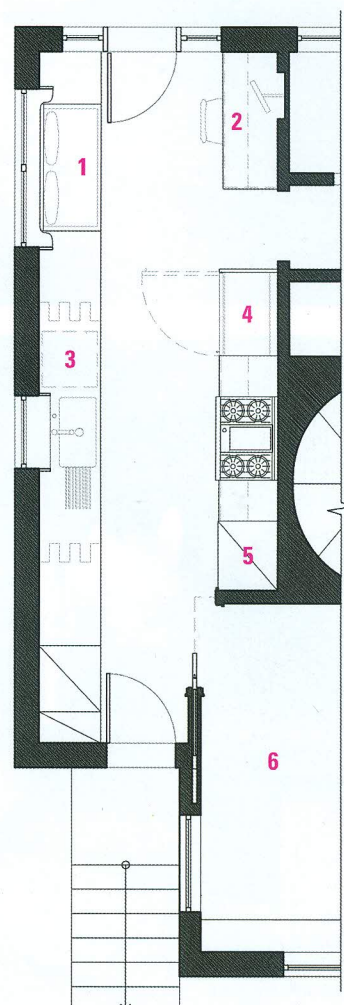
Attention to detail defines this remodeled kitchen in an architect's own home – materials and textures are intricately mixed and the cabinetmaking owes much to tradition



Before



After



Designing a kitchen for a 1920s Tudor

home doesn't have to involve masses of traditional detailing and ornate fixtures and fittings. For architect Nils Finne of Finne Architects, the solution for the remodeled kitchen in his own house was a much more contemporary design – but he says he still took a cue from tradition.

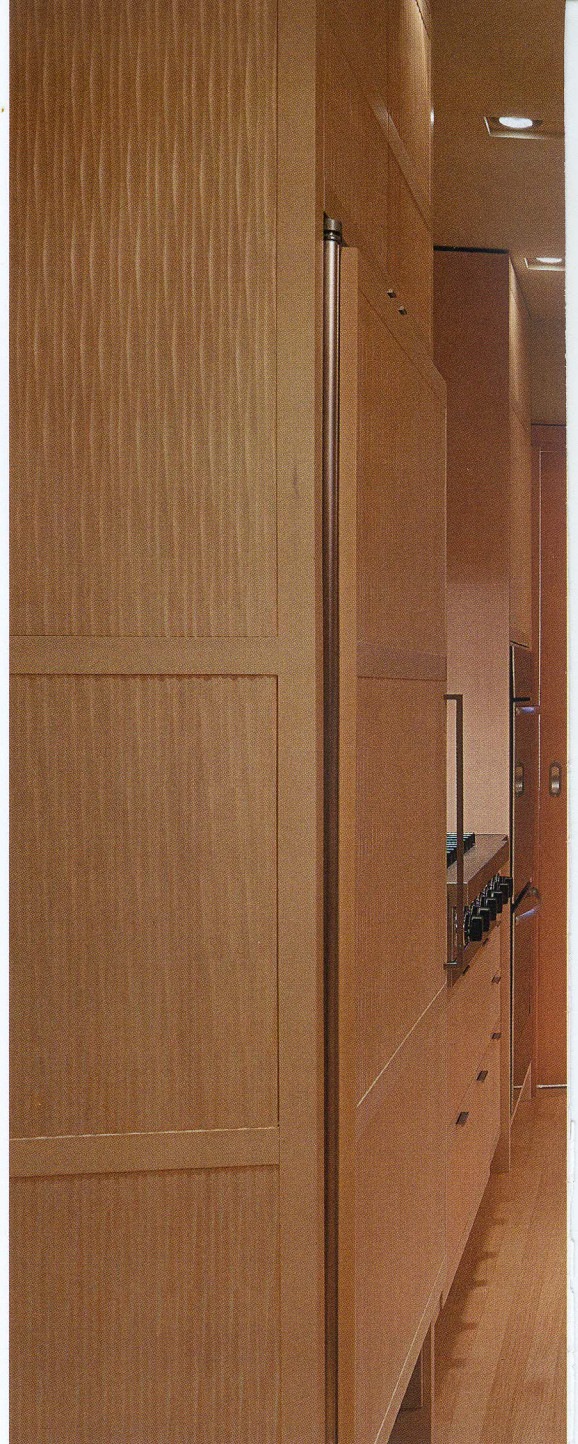
"I wanted to bring a fresh, new spirit to the house, which was built in 1927. Although there are no mouldings or traditional details in the kitchen, there is a common language between the two eras.



Above left: A subdued palette of natural materials features in this remodeled galley-style kitchen designed by architect-owner Nils Finne. Sleek, unadorned Alaskan yellow cedar cabinets are teamed with backlit resin on the upper cabinets. The matching flooring is quarter-sawn red oak.

Legend to plans: 1 window seat, 2 desk, 3 dishwasher, 4 refrigerator, 5 ovens, 6 dining room.

Left: Belgian Blue limestone and black walnut countertops merge with an interlocking finger joint that highlights the contrasting textural finishes of each surface.



Top left and right, and above right: To screen the dining room, Finne designed an L-shaped pocket door with an interlocking detail on the joint.

Above: At one end of the kitchen an upholstered bench seat sits beneath a window with a deep sill, which is integrated with the open shelving.

Facing page: The reflective translucency created by the upper resin cabinets is echoed by a glass mosaic backsplash.

Story by Colleen Hawkes
Photography by Benjamin Benschnider

This is based on the use of richly textured materials and obsessive attention to detail and crafting."

Finne says the existing kitchen, which was built decades earlier, was not well laid out, had insufficient counter space, unattractive cabinets and a peeling green linoleum floor.

To provide more room, an internal wall was removed, creating a continuous, 25ft-long space for a galley-style kitchen. Custom CNC-routed doors in Alaskan yellow cedar were built without vertical

stiles, to create a seamless texture across the lower cabinets. The upper cabinets have resin panels backlit by LED lighting and aluminum reflectors.

The cabinets are teamed with Belgian Blue limestone and black walnut counters. Finne designed an interlocking pattern where the surfaces meet.

"The unusual finger joint not only adds visual interest, but also allows the hard, fossilized quality of the limestone and the rich, warm grain of the walnut to emerge side by side. Behind these tops, a



continuous backsplash of glass mosaics provides visual continuity.”

Finne also designed a new L-shaped pocket door with finger joints to screen the adjacent dining room. When open, the door is completely concealed.

Other key features include a new window seat, deep open shelving around a window and laser-cut steel lighting brackets. Sustainability was also a design driver – the kitchen is well insulated and filled with natural light. Green materials were used throughout the remodel.

Architect: Nils Finne AIA, design principal; Chris Hawley, project manager, Finne Architects (Seattle)

Structural engineer: MCE Engineering

Cabinet company: Seaboard Cabinet Company

Cabinetry: CNC-routed Alaskan yellow cedar; resin panel from 3-Form on upper cabinets

Countertops: Belgian Blue limestone from Quarry SE, fabricated by Sublime Stone; black walnut from Seaboard Cabinet Company

Backsplash: Erin Adams Zen Weave glass mosaic from Ann Sacks; installed by Broadview Construction

Doors and windows: Vertical grain Douglas fir by Quantum Windows and Doors

Lighting: Lightolier; pendant lights by Bruck

Blinds: MechoShade, with custom laser-cut steel valance

Seats and cushions: Fabric by Laura Lienhard, from Terris Draheim; upholstery by Lesley Petty Studio

Faucets: Hansgrohe

Oven: Dacor

Cooktop: Viking

Hood: Vent-A-Hood

Refrigeration: Sub-Zero

Dishwasher: Miele

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