

New

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was for conservation of both funds and material use and disposal.”

The old windows were replaced with ones that are more energy efficient and have a clean, commercial look.

Wherever possible, systems such as insulation, electrical, plumbing and heating were upgraded to maximize energy efficiency, she said.

Gorny said she believes strongly in an attitude of less is more by utilizing good, functional designs. The final design resulted in a small addition on the main floor to expand the office to accommodate two businesses.

The office faces a large picture window that provides views of their horses all day.

A finished attic was relocated to stack over the basement stairway and give access, in a much grander fashion,



Turning the backside of a staircase into shelving helped the owners maximize the existing space.

to a larger upper floor area, housing the master bedroom, bath and sitting area.

The new upper floor roofline was extended over the living and dining areas, creating a large vaulted space, punctuated by dramatic windows that flood the area with light.

Details and finishes are clean and simple, yet utilize the richness of color and natural wood.

There was a masonry fireplace in the original living room, which was to be refaced, but when uncovered, it exposed problems which would have required reconstruction.

“We chose to remove it, and when the hole was exposed, we were awed by the view of pasture and trees that it exposed,” said Gorny. “We chose to frame the landscape in a window that is surrounded by floating wood and iron display shelves.” The couple hoped to create a new exterior that paid homage to the previous farmhouse.

The goal was to keep the scale of a one-story farmhouse while accommodating the expanded upper floor with a steeper roof and plain shed dormers, while giving it a more modern look, she said.

“The simple gable form and steep roof pitch evoke the feeling of the early work of Frank Lloyd Wright,” said Gorny.

The end result is a dream come true, she said. “It is a wonderful house to live in — warm and friendly, with beautiful territorial views of the surrounding landscape, where we are amused all day long by the horses’ antics,” said Gorny. “I was hesitant to move Richard away from the city and didn’t know how he would adjust to farm life, but he now claims he will never leave.”

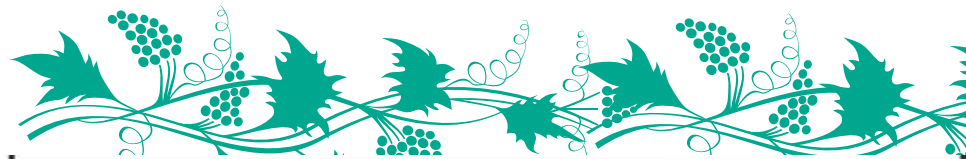
For more information about Wai Gorny Design, Inc., visit gornymc.home.mindspring.com or call 360-626-0509.

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PHOTOS BY RICHARD MCNAMEE

It was out with the old and in with the new. This 1920s-era farmhouse in east Stanwood is stripped bare, prior to a facelift by Wai/Gorny Design.



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