

AS SEEN IN

MKE lifestyle

SPECIAL ADDITIONS

Local designers share their most memorable adds to existing homes.

BY NICOLE BELL



GUEST OASIS, BARTELT. THE REMODELING RESOURCE

The homeowners of this fantastic farmhouse loved the rustic aesthetic, but knew they needed to add space to host their family and offer guests their own space when hosting visitors, so they turned to Bartelt. The Remodeling Resource project designer and coordinator Matt Retzak and interior designer Heather Scott to get the job done.

This farmhouse-style addition, mimicking the existing main house, includes a sophisticated library, boasting a handsome coffered ceiling and custom knotty alder wall paneling, a mudroom, guest suite, bedroom, kitchenette, bathroom and a bunk room for the younger guests. To blend seamlessly into the existing design, the exterior features copper gutters, a shake roof, clear cedar siding and high moldings, as well as hand-built trusses and rafters built on-site to both provide sturdiness in the complex roof system and add to the desired aesthetic.

Though the addition is attached to the main home, it offers plenty of privacy so visitors feel like they have their own space, a feeling bolstered by a separate entrance off of the mudroom and a second staircase that leads directly to the guest suite. Kids love the welcoming bunk beds, as well as a charming secret passage to spark their curiosity. The kitchenette is fully stocked with plenty of counter space, a sink and beverage refrigerator and custom cabinetry so guests truly have their own oasis while visiting.



Photos by David Bader



LAKE MICHIGAN POOL ADDITION DEEP RIVER PARTNERS

Offering both the incentive to exercise and a beautiful new space in the home, this Fox Point pool house addition by Deep River Partners founder, CEO and principal designer Richard Sherer also serves as a social destination. The bright rotunda acts as the connector between the main house and the pool house and provides a detached, conservatory feel and a colonial aesthetic. The use of synthetic materials, like copper standing seam roofing, PVC trim and natural stone flooring, will keep this pool house fresh far into the future with minimal maintenance. Built-in steps on the side of the pool allow easy entry into the water, and a changing room with a full bath and shower provide an one stop get-ready area with upscale amenities.

The homeowner's love for art glass inspired the addition of both hanging and underwater glass sculptures emulating a coral reef set before a black plaster pool to provide contrast and draw attention to the pieces. For additional ambiance, an indoor lounge area features a fireplace and a fully appointed wet bar stocked with a beverage refrigerator, ice machine, bar sink and counter seating. French doors open to the garden, terrace and an outdoor fire pit, and floor-to-ceiling glass provides an unbeatable view of Lake Michigan.



Photos by De Maio Photography



ENTERTAINING SPACES VICTORY RENOVATIONS, LLC

Homeowners Chris and Janice Roller needed more space for entertaining guests, so they tapped the crew at Victory Renovations, LLC, the interior design expertise of Tammy Joost of Tammy J Interior Design LLC, and the builders at Allen Builders, LLC and Victory Homes of Wisconsin to create a spacious addition to welcome houseguests.

“The homeowners were interested in taking better advantage of the underutilized space in the lower level of their home by creating additional living space as well as a dedicated entertainment space. Natural light was brought with four large windows and a landscaped, terraced window well, making the space feel like an extension of the home rather than your typical finished lower level, which is starved for light,” says Project Manager Bill Jackson.

Carefully curated decor additions and statement pieces brought the whole space together, including the Rollers’ request for luxe bar features, including a foot rail, wine and beverage storage, a mounted bottle opener, a dishwasher and a stunning stone backsplash.

“We really wanted to add a great space for guests that we could also entertain in,” Chris and Janice note. “The added egress windows bring in the perfect amount of light, and Victory’s designer Tammy brought our whole vision together. The craftsmanship from the cabinets to the





Photos by Detour Marketing, LLC

stonework is everything we had hoped for and more. We plan to use Victory for our next project in the future.”

“The biggest goal they wanted to achieve was a comfortable space for their family and friends and start the process of updating their home from when they built the house over 10 years ago,” adds Joost. “After considering almost selling their home and building a new home, they decided this was their forever home, they just needed to bring it up to today’s trends and styles that they both gravitated to on HGTV, on Pinterest and even in Parade of Homes models through the years. This lower level was the first step in this process for them. They not only were creating a space to entertain, but they also were using this renovation to move their guest room to their basement.”

She adds that the homeowners were confident about what they wanted from the space and the image they were envisioning, and that the team of pros worked well together to create their vision. “Looking back, from day one, we all just clicked and I was able to gain their trust which in the end helped us truly transform their space and it led to more updates throughout their home after their lower level was completed,” Joost says.



SPA ROOM ADDITION DEEP RIVER PARTNERS

When these homeowners wanted to turn their cramped, outdated master bathroom into a relaxing en suite retreat, they called on Deep River Partners founder, CEO and principal designer Richard Sherer and architect Nicholas Blavat, AIA to get the job done. To create an escapist feel without sacrificing function, the team used soft tones and flowing shapes, evidenced in the angular center island whirlpool and circular rain shower with vaulted ceiling and glass cupola.

The attached dressing room boasts a backlit art niche, drawing the eye into the lavish, amenity-filled bathroom. Decorative tile mosaics seamlessly incorporate the natural colors while still adding artful detail and an element of intrigue, while a skylight bathes the serene space in plenty of natural light, creating an open, airy space that instantly soothes.

Sherer notes that seamlessly blending additions into pre-existing architecture entails incorporating “similar details that embody the true essence of the existing architectural style.

“We take note of the existing property and structural features of the home,” he continues. “Using similar massing elements, roof pitches and aligned window and door heights, we create an addition that feels familiar and not out of place. We think through the selection of key elements such as doors, windows and exterior materials carefully so as to not compete with the existing. In using French doors or multisliding doors, we reveal and provide a connection to the exterior terrace and gardens, diminishing the barrier between inside and outside. Using a line of sight, a featured view, or a focal point in the garden, we draw the eye to the landscape beyond resulting in a unified and holistic design.” MKE



Photos by De Maio Photography