



AMAZING TRANSFORMATIONS 2024

DESIGN + DECOR

THE FLORIDA EDITION

MHK ARCHITECTURE

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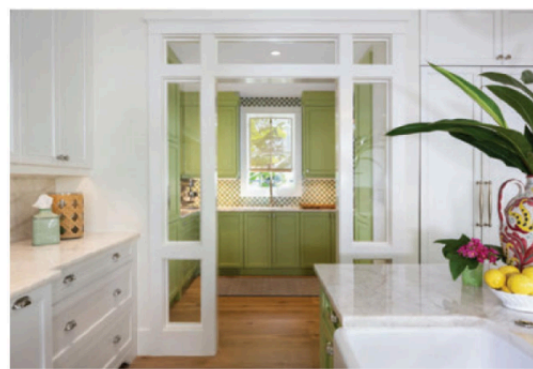
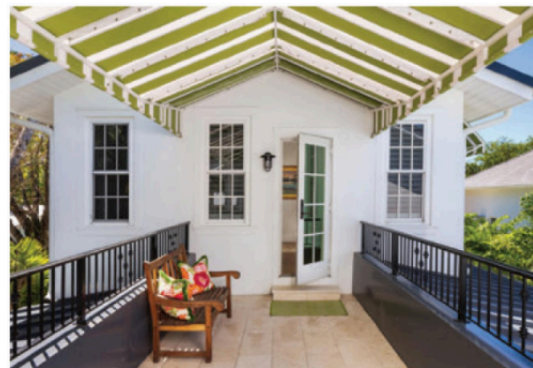
Design + Decor: Let's start by learning about the clients. What about them influenced the design of the home?

D They're a sweet couple from Kentucky who had been looking for a house down here in Naples to be a landing spot for their growing family, including grandchildren. They have a good eye for design and were drawn to the idea of buying a historic Naples cottage and bringing it back to life. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to help preserve the structure, which had survived many events and storms, for hopefully another 100 years.



That's so intriguing. Did you do all the work before they moved in? How extensive were the renovations?

It was a truly fluid process. They moved in as soon as they bought the home, which was built in 1927, to live in the house a bit and get a sense of how they wanted the space to feel. The primary bathroom was one of the first things on the list. One of the big challenges was ensuring that the addition that was done years ago became synonymous with the original house. There was a clear divide, so we renovated those together, interior and exterior, to bring it all together.



That's a lovely approach. After living there, what did they determine were their main goals for the renovation?

Opening up the living spaces was a priority. From creating a connection between the kitchen and dining room, which originally felt a bit disconnected, to reworking the stairway, which opened up the view right when you walk in—it's quite welcoming. We also added lots of glass so daylight fills the space as well. They also needed storage, so we integrated a pantry/laundry with the kitchen, which is incredibly useful for them.



That's quite the feat! What can you tell us about the design details and how they came together?

The homeowners worked with Ficarra Design Associates for the interior design, and they did a wonderful job. The colors here—the bright green in the kitchen for example—are just extremely well done. The awnings in the front almost started that effect, they're a fun beachy vibe and the color was perfect. One of our favorite details here is the sliding glass doors that open to transform a corner of the kitchen into an amazing poolside porch.

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