

TRADING SPACES

A 1910 Wash Park bungalow gets a whole-house reno that doubles its size and quintuples its style, while keeping the original charm intact.

BY LEIGH BOWDEN | PHOTOGRAPHY BY RON RUSCIO

*f*ormer cooking school owner and master gardener Kathy Smith wanted more space—and a yard. Her son wanted less space and absolutely no yard work. So they traded homes.

Smith ended up in a sweet 1910 two-bedroom, two-bath Washington Park bungalow with about 1,500 square feet of space. “There were really amazing architectural features, including a lot of the original casework around the windows and an exposed brick wall that ran from the front of the house to the back,” she says.

It was perfect. Well, almost. First, Smith, a mother of four grown children who visit often, decided she needed a second floor. Second, as an ace cook, she needed a new kitchen. Third, she wanted a





FORM + FUNCTION

Though the kitchen does not have a huge imprint, it is perfect for the homeowner, a gourmet chef who still hosts small cooking classes for friends. Ultracraft Cabinetry with Caesarstone countertops combine with a Daltile backsplash and a Blanco Silgranit undermount sink to create a highly functional space. “This is not a fussy house,” says designer Tennille Wood. “The kitchen was designed to be used.” In the expanded mudroom beyond, Wood chose an Umbra Skyline 5-Hook Wall-Mounted Coat Rack, available at AllModern.

DOUBLE DECKER

Despite the addition of a second floor to the 1910 Washington Park bungalow, the home looks as if it were always a two-story. The brick matches perfectly, and to create more continuity, the homeowner and interior designer decided to continue a bay window in the dining room all the way up through a second-floor bedroom.

basement she could stand up in (the current one had ceilings that were only about 5 feet tall). Plus an expanded mudroom in back, a closed-in front porch ...

You get the idea. This house needed a bit of work.

So Smith turned to houzz.com, where she found interior designer Tennille Wood, owner of Beautiful Habitat Interior Design. “Tennille was a gold mine—and then some,” Smith says. “One of the things I told her is that I didn’t want anyone to walk into the house and say, ‘I know it’s a 1910 house, but it doesn’t look like one inside.’ I wanted people to walk in and go, ‘This is amazing.’”

“She really wanted to honor the age of the home,” says Wood, “without doing a historic preservation. We wanted to honor the craftsman style in things like the new stair bannisters going to the second floor.”

Smith also wanted to avoid the “standard pop-top look” from the outside, where there is a clear demarcation between the original, first floor and the added-on second. “I wanted it to look like the original 1910 house was a two-story.” To that end, Wood suggested that she carry the first-floor dining room bay window down into the basement and up through the second floor, “so it looks like it’s been there forever,” Smith says.

From the get-go, the omens were positive. “We had to take out an old gas fireplace that was once a functional ash-burning fireplace, and when the guys came out to put in a new insert, they found a

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1958 Colorado license plate with the letters ‘KS’ on it covering the ash hole; those are my initials and my son Kevin’s initials. It was crazy. The plate was all rusty and cool, so I framed it.”

The resulting remodel has five bedrooms and four and a half baths, including two master suites (an existing one on the main floor and a new one on the second) and, in the newly excavated basement, a bedroom that doubles as a rec room, plus a three-quarter bath, for “overflow guests.” On the second floor, Smith and Wood opted not to have an attic but instead to create vaulted ceilings in all the rooms.

As a gourmet cook and occasional teacher, Smith wanted the kitchen, though not huge, to be really functional. “I’ve cooked everywhere; if you’re skilled at it, you can do it any time, anywhere. I don’t need five burners; I can work with

two.” Most important to Smith: “I had to have gas, and I wanted a decent-sized refrigerator. I also added an entertaining offset area in the basement where I could have a refrigerator to store platters of food during parties, plus an ice machine and a wine cooler. And we moved my old pizza oven to the outside of this house.”

That functionality pervades the entire house. “I pretty much live in every area of the house, except the basement—and I still use the basement all the time,” Smith says, “and unlike a lot of old houses, this one is full of light.”

The overall result, she says, is “a classic 1900s Denver home with exposed brick, gorgeous original trim work and other architectural features that make you think of a time a century ago but with a nod to the future with things like beautiful updated appliances and countertops.” +



BRICK BY BRICK

A Kincaid Foundry dining table, with upholstered chairs, also from Foundry, sit beneath a Robert Abbey Real Simple four-light chandelier. The original bowed brick wall was replicated on the floor above and in the basement.





▲ **AWASH IN COLOR**

A Crate + Barrel sofa with accent pillows by Loloi and Cyan cozies up to accent chairs from Rowe Furniture. The designer chose a distinctive charcoal gray paint for all of the trim throughout the home. "I wanted to accentuate the red tones of the brick wall without competing with it," says Wood.

▶ **WORK AND PLAY**

What was at one time an unusable front porch was converted into a foyer/home office, complete with Comfortex Window Fashions cellular shades and a Crate + Barrel desk.





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BE OUR GUEST

The brick bayed wall in this second-floor guest bedroom mimics the one on the floor below. Wood matched the orange headboard, which Smith previously owned, with new pearl-embroidered hotel-style bedding in clementine from Pottery Barn. She found the pillows and upholstered bench at Home Goods, the Jonathan Adler Meurice/Supernova Noir drum pendant at Robert Abbey and the Roman hobbled shades at Horizons Window Fashions.

◀
BATH TIME

Vintage-looking cabinetry and subway tiles with black accents make a guest bath feel new but old-timey.



RESOURCES

Interior Designer: Tennille Wood of Beautiful Habitat Interior Design / beautifulhabitat.com / 303.323.4683



SOAKING TIME

The master bath includes UltraCraft Cabinetry and Arizona Tile vintage-look tiles.



FEEL THE TEAL

Wood coordinated a tufted Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams headboard with Italian hotel satin-stitch bedding in stone from Restoration Hardware. The Williamsburg Custis/Carter gray fabric shade wall sconces are by Robert Abbey, as is the matching drum pendant light.

