

CAPE COD

BARNSTABLE
Massachusetts



OPPOSITE: The living room fireplace stayed. To dress up the room, homeowner and master craftsman Steve Klug paneled the walls and added custom crown molding and a box beam to the ceiling. Antique furnishings including a wicker daybed, alabaster lamps, and an oil painting of a schooner contribute to the historic essence of the cottage.

RemodelingCenter.com



Time & Tide

Devoid of character, a 1960s ranch gets a loving renovation inspired by the nearby ocean and Cape Cod's vernacular architecture.

BY JACI CONRY PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL PARTENIO PRODUCED BY STACY KUNSTEL

BEFORE



When Steve and Mary Margaret Klug were looking for a vacation property on Cape Cod a few years ago, they initially passed up this home. "It was exactly what we didn't want," says Steve, a custom builder. "It was a ranch built in the 1960s without any precision, efficiency, or beauty in mind." Yet on the couple's third look, they saw the neighborhood's private beach and marina and realized it was within walking distance of charming Barnstable Village. "We started to realize that the house might actually be exactly what we did want," Steve says.

So the native Californians who'd lived in Vermont for years decided that transforming the house would be worth the effort. "The house was not up to today's standards," Mary Margaret says. Plus they wanted a home that would easily accommodate houseguests, especially their daughter, who visits from New York City every chance she gets.

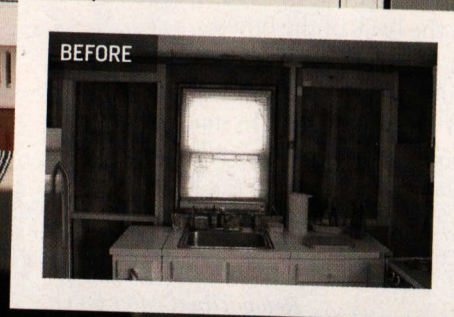
Architecturally, the couple wanted the home to have a classic look that emulated historic Cape Cod-style homes with reverence to the seaside location. While it was necessary

ABOVE: The redesign included the addition of a widow's walk that offers views of Cape Cod Bay, accessible from a pull-down ladder above the upper-level landing.

RIGHT: A kitchen where the Klugs could cook together and guests could congregate was a top priority. "The kitchen was a total gut job," homeowner Mary Margaret Klug says.



BEFORE



BELOW: A bathroom was moved to provide more space in the kitchen. The Klugs added a butler's pantry to showcase their collection of Staffordshire china.

RIGHT: A peninsula provides a zone for prep work. It also accommodates seating on both sides, making it a natural gathering point when the Klugs entertain.

OPPOSITE: The Klugs often have guests dine with them at the vintage white table positioned in front of the wall of windows overlooking the yard.



Designer Details

Lighting: An accent lamp provides light on art and adds to the nautical vibe.

Seating: The chairs have an elegant design with casual-look fabric.

Windows: High windows make the room feel larger.

On the wall: Benjamin Moore's Bone White paint color sings with the limestone floor.

to add square footage, they didn't want the house to be too big. "It was important to us that the house have the feel of a beach cottage with its small scale," Steve says.

To assist in the design process, the couple sought the help of architect Alison Alessi. "In many cases an approach to a project like this is to knock the whole house down and start over, and that might have been easier," Alessi says. "However, the Klugs wanted to be as environmentally conscious as possible. They didn't want the old house to end up in a landfill. We reused the existing foundation, floor, and framing." They also used the renovation as an opportunity to make the house more efficient by adding a continuous layer of insulation around it, an effort that drastically reduced initial heating bills even though the home more than doubled in size.

With a new dormered upper floor and reconfigured windows, the two-bedroom ranch evolved into a three-bedroom, three-bathroom Cape Cod. Clad with natural shakes that weather to gray in the sea air and a cedar-shingle roof, the roughly 2,200-square-foot house looks as though it's been part of the landscape for ages. While the main level retained most of its footprint, more living space was needed, so the Klugs and Alessi devised an expansive family room addition at the back of the house.

While the couple didn't want to overembellish, they did create charming handcrafted details. Steve, a master craftsman by trade, did the millwork: He made graceful moldings, raised wall panels, and built-in bookcases in the living room and beaded-board ceilings in the kitchen and entry. He also designed and built cabinets and vanities.



"The house was not up to today's standards."

Homeowner Mary Margaret Klug



OPPOSITE: "We have wonderful natural light in the room all day long," Steve says of the windows that bring light into the family/dining room from three sides.

LEFT: In season, the home is filled with varieties of hydrangea grown on the property, a natural complement to the home's blue and white color palette.


BELOW: The Klugs' new outdoor living space is nestled between the addition, right, and the original home, left. "It's a wonderful private patio space with roses and other plantings that we can appreciate from the family room," Steve says.

Voice of Experience

While the Klugs designed their home to have a comfortable, simple aesthetic, they also wanted it to have a sense of character. They did this by giving detail to standard room aspects, such as ceilings, which, according to Steve, are an overlooked architectural element. While the ceilings throughout the house are fairly low, the Klugs built a soaring cathedral vault in the family/dining room. To create detail, Steve gave the ceiling a large trellis look with squares that mimic the shape of some of the room's windows. "The pattern is in keeping with the cottage style, and the result is great. There's cohesion with elements in the room, and it doesn't cost a lot of money to do," Steve says.

Their decorating approach started with a color palette of blue and white inspired by the couple's collection of Staffordshire china. "We've been collecting the china for 30 years, and working around that blue and white theme seemed very appropriate for a beach cottage," Steve says. They selected multiple shades of white for the walls, trim, and furniture complemented by accent pieces in light and dark hues of blue that recall the ocean and sky.

Shortly after the renovation was under way in the summer of 2006, the Klugs decided to make the home their permanent residence. "We quickly realized we love it here. The house works so well for the two of us, and it's large enough for us to have company without feeling cramped," Steve says. "And the location is wonderful. Even when I'm working, I almost feel like I'm on vacation."

 View a gallery of inspiring additions at RemodelingCenter.com/renstyle.

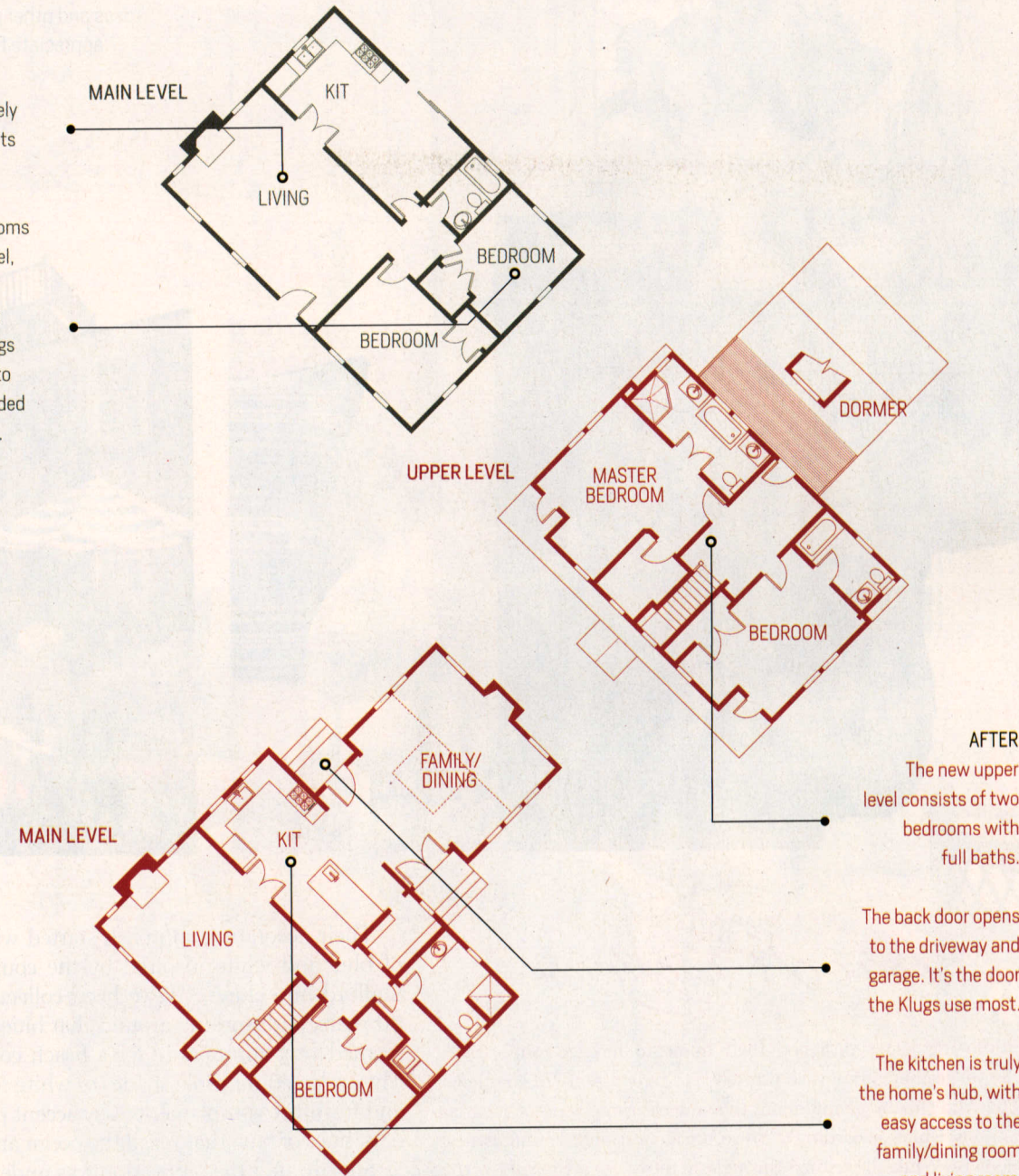
The Plans, Before & After

A one-level rectangular plan provided the starting point for the Klugs' renovation, which included a reconfiguration of the existing rooms, an addition, and a new upper level.

BEFORE

The living room, though completely renovated, kept its footprint.

With new bedrooms on the upper level, this main-level bedroom wasn't needed. The Klugs used the space to create an expanded main-level bath.



AFTER

The new upper level consists of two bedrooms with full baths.

The back door opens to the driveway and garage. It's the door the Klugs use most.

The kitchen is truly the home's hub, with easy access to the family/dining room and living room.

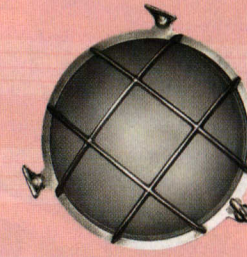
2,200 square feet

ARCHITECT: ALISON ALESSI DESIGNER: MARY MARGARET KLUG BUILDER: STEVE KLUG

RESOURCES ON PAGE 118

Kitchen Collection

Steve and Mary Margaret Klug created a clean, bright, elegant, and functional kitchen using materials and products that blend seamlessly.



Even though the decorative theme in the Klugs' home is nautical, the appliances, paint, and lighting will look great in just about any context.

CEILING LIGHT: *Cage Light in Nickel*, above left, *Architrove*, \$595, architrove.com

DISHWASHER: *Inspira Series G 2142*, below, *Miele*, \$1,249, miele.com

APRON-FRONT SINK: *Manor Series (single-basin)*, left and below left, *Franke*, \$862, franke.com

CABINETRY PAINT: *Tennis Court White*, below, far left, *Ralph Lauren*, ralphlaurenhome.com

