



ECLECTIC ELEMENTS

*Marshfield
timber-frame home
defies convention*

BY LIZA CARENS SALERNO | PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS BERNSTEIN



The life-size sculpture of a metallic crane balanced in front of Angela Hagerty's house is the first clue that the interior designer heeds her own advice. "People should live in the environment they want," says Hagerty, owner of InDesign Interiors. For her and her husband, Bob, that meant reclaiming a tired, barnlike house on three acres in Marshfield and turning it into a property that fits their lifestyle.

Back in 1998, when the couple first bought the place, it consisted of three disparate elements: the original house, which was built in 1942; an attached, screened pass-through; and a 1987 post-and-beam addition. "As soon as I stepped inside, I had a vision of what it could be," Hagerty says. "My husband didn't see it. But he gets it now."

As new homeowners, the couple planned on a 10-year renovation strategy. The fact that Hagerty is an interior designer cut that time in half, and it shrank even further to three years because of the immediate needs of a growing family. "We were under construction through both [of my] pregnancies," she says.

Hagerty learned to trust her design instincts at an early age. "My parents were antique dealers. When I was five, they would hear me moving furniture in my room around and ask, 'What's going on?'"

Angela and Bob Hagerty turned a tired, barnlike house into a beautiful property that fits their lifestyle.





As a child, she had a backyard dollhouse she could stand in that she'd often transform into a store or a restaurant. Now, as the owner of her own business, Hagerty's goal is to help her clients make a property feel like home.

She achieved this with her own house by turning the central screened walkway into a beamed great room that echoed the aesthetics of the post-and-beam addition. She replaced sheet-rocked walls and ceilings with tongue-and-groove pine. Wooden beams provide support, but rather than one-piece lengths, each buttress is comprised of four two-by-fours pegged together, adding character to the area. The mantel in the great room was custom-designed to match the beams; it has a hollow carved through it to hide wires. Walnut flooring adds to the natural feel.

By relocating doors, tearing down a brick fireplace on an adjoining wall, and adding a granite front-to-back fireplace, the interior designer married her new great room to the larger addition. A farmer's porch, built the length of the house, gave the three sections a single, inviting entrance. "The front makes all the difference," observes Hagerty.

Next, she reconfigured the 1942 original home into a master bedroom suite, taking out drywall and adding tongue-and-groove elements to keep the style of the area in synch with the rest of the house. One remaining sheet-rocked wall is painted a dramatic crimson. A floating

Elements of the old house remained in the design of the new home. A post-and-beam addition to the original dwelling, with many small decorative details, have made the Hagerty home a warm and inviting space for the family.



staircase with wrought-iron balusters and open risers added to the 1980s addition demonstrates how a space can be both utilitarian and artistic. These days, the treads are covered in navy-toned oriental carpet, but that wasn't always the case.

In 2000, just after Hagerty had been offered a position with one of Boston's largest architectural firms, she slipped on the then-uncarpeted stairs, took a hard fall and ended up with a concussion. She lost her sense of color and taste for a time, and for three months she was unable to work. Her recuperation period gave her the opportunity to contemplate her career: she could ask the architectural firm to wait until she recovered to start her new position, or go out on her own. Once she healed, InDesign Interiors was born. Her first job was a 9,000-square-foot home.

Back in her own house, Hagerty created a practical, stunning kitchen by repurposing what was once a tiny cooking area. A round, wooden table now sits in that space, adjacent to a granite-topped island with many lower cabinets that preclude the need for upper cabinets. This allows the lines and flow of the house to remain unbroken as well as maintaining a pastoral, pine theme throughout.

In a move contrary to the norm, she situated the refrigerator on the opposite side of the island from the other cooking elements. "Everyone wants [access to] the fridge when Mom is cooking," she says. "This way, no one is underfoot." On the floor, large, square ceramic tiles contrast with smaller tiles in the work area, communicating a natural demarcation through difference and character. A half-bath off the kitchen sports a mock wooden slide-bolt, conjuring a summer-camp atmosphere.



Hagerty created a practical, stunning kitchen in what was once a tiny cooking area.

pieces, Moravian stars and multidimensional elements, some studded with jewels and punch-outs so the light can shine through.

At the request of her two children, Abigail, 13, and Jack, 10, Hagerty painted the upstairs bathroom, which contains one of the few sheet-rocked walls in the house, bright green. While both her son's and daughter's bedrooms feature the same warm pine as the rest of the home, they are decorated with bedding and accent pieces that pop with age-appropriate colors.

Hagerty carried her theme of organic beauty outdoors to a bluestone patio with a pergola off the great room, overlooking the home's large yard. Blue and white cloth panels hanging from wooden frames billow in the breeze. To ensure the space is used by all members of the family, she's mounted brackets for hanging a flat-screen TV. A step down from the patio leads to a mahogany deck overlooking tiki torches, a tire swing and a hammock, as well as a horseshoe pit and a fire pit—all inspired by the movie "The Karate Kid."

Indoors and out, Hagerty's house reflects the interests and emotions of the designer and her family. "My husband used to think he wanted to live in a Colonial," she says. "After this, though, he'd never consider it."

Still, the designer is careful about inviting people over. "I don't want them to think I will be 'this' designer for them," she says. "Many times my customers will ask me what I think about an item and I tell them it doesn't matter what I think. What matters is what they think. My job is about making their house their home." 🍷



Windows, skylights and mirrors fill the house with light. The couple's most recent project is the transformation of a 50-foot solarium running the width of the house into a relaxing family room, with cozy couches and a pool table. Windows in the interior wall behind the couch feed light into the central dining room and keep the room connected to the rest of the house. One wall is decorated with vintage baseball mitts. (Hagerty's daughter is a catcher on a softball team.) The overhead beams provide a mini-airfield perch for antique model planes.

While natural wood, metal and stone elements prevail in the home, Hagerty has made sure to also infuse it with color and shine. The doors to the family room feature stained-glass panels with red and yellow dragonflies. Various mosaic-style and mirrored light fixtures hang artfully where they will catch the eye. Favored by the interior designer are blown-glass



The bluestone patio and pergola is a favorite spot in the home. Blue and white cloth panels hang loosely, billowing in the breeze.