

EAST COAST

# HOME

+ DESIGN



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# Titus Built & Michael Smith Architects

Completed in two phases, the renovations to this 1950's New Canaan home involved both a complete facelift to the exteriors as well as a redesign of the once cramped kitchen and surrounding interiors. Having worked with his clients on earlier projects, West Redding builder, Jeff Titus understood his clients' needs and worked with Wilton architect, Michael Smith to create the home of their dreams.

The first phase consisted of changes to the interiors of the home and included enlarging the front entry hall by eliminating the wall between it and the living room, converting the dining room into an office, adding wainscoting to both the new office and living room and a creating a new dining area in the completely renovated kitchen. A turret shaped breakfast area and high ceiling opens up the once was

cramped kitchen while a custom built-in sofa in the "lounge" pulls you in and promotes casual gatherings with friends and family. Under the kitchen addition, a fitness room has been added to the new basement space. New millwork and moldings throughout have given the home the architectural character it was missing.

With small windows and a lack of architectural detailing, the original façade ap-







peared “plain with little visual interest,” according to Titus. During phase two, the exteriors would be redesigned by Smith and include centering the front portico, extending roof lines, new eaves, doubling the number of windows, with three new dormered windows on the third floor as well as new wood shingles, new shutters, a wood roof and new gutters. On the back of the house the goal was to change the look by again, adding energy efficient windows, a French balcony off the master bedroom, eliminating the shed roof and adding the turret shaped breakfast area off of the kitchen.

In the end the family was thrilled, including its canine members. As part of the

redesign of the mudroom, not only was it expanded and equipped with loads of closet and storage space but it now sports custom built dog beds, “cutout bone motifs”, roll out bins for dog food and dishes as well as Dutch doors to safely secure them within without making them feel shut off from the rest of the family. ■

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