



Going Up

For this East Sac house, two stories are better than one

By Julie Foster

Last year, anyone who regularly drove down busy H Street past the corner of 34th Street watched with fascination as Clint and Cathie Bodene turned their one-story, Spanish-style house into a two-story house.

Both Bodenes loved their 1922 home. But each one harbored a desire for more space. Clint, a high school ceramics teacher who also paints as a hobby (one of his paintings recently placed at the State Fair), wanted a studio. Cathie wanted a larger master bedroom. Theirs was not quite big enough; one entire wall, floor to ceiling, was devoted to Ikea cabinets housing their wardrobes.

The couple stayed in their home during construction, with only minor disruptions to their routine.

Moreover, when family came to visit, it was a tough proposition finding enough room for brothers, sisters, nephews and nieces to spread out and be comfortable.

When Clint's father died unexpectedly, his inheritance enabled the couple to move from mere musings for more space to action.



The second-floor addition to this East Sacramento home blends seamlessly

"We decided to invest in our dreams and enjoy it rather than [put it in] the stock market," he says.

Lincoln Mortensen of Applied Architecture, Inc. drew up the plans for a second-story addition. Frank Martinez, owner-builder of Structural Enterprise, tackled the construction end of the 700-square-foot addition, completing the project in record time.

"We are very happy with the way this turned out," Martinez says. "It was a great collaboration all around."

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Clint teaches, he was home during the summertime project and was available on short notice whenever Martinez had questions.

"It was four months to the day from when Frank began to when he finished," says Bodene. "The project was 90 percent done in three months; it was just remarkable how fast it went."

One tricky issue with adding a second story was reinforcing the foundation in order to provide support for the second story.

"You wouldn't believe how much lumber went into this thing," Bodene says.

As long as they were adding on, it seemed like the right time to do a bit of updating on the first floor as well. Over the years, the couple had made some improvements to the home, adding an atrium, remodeling the kitchen and small guest bathroom, redoing the wood floors and putting in a swimming pool. However, Bodene always hankered after new trim. The couple splurged by replacing the painted trim with stained trim and replacing all the interior doors.



1.



2.



3.

1. An elegant yet cozy dining room offers owners and guests a view of the patio and backyard.
2. The covered patio allows for year-round enjoyment.
3. The fireplace.

“The finishers were quite talented,” he says. “They made the pine doors match the new trim perfectly, and the pine doors look like mahogany or cherry.”

Bodene initially thought the process would drive his wife batty. Luckily, she was very busy at work and often stayed at work late.

“I have to give my wife a lot of credit,” says Bodene. “She was a good sport during the whole thing.”

Bodene had one major requirement for the addition.

“I wanted a balcony,” he says. “I love watching people walk by. We always sat on our front porch in the evenings, and we still will, but now we have another option.”

With the additional space gained from the upstairs addition, a room downstairs that had been an office is now Bodene’s art studio. Upstairs, a new office for Cathie opens onto the balcony, which offers spectacular neighborhood and treetop views. A luscious master bed-and-bath suite and an extra large walk-in closet complete the addition.

“We wanted a comfortable space with a walk-in closet, not some cavernous bedroom space,” says Bodene.

In the bathroom, the oversized tub is surrounded by sophisticated black-and-white

Home continued on page 57



1.

1. A spacious master suite offers a different view of the neighborhood from the balcony

2. Homeowner Clint Bodene relaxes in the kitchen, which was part of a previous remodeling project.



2.

Home continued from page 53

granite. The wall tiles are finished with a picture-frame trim rather than the more common half-round trim.

They couple was lucky: What they wanted was affordable, and they didn't have the burden of financing the project. "You have to figure it will cost a bit more than the initial estimate," says Bodene. "But the opportunity arose. It was luxury we had wanted for 20 years."

If you have a home you think should be featured in Inside Publications, contact Julie Foster at julieincarmel@hotmail.com. ●