



EAST → MEETS ← WEST

Former New Yorkers bring a
Yankee sensibility to a stunning remodel in
Cherry Hills Village

BY ALISON GWINN | PHOTOGRAPHY BY EMILY MINTON REDFIELD



WELCOME HOME The owners of this Cherry Hills Village house, which was originally built in 1977, with a 1990 addition, left much of the exterior as it was. In the front hall, left, they had a custom front door made, added wainscoting and paneling, darkened the original oak floors, commissioned custom stairway balusters and created an alcove where a coat closet used to be.







LIVING EASY In the living room, painted a warm hue (Book Room Red by Farrow & Ball) to pick up the bright colors of the dining room (see page 64), a Stark carpet is topped by a pale Oriental rug that the owners brought with them from New York. Interior designer Nadia Watts covered the owners' original club chairs in a zig-zag Quadrille fabric from the Shanahan Collection. An Oly Studio settee anchors the classic front bay window, surrounded by curtains made of Classic Cloth fabric from Kneedler Fauchère. Left: In the corner of the room is an antique desk the Bolands found in the East.

Though Nancy and Luke Boland spent more than a decade in the New York metro area, they knew they wanted to go west. "Long Island, where we lived, is a beautiful place, but the whole time we were there, we knew we'd eventually move," Nancy Boland says.

Still, when the couple decided to come to Denver in 2011, they carried with them more than a touch of nostalgia for the style of the East, which weighed heavily on their house hunt. "When we saw this house, it felt more East Coast to me than anything I had seen in Denver," says Boland, who grew up in Williamsburg, Va., worked for a design firm in New York and has very sophisticated opinions about style. "The dry wall was flat, not textured. There were moldings throughout. It felt classic to me."

They loved the exterior of the five-bedroom, seven-bathroom Cherry Hills Village house, but the interior needed serious help. "It took nine months to complete the work inside before we could move in," says Boland, now the creative coordinator for Denver's Duet Design Group.

"It was a complete gut," says high-end residential builder Dan Fuller of Haley Custom Homes. "We moved stairs. We knocked down walls. It was a total transformation, starting with the front door."

Nadia Watts of Nadia Watts Interior Design, whom Boland turned to for help, says the main goal was to "make it a more cohesive home,





more thoughtfully planned out. Previously, there was no flow to the house. It felt like two remodels that didn't quite match."

The mission of Ekman Design Studio architect Steve Ekman was to unify and streamline the floor plan, including correcting odd room angles, adding symmetry and cleaning up the Southwest style (rounded walls, no moldings) that prevailed in some areas. To that end, Fuller's crew redid or replaced all of the dark oak floors, rebuilt both the front and back stairways (adding custom hand-built iron balusters from McSwain Metal Fabrication), reworked the fireplaces, built custom paneling throughout and added beams in the great room as well as custom doors (including the front entrance).

As for interior furnishings, many of them came from the Bolands' house in New York. One new addition: the bold Pagoda wallpaper in the dining room, whose deep hues were replicated in the living room. "We weren't afraid of color—both Nancy and I love it—but it was used in a very thoughtful way throughout the house," Watts says.

"I so appreciate classic architecture with a little modern edge to it," Boland says. "We took rooms that were blah and added character."

Now, according to Watts, people who see the house often comment on how calm it is. "It has interesting aspects—the bright walls in the living room and the orange drapes and wallpaper in the dining room," she says. "But when you go through it, the home has a very calm, thoughtful, natural flow."



THEY'LL ALWAYS HAVE PARIS A large Paris map anchors the far end of the great room (right), above a William Ohs custom hidden-TV cabinet. The team added hand-hewn wooden beams to the ceiling to make its angles feel more cohesive, and wood paneling to the walls. Under a Paul Ferrante chandelier from John Brooks are Guy Chaddock wing chairs covered in a windowpane Lee Jofa fabric, which are facing Lee Jofa slipper chairs. Over the fireplace (redone in black marble from Materials Marketing) hangs a deer-and-bird image by textile artist Karen Nicol. Above, an Arhaus table and bench are lit by a Guy Chaddock chandelier.







THE BOLD & THE BEAUTIFUL A fun but classic wallpaper that Boland loved—Pagoda by Katie Ridder—was the jumping-off point for the dining room. Interior designer Watts had the Bolands' oval-back chairs painted a cream color and then re-covered the seats in black leather from John Brooks. The updated lantern (black on the outside and orange on the inside) is from Urban Electric Company, and the bold curtains were custom made out of a Dedar fabric from Kneedler Fauchère.







FORM FOLLOWS FUNCTION William Ohs cabinetry, painted in two contrasting custom colors—a pale blue-green on the far wall and a deep blue-gray on the marble-topped island—is complemented by an understated backsplash tile from Decorative Materials. The soapstone-topped island is lit by three antique-zinc fixtures from Urban Electric Company and surrounded by rattan bar chairs by Beaufurn. A custom-made wood-and-iron table (left) adds a separate work surface and storage space. Opposite page: Open shelving over a coffee bar, microwave and steam oven on the far left complete the space.





SITTING PRETTY Architect Steve Ekman of Ekman Design Studio created this sitting room (right) off the master bedroom (above). It is papered with Katie Ridder's Wave pattern, which complements the colorful Ferrick Mason fabric on the Lee Jofa sofa. In the master, the homeowners repurposed furniture from their New York home, including a headboard upholstered in a Schumacher fabric. Watts added custom side tables, topped with Hwang Bishop lamps. The draperies are made of Rose Tarlow fabric, with Samuel & Sons Passementerie trim "to add a little bit of interest to the space," Watts says. Opposite page: In the master bath, Urban Electric Company sconces highlight a decorative mirror from Oly over open chrome-legged vanities from Ultra Design Center. The herringbone-patterned floor is of natural stone.

RESOURCES:

ARCHITECTURE

Steve Eckman of Ekman Design Studio
ekmandesign.com

CONSTRUCTION

Haley Custom Homes
haleycustomhomes.com

INTERIOR DESIGN

Nadia Watts Interior Design
(with help from homeowner Nancy Boland)
nadiawatts.com



