



Peregrine Design/Build did a complete makeover of this 30-year-old home in Shelburne, allowing the homeowner to keep her connection to a place she dearly loved. Inset shows the home prior to renovation.



# Making an Old Home Feel New ....With Smart Design

By Charlotte Albers  
Photos by Susan Teare

Location is everything, so they say. For homeowner Llynda Bigalow, remodeling her 30-year-old home in Shelburne was preferable to moving away and losing her connection to a place she has dearly loved from the day she and her husband built it. The house had weathered the decades but was showing its age: the bathrooms were outdated, the sidings and windows needed replacing, the kitchen needed a facelift, and the heating system needed to be overhauled.

"This was a big project to upgrade our house which no longer met our needs and had a list of problems," she said.

Peregrine Design/Build, an award-winning builder located in South Burlington, was called in to review existing conditions and come up with a feasibility

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study. Tim Frost, the company's president and a Certified Green Professional, worked with numerous trade partners on making smart choices for energy savings and livability.

"With an important goal to upgrade the home's energy efficiency," he says, "the task was to analyze the existing heating system to improve function for the 3,500 sq. ft. interior while adding cooling capabilities for Vermont's four seasons."

Cliff Deetjen of Peregrine was the principal designer for this top-to-bottom renovation project. Deetjen was named Remodeler of the Year in 2012 by the Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Northern VT and is also a Certified Green

Professional. Careful selections for lighting, appliances, windows, and



One of the first challenges for designer Cliff Deetjen was the fact the home had no "sense of entry." The solution: this inviting and utilitarian mudroom.



The remodeled kitchen incorporates a mix of natural cherry and misty green painted cabinets, complemented by dark granite countertops and red birch floors.



Inspiration from the sea is evident in the master bathroom's glass tile shower and sand-colored floors.

*Peregrine celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> year with THE ART OF PLACE, a photography exhibit held this fall at Burlington Furniture Company located at 388 Pine Street in Burlington, featuring architectural photography by Susan Teare. Peregrine as extended its community service by donating goods and services to the VNA, Ronald McDonald House and COTS.*

doors also aided in achieving energy saving goals. On the exterior, deteriorating cedar shingles were replaced with a combination of vinyl shake siding and HardiPlank board and batten for easier maintenance. The new roof was finished in architectural asphalt shingles and metal standing seam accents on low sloping areas.

"Another overall goal for the project was to improve the function and interior flow of the home for our client – making the integrity of the structure and shell more durable, and the living spaces more serviceable to everyday needs," Deetjen says.

One of the main flaws of the original home was that it had no mudroom or sense of entry. Visitors came into a space that was part of the kitchen, and there wasn't any storage.

The solution: a small addition was built on the home's east side that created space for a welcoming covered porch, entry foyer, and functional mudroom with storage, shelving, and a bench seat. This additional space added great function to the home as well as a nice way to transition into the living area.

New roof dormer additions also played a big role in extending existing living spaces. With new head room, two-thirds of an existing attic became a third floor guest suite including a sitting room, full bath, and kitchenette for extended-stay guests. Custom cabinetry, desk space, and a built-in contemporary gas fireplace helped make this also a favorite spot for the client to enjoy her lofty views of the sunsets, Lake Champlain, and the Adirondack Mountains.

Another dormer on the south side of the home was added to enlarge a bedroom space bringing in exterior light, and helping capture garden views of the private landscape.

With the inspiration of surrounding natural elements, Bigalow selected a mix of natural cherry and misty green painted kitchen cabinets, complemented by dark granite countertops and red birch floors. The center island and custom dining table create a unique space for cooking prep and everyday eating. Inspiration from the sea is evident in the master bathroom's glass tile shower and sand-colored floors, creating a luxurious spa experience for the homeowner every day.

Finally, a first floor home office with attached bath doubles as an accessible guest bedroom. A vernacular sliding barn door fabricated with custom iron hinges and roll bars allows this space to be a private retreat when needed but also a great space for everyday use.

"Right from the start we were impressed with how Cliff, our designer, and his interior design associate Jillian Hack, translated our sometimes specific and sometimes vague ideas into creative, attractive components of the new design," Bigalow says. "I'd also like to give credit to the carpenters, who I would prefer to call 'craftsmen' due to their level of involvement and the quality of their work. I was impressed with their sense of aesthetics and function as they transformed Cliff's ideas into reality."

You may reach Peregrine Design/Build by calling (802) 383-1808 or visit [www.peregrinedesignbuild.com](http://www.peregrinedesignbuild.com).