

REMODELER:
**LEE LYN
CONSTRUCTION, LLC**

Alyssa Lee Photography



Cues from the *Coast*

Fourth-generation landowners Raymond and Faye Haverstock updated their 1980s house on Lake Minnetonka while paying homage to its past.

By Taylor Hugo



When Raymond and Faye Haverstock purchased their home in Deephaven, they were far from the first family members to live there: In fact, the couple are fourth-generation owners of the land tucked inside Robinsons Bay on Lake Minnetonka, a 1.5-acre piece of property that has been in the family for more than a century. Originally bought by Raymond's great-grandparents, Francis W. and Mary Little, in the early 1900s, the first home built there was designed by renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

When Raymond's grandparents eventually took over, "the house became too much to maintain for them," he explains. "It was built as a summer home and, subsequently, winterized. It required lots of upkeep and maintenance. My grandmother then decided to build another house on the same piece of property." To preserve the history, the living room of the original Frank Lloyd Wright house was shipped to The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the library to The Allentown Art Museum in Pennsylvania, and the hallway to the Minneapolis Institute of Art.

In 1986, the most current house was built on the land by Raymond's parents, remaining untouched until Raymond and Faye took over in 2019. Like the generations that came before them, the Haverstocks were intent on honoring the property's history while

updating it for their needs today. "We wanted to make sure [the remodel] fit the house and stayed with the Frank Lloyd Wright features that his mom built," says Faye. "If someone drove up to it, we wanted to make sure that it didn't look out of place."

To achieve that goal, the Haverstocks met with a couple of builders to explain their vision for the home before hiring Lee Lyn Construction, whom they chose for the project for their personality and willingness to "listen to what we wanted to have done," says Raymond.

As demolition began in January, the team worked hard to preserve what they could from the structure. Windows that once adorned a hallway of cabinets were repurposed for the garage, while the homeowners chose to keep a unique white oak ceiling in the main great room. A seamless transition between old and new was created by mixing existing trim and exterior brick with new matching materials, as was done with some of the cabinetry. "The original home had a buffet built-in cabinet, and the homeowners liked it, but it didn't quite match what they wanted it to look like," says Dana Dziuk, senior project manager for Lee Lyn Construction. "Our cabinetmaker used the majority of the original cabinets, and then created a new door and drawer fronts to match the new cabinets that were being put in the home."



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RAYMOND, HOMEOWNER



Perhaps most sentimental is a series of oriental prints Frank Lloyd Wright gifted to Raymond's great-grandparents after he returned from a trip to Japan, where he was working on his Imperial Hotel. "We have a number of those that are framed, and we're trying to figure out how to put those in the house with the rest of the design we have," says Raymond.

Pulling inspiration from the home's location on Lake Minnetonka, the new interior features blue and gray hues, and acacia hardwood floors they installed in place of off-white wool carpet. Some of the décor—all of which the Haverstocks chose themselves—centers on their passion for sailing, including sailboat hooks in the mudroom and a sailboat motif tile for the kitchen.

More drastic changes came from the desire to improve the flow of the house, facilitating an efficient one-floor living plan for the couple as they age: The entire upstairs was nearly brought

back to the studs to make room for the addition of a study, three-car garage, mudroom, and bathroom. A brand-new kitchen was also high on the list of priorities for Faye and Raymond, who love to entertain.

"We tried to create a New England, Nantucket look in a Frank Lloyd Wright-style house. I'm sure that we've made some architectural faux pas, if you will, but we've tried to blend our tastes together," says Raymond. "This is a house we didn't build for resale. We built it for us, since we're going to be the ones that will live here, and if we're lucky enough, that our kids can some day afford."

Resisting the urge to make decisions and choose finishes based on resale value is something Dana encourages all of the homeowners she works with to do, instead focusing on design that brings you joy. "You have no idea who is going to buy this home next. Don't worry about what somebody else might like," she says.



"It can be a really rewarding experience to be in your home and know that it's what you created. Maybe it's been in the family, maybe it was mom and dad's, but now it really feels like it's your home."