

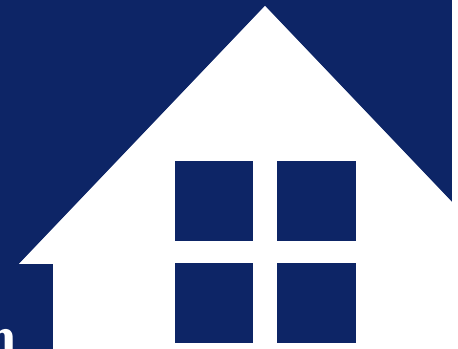


► **HOUSE TALK**  
CHANGING A HOME TO UNIQUELY  
EXPRESS A FAMILY'S NEW IDENTITY.  
..... **2 & 3**

► **FOR PEOPLE AND BY PEOPLE**  
PEOPLE SHARE THEIR DREAMS SO  
THAT OTHER PEOPLE CAN HELP MAKE  
THOSE DREAMS BECOME A REALITY  
..... **2 & 4**

► **HOUSE TALK...PHASE TWO**  
THE KITCHEN IS THE HEART OF  
THE HOME. SOMETIMES YOU  
NEED A HEART TRANSPLANT EVEN  
WHEN EVERYTHING ELSE WAS  
REPLACED.....CONT. ON **4**

SPRING 2012



# Macklin Design DRAWING

*PERSONAL INSIGHT  
INTO DESIGNING YOUR  
FINE HOME*

## *interests*

### *To Shake, or Not To Shake?*

*That is the question that so many of our clients have asked us throughout the years when it comes to choosing real wood or manufactured shake siding.*

We have designed many shake style homes for people, whether on a lake to fit in with the coastal style architecture or in the woods to fit in with the natural setting. A topic that always comes up for these homes is whether to go with the “real” shake or the “manufactured” kind. People can’t deny that the natural cedar shake looks better and more natural...because it is. However, the possible thoughts of maintenance nightmares often weigh heavy in their minds, so they start to consider the manufactured products. This article is not to say that you shouldn’t go with manufactured, because there is a good place for it. However, you will definitely notice a bias towards natural wood.

The manufactured products mostly include fiber-cement—“Hardiplank” as it is often referred—, vinyl, and metal. They offer warranties on the product and finish—many of those start at 10 and go up to 25 or even 50 years. With wood shake the warranties are looser, and the finish is usually what is covered under the warranty. The major problem with the manufactured products is that they often look fake or too plastic because they are missing the character of the real stuff. Often, the color options are not exactly what people want. This is generally the drawback of low maintenance materials.



The reason people hesitate to use wood, with its higher maintenance costs, is also what some love about its endearing qualities. It does change over time and vary in coloration because it is a living product that reveals a story as it ages. True, if left untreated, it will look old very quickly. However, there is nothing quite as beautiful as when you see fresh cedar going up on the side of a house.



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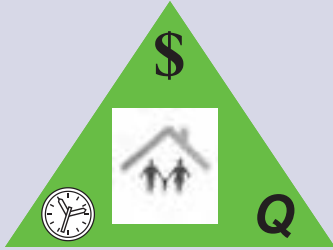


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# drawing conclusions

editorial by chris macklin

## Price, Quality, Time & People



In the last issue we discussed how crucial **TIMING** is to every project. Success is determined by knowing when to start and stop, or even if it should be done at all. Finally, in this issue we will cover the point which stands at the center of all projects, **PEOPLE**. Projects start, continue and end here because architecture is created FOR PEOPLE and BY PEOPLE.

When a project is first conceived by the home owners, it is most often thought of in terms of how people will live within or around the space. I can't think of a project that we have done that didn't have people as the main priority. Lifestyle and quality of living are always the driving force behind new homes/additions/remodels. It also takes people serving people in order for the project to happen. Our homes are not created in the factory by only machines and then assembled by machines on site. It takes people conveying their dreams so the other people can help make those dreams a reality in the built environment. (cont. pg. 4)

# House Talk

*A recently blended family needed to remodel an existing place so that they could call it their own. A place where those new relationships can be nurtured and built upon.*



After-Street View



Before-Street View



Before-Lake View



After-Lake View



# project sketchbook

As Ken Moffitt and his future wife, Jennifer, envisioned their new life together, they couldn't see it happening in his existing home with its dark color palette, monotonous roof lines, and lack of flow of circulation through the house. They could, however, see the benefit of staying on their beautiful deep lot on Lobdell Lake. As they married they blended two families...there couldn't be a better time to create a fresh exciting look with spaces that would allow them ease of everyday living, as well as a place to celebrate their new life together. They also decided to live in the house during the construction--they viewed it as an adventure for their new family.

Sometimes one small change in a home can lead to solutions to several other problems. As we looked at the layout of the house, we realized that the living room was not functional with its small size and awkward placement of the fireplace. As soon as we decided to push out the great room wall another 8 feet, everything else fell into place. We were able to move the fireplace to the wall adjacent to the lake view, which enabled the Moffitts to enjoy both the fireplace and the lake at the same time. The great room addition also



Street Elevation Sketch

Photos by Clinton Cooke



After-Kitchen/Dining



After-Dining



Before-Kitchen/Dining

required the roofline in back to be broken, so we added a large gable that provided much-needed character to the lake elevation. Also, the long deck on the back of the house would be separated into two, distinct outdoor spaces--a public area that is covered to allow more comfort on hot sunny days and rainy days, and a private deck that is an extension of the master suite. Finally, the home received a new color scheme of navy blue and white, as well as a more inviting front porch and cedar shake accents to complement the existing lap siding.

Continue on to page 4 to see how the this family conducted phase two of their project. Everything else was updated in the first phase but the final move was to conduct a heart transplant by remodeling the kitchen.

**Builder: Exceptional Homes—810.348.0083  
Rod & Dave Day**



Lake Elevation Sketch



## People continued...

I remember in 2005 pulling out of the office complex and onto Fenton Road and praying to God that I felt too disconnected, relationally, to some of our clients. We were very busy with a good size workload and I felt that it started to take a toll on our client relationships. Most of our clients didn't necessarily feel that way, but I did—that meant something needed to change. I told the Lord that I didn't want to be so busy that it would cost us our relationships. I needed more help in the office so that we could better serve our clients. Very shortly after that my brother Dave started doing some work for us, and before I knew it he was with us full-time and remained over the next few years.

In the last year, when work started to pick up again, I had a similar request to my Father. Low and behold, I received a resume from Tim McCotter. When we first met, I could see right away that, in addition to his fine architectural skills, he would also serve our clients by putting their needs and dreams above his desire to just create a good building.

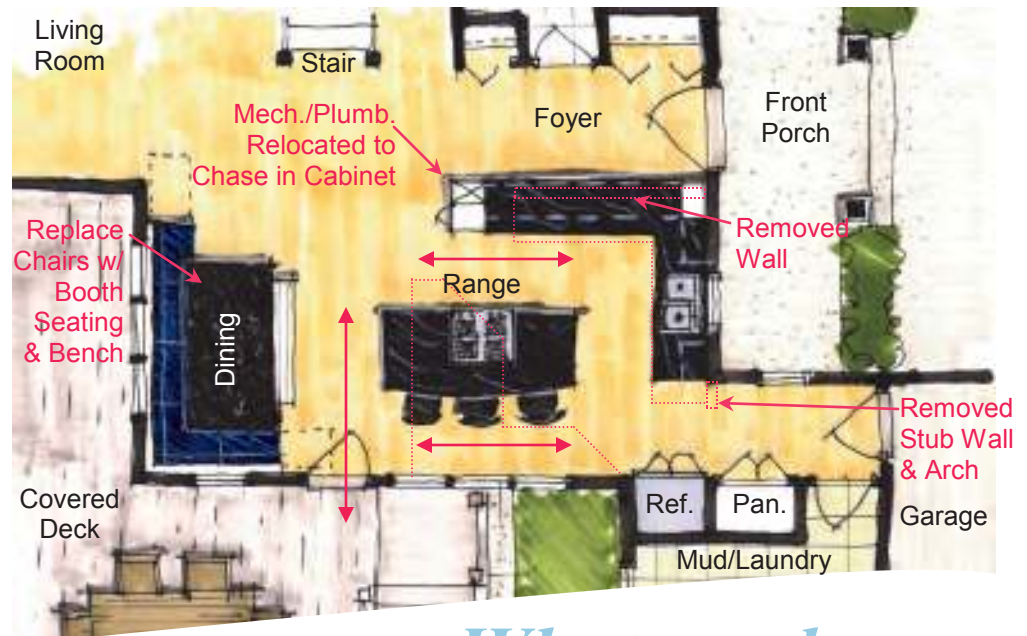
He has been with us since October for that very reason. Price, quality, and time are major factors in designing and building a new home, but **PEOPLE**— you, our clients — will always be our top priority.

# House Talk...phase two

A few years after the construction dust had settled from phase 1 of the project, they started to realize that the heart of the home was still not flowing effectively in their daily lives. They had altered almost everything except the kitchen and it needed a major change. It was the main thoroughfare from the garage and utility area into the rest of the home, but it was still the main bottle neck. They needed more circulation so that family members would not collide while trying to make a meal. Another drawback was that the peninsula style seating was facing away from the amazing views to the lake. The first thing was to remove the wall in the foyer to gain a few more inches in the kitchen so that an island could work.

This helped focus the view towards the lake and provide two circulation paths. Coupling this with booth style seating in the eating area helped gain better access to the covered deck. More daylight was brought into the space through added windows along with the opening between base and upper cabinets which allowed for more daylight into the previously dark foyer. A stub wall and arch were removed to increase the flow from the garage and utility area through the kitchen, which also extends the usable space. Lastly, they updated cabinets, countertops, and finishes to blend more with the previous remodel/ addition.

The heart was transplanted and now the family flows better than before.



## What we do ...

*Founded in 2001, Christopher Macklin Design, is a residential design firm that specializes in the design of fine new homes, renovations and additions. Our focus is to provide each client with creative and personal solutions for their unique needs. Each client is distinct; therefore each project should reflect this by being one of a kind. Throughout the design process, we work to polish our client's dreams and ambitions to arrive at a functional and aesthetically pleasing home.*

### Design Services

- New Homes
- Remodels & Additions
- Facade Renovations
- Feasibility Studies
- Existing Conditions Analysis
- Inclusive Design
- Interior Design
- Renderings (Concept & Character Drawings)

### Scope of Services

- Pre-Design & Planning
- Preliminary Design
- Zoning Board Submittals
- Schematic Design w/ Cost Estimate
- Construction Documents
- Bidding & Negotiating
- Construction Observation
- Project Management



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