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HISTORIC UPDATE



RENOVATION ARCHITECTURE:
ANNE Y. DECKER, AIA, Anne Decker
Architects, Bethesda, Maryland.
CONTRACTOR: DAVID BROWN,
David J. Brown Construction
Company, Bethesda, Maryland.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE: LILA
FENDRICK, Lila Fendrick Landscape
Architects, Chevy Chase, Maryland.
PHOTOGRAPHY: GORDON BEALL.

Clients in Chevy Chase tapped Anne Decker for a whole-house renovation that would include a new kitchen and breakfast room located at the back of their historic home. On the wish list: an addition that would enhance the existing home; better access to the backyard; and landscaping that would complement the home's architecture.

THEN

A small covered area nearly concealed by large hedges led visitors sideways out of the house instead of directly into the yard.

A circa-1950s kitchen was crowded into the back of the house.

A narrow back door was set askew along the back wall, giving the rear façade a haphazard, asymmetrical look.

NOW

A spacious porch allows people to sit and enjoy the view; Pennsylvania bluestone steps lead straight down into the backyard where a patio offers ample room for lounging and dining.

A new kitchen opens into the breakfast area (the paneled structure to the right, above). It incorporates a mudroom that leads to the porch.

The back door has been widened and centered on the rear wall, creating a sense of approach and a harmonious architectural presence.