



A SUSTAINABLE,
ELEGANT LODGE...
NATURALLY

*Written by Karen Marley
Photography by Acorn Studios*

Some homes reflect a lifestyle while others go beyond style and radiate the very life and personality of the homeowners themselves. This is certainly true for a residence in Upstate New York whose location, design, and technology come together to create a home that embodies the homeowners' passions and down-to-earth personalities.

The homeowner is an avid outdoorsman who is passionate about flying and big game hunting while his wife shares his love for the outdoors and their grandchildren. The residence is located 100 feet from the runway at an airport. "We love to sit on our patio and watch the planes come in through the clouds," says the homeowner. Perhaps pilots can catch a glimpse



of the home's deep, rich blue exterior; a statement of the popular phrase pilots say to one another, may you always have blue sky. The dark blue contrasts with the grays and golds of the exterior stone.

The homeowners call their home The Lodge. Joe Condidorio, owner of Whitney East, Inc. and general contractor for the project recalls, "They approached me and said, 'We want you to build our house,' then handed me a picture of a Colorado styled ranch house." Condidorio was responsible for orchestrating every aspect of the home from architecture to design to technology. He found the right expert, architect Chuck Smith of Design Works who delivered the perfect design. Ultimately Condidorio coordinated a home that upholds The Lodge moniker while exhibiting surprisingly light elegance, refined craftsmanship, and high technology.

Heather DeMoras of Design Consultants took care to blend all the selections while anchoring the design with extraordinary elements. The homeowner's hunting trophies adorn the home so

DeMoras installed custom-designed, interior and exterior light fixtures including monumentally-sized chandeliers which all have cutout silhouettes of trees and animals. Stair and loft balcony railings are adorned with the same laser cut steel silhouettes unifying the theme.

Inside there are commissioned portraits of the grandchildren in an airplane. A six-foot stained glass window with an airplane flying and another with oak leaves and the grandchildren provide additional artistic visuals. "My wife loves oak leaves and trees," says the homeowner.

The love for natural wood plays an important role. "I like wood," the homeowner says simply. "Wood is pretty in a clear natural finish so we have oak, chestnut, hickory and black oak everywhere." DeMoras felt the animal trophies contributed naturally elaborate design and color so the use of wood and unfussy colors complement, not compete, with the trophies.

The spacious heart of the home is called the trophy room. From here you can see the airport runway. The homeowner has traveled all





over the world for his trophies and a custom, vintage Old World map is on the ceiling. The walnut floor is anchored by a compass rose inlaid with different types of hardwood.

The home's sustainable technology speaks volumes about the homeowners' appreciation for the outdoors. "We wanted the home to be as energy conservative as possible. Just seemed like the right thing to do," explains the homeowner. Reclaimed wood timbers and frames were provided by New Energy Works. All lights are LED. The primary heating and cooling systems for the entire house are geothermal which rely on latent heat in the ground to regulate temperature. Whitney East coordinated the complex efforts required from specialists to drill deep wells and build the necessary piping to bring heated or cooled water into the home for the heated floor systems.

The home's location, design, and technology are impressive yet somehow still reflect the unique, unassuming traits of the homeowners' personalities. The homeowners agree The Lodge is warm and homey...naturally. **DESIGNNY**



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