

The **HOUSE** that *Treasures* Built

This Is a Place Filled With Items That Have Special Meaning



WRITER KAREN VANDER WERP • PHOTOGRAPHER STEVE SIMPKINS



a tranquil setting surrounded by wetlands and forests was ideal for a home furnished so personally, with pieces tagged with memory, the name of a family member or a place where they had lived.

The travel savvy homeowners combined Williamsburg formality with casual comfort. Having lived in a variety of places (growing up in the northeast, attending college in upstate New York, residing in Wilmington, Delaware, Midwest Missouri and Switzerland), the homeowners knew what they wanted in this home. “The inspiration for our home is a combination of the styles we learned from these settings,” explains the lady of the house.

The formal dining and living rooms are saturated with rich, deep color tones giving them a grand, stately appearance. The perfect back-drop for the carved walnut serving table from the 1880s, along with the baby grand piano grandfather practiced on for 65 years. He was a concert pianist, trained in Germany. Because of the lack of work for musicians during the Depression, he played in the upscale Atlantic City hotels where affluent families came with their servants to vacation.

There are other family items that hold memories. An antique wooden basket, used for grape picking, came from Switzerland. There is a spinning wheel from Williamsburg, Virginia, a hope chest with town crest from France and an oak refrigerator, used for storing linens, from Geneva. Grandmother’s tea cart, which is over one hundred years old, has a home of its own.

The home was designed to complement the furnishings. A statement of quality and craftsmanship. Exceptional detailing vies



for attention on trim, doors and crown moldings throughout. The two-story fireplace is as memorable as the home's unique treasures. It showcases exceptionally high ceilings, a characteristic they admired in older Geneva homes. It is also a trademark of their builder, Mark Serrine. "We were fortunate to view other homes Mark had built in the area which afforded us the opportunity to select some of the desirable features for our home," shares the homeowners.

They also artfully merged style with practicality, designing the home for one level living. It has a main floor master bedroom and bath along with a not-so-common main floor guest bedroom and bath. Utilization of a pocket door allows the guest bedroom bath to double as the main floor powder room. Multiple heating a cooling zones enables utilities to be turned down or off in when not in use.

The high-style kitchen was designed for exceptional aesthetic appeal along with comfort and efficiency. Its amenities include Wolf dual fuel oven/range, hot water dispenser, Subzero refrigerator, quartz countertops and large island. Its view of the state forest, with an abundance of wildlife, can be enjoyed while cooking, washing dishes as well as eating, and entertaining.

The butler pantry, situated between the kitchen and the dining room, has a beverage refrigerator with soda and beer on one side and wine on the other, an offering intended for guests to feel comfortable helping themselves.

This is not only a home that showcases a collection of family treasures but also a gathering place for friends and family. Both homeowners agree, "This is a dream home that is comfortable, family oriented, and suitable for entertaining— all allowing us to build memories. We are proud and happy with the finished product." □



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ABOVE: The exterior facade artfully combines stone and oversized brick.

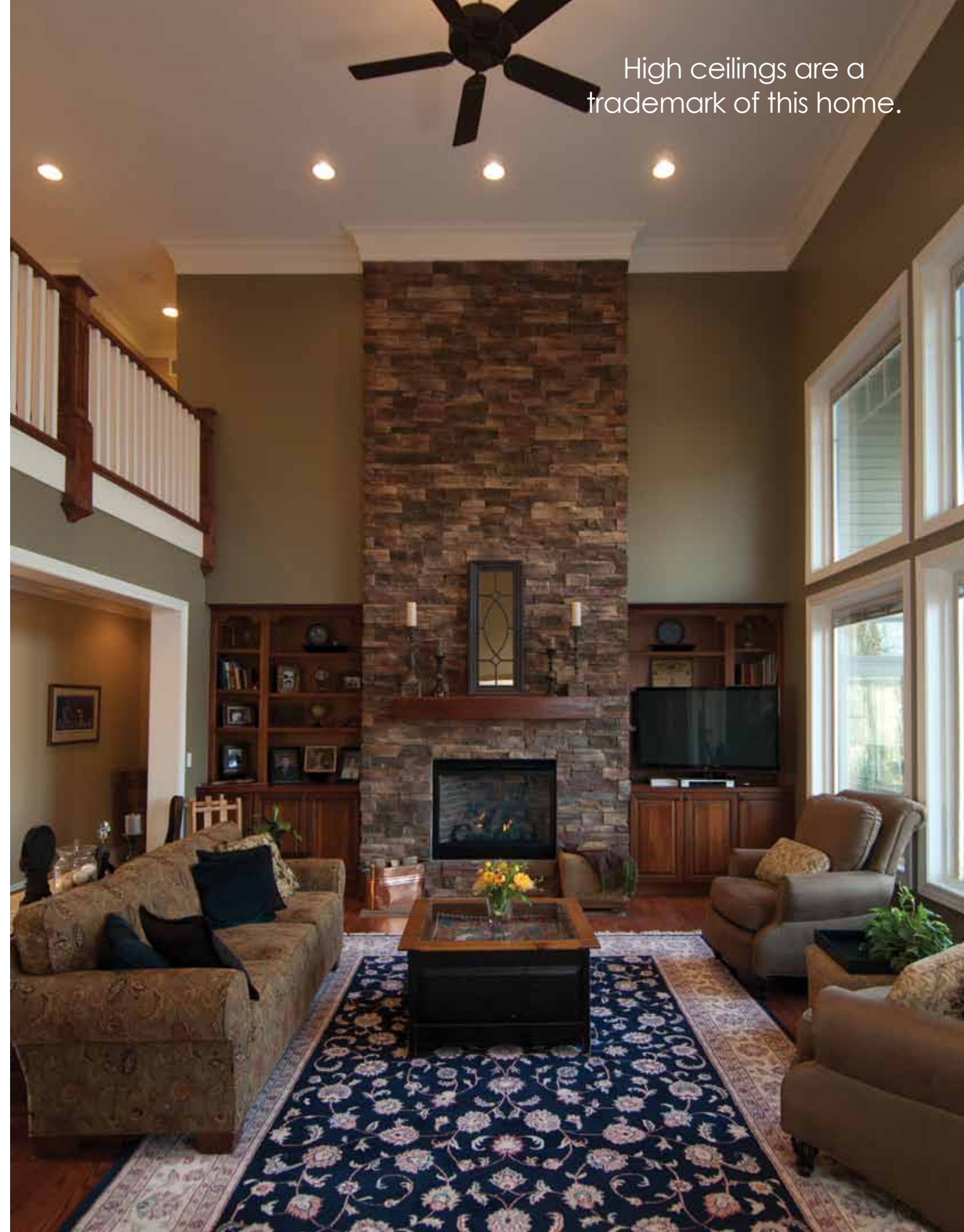
BELOW: Interior space planning focused on open spaces, fluidity of light, and bringing the outside in.

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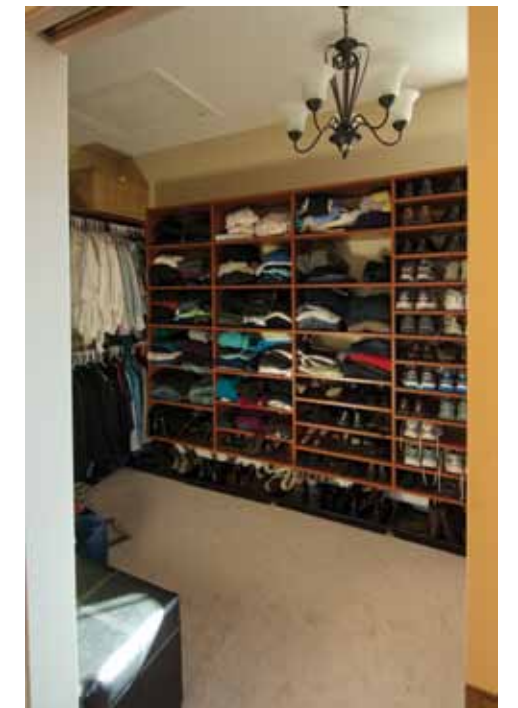
ABOVE: The kitchen faces the state forest where wildlife can be observed while the homeowners enjoy preparing their meals in the kitchen or relaxing in front of the television.

BELOW: Grandfather's baby grand piano is a family heirloom with special sentiment.

OPPOSITE: The 19-foot floor-to-ceiling fireplace is a favorite in this home filled with favorites.



High ceilings are a trademark of this home.



ABOVE: The kitchen and great room merge seamlessly for an ideal entertaining space.

BELOW LEFT: Achieving a stately, formal quality was the purposeful intent in the dining room.

BELOW RIGHT: The upper-level walkway offers an exceptional view through the double bank of windows.

ABOVE: The master bedroom is accented with treasures acquired during the homeowners' travels.

BELOW LEFT: Heated tile floor and towel rack are practical amenities of the aesthetically pleasing master bath.

BELOW MIDDLE: The walk-in shower is complete with multiple shower heads, hand-held spray, benches and window.

BELOW RIGHT: There is a place for everything and everything is in its place.



ABOVE: A second stairwell extends from the garage to an unfinished area of the lower level.

MIDDLE: The lower level, complete with kitchen, is also a flexible living space that accommodates entertaining and a future exercise room and wine cellar.

BELOW LEFT: A first floor laundry combines beauty with functionality.

BELOW RIGHT: The rear patio is accessible from both the kitchen and the master bedroom.



North-Point Building & Remodeling Inc.

PRINCIPAL OWNER (S):

Mark Sirrine is the principal owner of the current business and was partnered with Richard Sirrine for 35 years in the former North-Point Construction.

NUMBER OF YEARS IN BUSINESS:

Over 35 years

YEAR BUSINESS STARTED:

Mid '70s

EDUCATION:

A degree in construction technology from Delta College.

BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:

We strive for quality at a competitive price, and we pay attention to details with an eye on design.

WHAT SETS YOUR BUSINESS APART FROM OTHERS?

We work with our customers to get exactly what they want. If there is something we think doesn't look great, we will let our customers know. In the end, we want the house to be custom but we also advise our customers about future resale to make good choices for now and tomorrow.

HOBBIES, VOLUNTEERISM, ETC. :

I was born and raised in Midland, love the community, and enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I have created friendships with some of my customers. I have been a member of the Midland Home Builders Association since the late '70s.

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: For additional information, call (989) 835-1290.