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Robin McGarry

When asked how involved her client was in the design process for this kitchen renovation in Weston, Connecticut, designer, Robin McGarry answered; "too involved, we were our own clients".

The house has evolved over the last several years from a 1965 Ranch style home "into a spirited Colonial Revival" but this was the last space to be renovated. "The kitchen is the heart of most homes", but for the designer and her husband, architect, Jonathan Wagner, they sought to" integrate it with the rest of the house". One way in which this was accomplished was by opening up the kitchen walls and installing six foot pocket doors. This created a "strong connection" to the dining room which is especially beneficial during holidays and when they entertain. "Philosophically, the design is rooted in ideas

Jonathan explored twenty years earlier working together with English kitchen designer, Johnny Grey."

"Function was number one. Fun in the design, and the design process, was number two." Reusing the existing appliances and plumbing locations enabled them to keep their costs down. "We used materials as they were appropriate- granite and walnut for the countertops, an old piece of Butcher Block, painted or stained wood cabinetry and inexpensive antique wood for the floor."

Known for creating transitional designs, this new space is a perfect example of what happens when you marry that design aesthetic with high efficiency, clean lines and warm finishes. It's rumored "that somehow even the food tastes better now."

