

COLORADO
expression

architecture & design

O F T H E W E S T
Beautiful spaces and the people who design, live and work in them



country concept

A showy home in Sedalia gets a Doug Walter Architects-designed kitchen that's not only an award winner, but gives the loves-to-cook-and-have-people-over family much needed space to gather. **By Kathy Smith** Photography by Tim Murphy/Foto Imagery



Back in 1997, Doug Walter and senior designer Hamid Khellaf of Doug Walter Architects, Denver, met with homeowners Andrew and Maureen Rodwin to accomplish the first of three remodeling phases on their Sedalia home.

"In all of the phases," Khellaf explains, "we added space and character to the rooms. In this latest phase, the goal was to give the family more cooking and gathering space, and to give the home some presence."

The Rodwins are both avid cooks who spend a lot of time in the kitchen, and Andrew specifically wanted a large kitchen similar to the one he grew up with. "I grew up in the Northeast and we wanted the farm-house concept, where it is comfortable to gather in the kitchen," he describes.

Walter says, "The latest remodel involved extending walls in the kitchen about 10 feet out on top of the garage, and extending the walls on the south about 13 feet, which gave them a great room—that wasn't so great before—

and, by adding a vaulted ceiling and stacking windows on the north, south and west sides, they got a view of adjacent Wildcat mountain, which before was mostly obstructed by low window head heights."

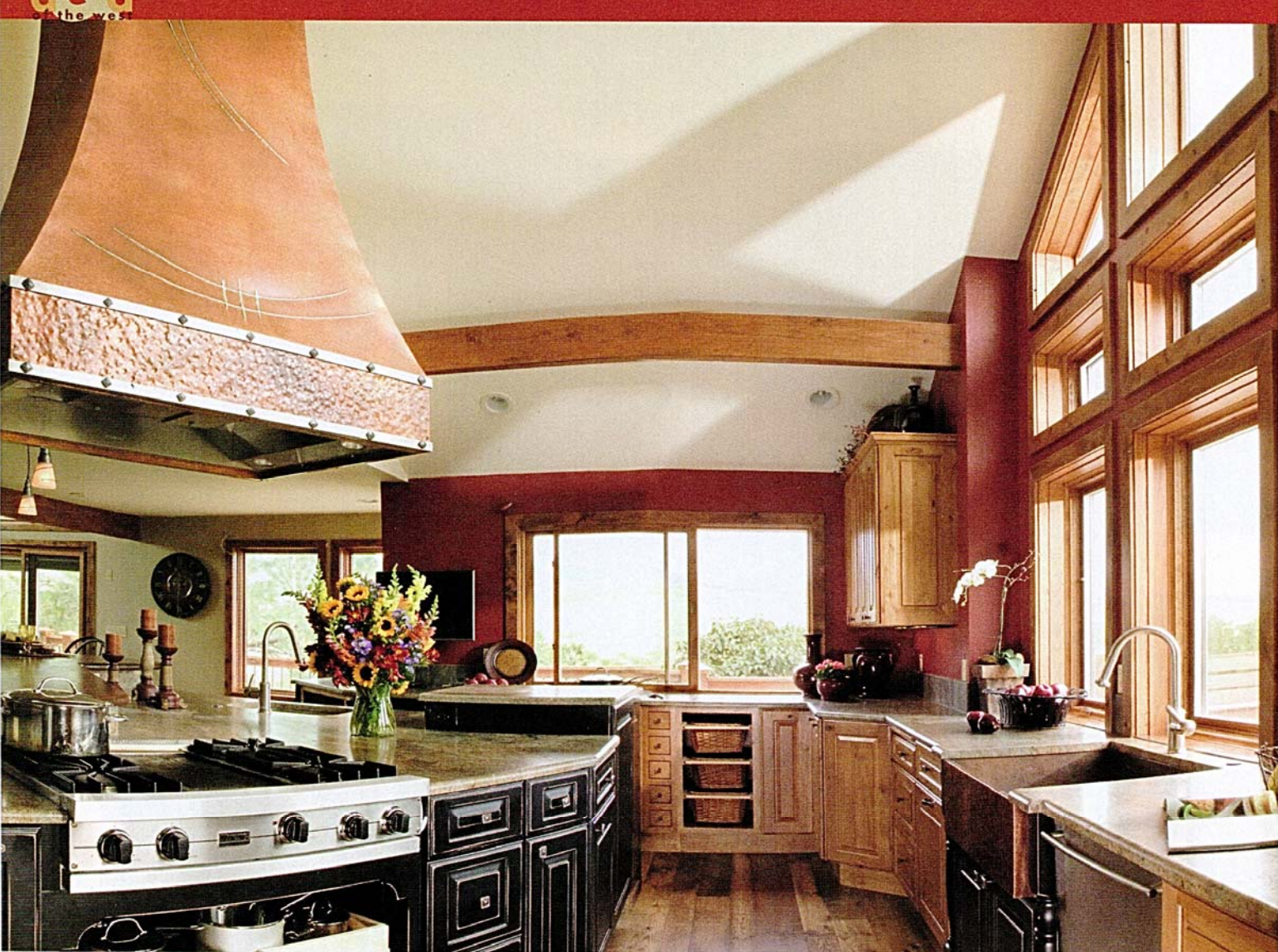
With the ceiling heights achieved and more room in the kitchen, the interior design evolved around the open kitchen.

The Place to Gather

Centering the kitchen is a multi-level, freeform extensive island topped with leather granite in the prep area, and a long, reclaimed elm-wood raised countertop that undulates around the island for the seating area.

Rodwin shares, "My wife has a large family locally, and with this island design

Left: Combining reclaimed white oak flooring with alder cabinetry, architect Doug Walters sought to bring the rough sawn exterior into the kitchen. The mixed wood usage is complemented by brick-red painted walls, which are enhanced by the grand amount of natural light from the surrounding windows. **Opposite page:** Adding to the look of distressed wood finishes is this functional, custom made hutch, which houses small appliances behind the long, side doors. An inset cabinet with glass inserts functions as a china cabinet and houses storage drawers.



Above: This panoramic view of the kitchen captures the features of mixed woods, trapezoid shapes and transom trim. The long meandering island is topped in the prep section with leather granite and houses a Viking four-burner cook top. The ventilation system is adorned with a hand crafted copper hood by Living Design Studios in Boulder. Right: The kitchen nook area, outfitted with a custom distressed wood farm table with black stained chairs, further exemplifies the use of mixed woods and the country theme.

we've had up to 18 people comfortably seated and standing around the island at one time, and it's still very open."

Living Design Studios in Boulder crafted the custom-made, hand-pounded copper hood, which encases the vent for the four-burner-and-griddle Viking stovetop on the island. "They also customized a large copper sink that is directly behind the stove area," Rodwin points out.

Adjacent to the island on one wall is a bank of appliances, with some concealed in distressed, boot-black with red under-





Remodeling Excellence

Every September, the Remodelers Council of the Home Builders Association of Metro Denver holds its annual Colorado Awards for Remodeling Excellence (CARE awards), with focus exclusively on the remodeling industry. In 2007, Doug Walter Architects, Denver, won two first-place awards, one in the luxury kitchen category, shown here, and another in the exterior remodel category.

Living Design Studios in Boulder crafted a deep copper sink, which is perfect for cleaning large pots. The stacked windows bring in a tremendous amount of natural light and provide views of the nearby mountains.

tones stained alder cabinetry that looks like a hutch. The hutch serves as a functional cabinet for servingware and smaller appliances like the microwave.

A Work in Progress

The original house was a minimalist 1970's design with a flat roof and plywood box look. "On the second remodel, we obliterated the flat roof and added a sloped roof to give it punch," Walter explains.

The house sits on a spectacular hilltop in Sedalia, so Walter wanted to fit the house with the mountains surrounding it. "Because the house is in the country, we incorporated a mixed wood use of distressed and natural woods, both on the exterior and interior," he says. Rough sawn pine was used on the exterior walls.

Walter's theme of cross gables, grouped doors and transoms and trapezoids is consistently repeated on all three sides of the remodel, both inside and outside.

An interesting exterior feature is the deck that literally wraps around two mature trees. "One of them is a ponderosa pine and the other is an ash, and you walk right under the trees on the deck," Rodwin explains.

With this remodel, the Rodwins have the space needed for family functions, and the added treat of gorgeous views of the mountains. 📍

KATHY SMITH IS A FREELANCE WRITER AND COOKING SCHOOL OWNER WHO WRITES ARTICLES FOR *CONFETTI*, *COLORADO EXPRESSION*, *ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN OF THE WEST*, *INSIDE CHERRY CREEK*, *FITNESS LIFESTYLES* AND OTHER LOCAL MAGAZINES.