



FRAMED ARTHUR WESLEY DOW PRINTS HANG FROM PICTURE RAILING ABOVE A STICKLEY SIDEBOARD.



divider that replaced plaster walls between the dining and living rooms. Contractor Paul Siebenrock had the idea of replacing cove moldings with picture molding in the dining and living rooms to form a more traditional backdrop for this outstanding collection.


It was also time to add color to their white walls,

but they were stumped as to what hues would be best. They hired designer Karen Hovde of Interior Vision in the Craftsman Style. She recommended painting the ceiling and walls the same color and gave them several color choices to consider. For window treatments, she suggested wood-slat blinds in a finish darker than the woodwork and lighter than the furniture to provide a transition between the different colors of wood in the house. Throughout the process, they were challenged by the reality of the modern house, but as Hovde reminded them, they were not hiding that. It was simply a matter of making changes that were sympathetic.

When all the work was done-or so they thought-they were tempted by some reproduction Gustav Stickley

light fixtures made by Michael Adams of Aurora Studios. Ultimately, they bought two sconces and four hanging lights, which necessitated some electrical rewiring. These new pieces made them realize it was time to replace all their light fixtures.

Despite the seemingly methodical approach to collecting furniture, a large part of the finds has been serendipitous. The couple's excitement still perks up as they hear about unknown pieces that have turned up and aren't cataloged. They speak of the difference between manufactured and handcrafted furniture, and particularly of the finishes that tell the two apart. And while the prices of furniture by "name" people like Gustav Stickley have risen beyond affordability for most shoppers, this couple still thinks there are great opportunities.

"There is a whole world of lesser-known makers who are affordable," Jessica says. "It's not cheap, but it's great furniture-well made, innovatively designed, and there's still a lot of it out there." 

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