



The kitchen and breakfast/family room are defined by a leaded-glass transom by Cain White Architectural Art Glass with a floral motif and set in a custom millwork frame. For the island, Wentworth, Inc. incorporated furniture-quality walnut and granite with ample prep area and adjacent dry bar.



Large-format porcelain floor tile, custom-painted tiled backsplash, and granite countertops complement enameled and glazed cabinetry in this Wentworth, Inc.-designed kitchen.



Breakfast/family room accommodates table for four and upholstered seating group. Door concealed in paneled wall allows discreet access to powder room.

## Smart Design Solutions

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### How to Transform a Townhouse from Outdated to Ideal

When a California couple relocated to Washington, DC, they found a large, brick, detached Kalorama townhouse built in 1986 that had been sitting on the market for a long time because of its dark, gloomy interiors. The couple was up for the remodeling challenge so they purchased the home, called our firm, Wentworth, Inc., to discuss design solutions, and began the quest to make this house their home.

The first room to undergo remodeling was the kitchen. Originally a long, linear space with a small dysfunctional breakfast nook and wet bar at one end, the kitchen needed to be reconfigured to add function as well as to make it more aesthetically pleasing. The 1986 design was set up for live-in staff, which didn't fit the new owners' more casual lifestyle. The homeowners wanted to remove an old kitchen window and install a new larger window flanked by case-ments to capture sunlight and provide a view of a lovely garden. In addition, they didn't need the adjacent formal dining room and asked Wentworth, Inc. to open the wall between the kitchen and dining room to create an island overlooking a combination breakfast room and family/TV room.

Because of the kitchen's dimensions, the Wentworth team developed a design with five bays, each defined by a coffered beam ceiling supported on pilasters. The bays define the various work-spaces in the kitchen and divide it into more intimate spaces. At



Appliance garage shown closed



Wentworth, Inc. also added a custom appliance garage with built-in lighting, shown open.



Paneled pilasters supported by decorative corbels were customized to provide storage adjacent to cooktop. Spice storage door shown open.



Custom double-acting door between kitchen and stair hall features tufted upholstery for soundproofing and safety. Original to the house, Wentworth, Inc. salvaged the door and relocated into the new design.



Wentworth, Inc. added coffered ceiling beams and custom paneled pilasters supported by corbels to organize the large, linear space into functional bays that work for the owners' lifestyles. French doors with a transom overlook the front garden and open onto a Juliet balcony.

the most interior end of the first kitchen, the first bay is now a large pantry along with china storage and wall ovens. The next work group or second bay accommodates the stainless steel sink, a pair of dishwashers and an appliance garage. Opposite is a side door leading to the grand four-level stair hall. The third bay has a 36" wide cooktop with range hood flanked by pilasters with internal storage. An exterior mounted blower keeps the kitchen quiet. Opposite the range is a 36" wide, counter-depth refrigerator. The final two cabinet bays work in harmony with a freestanding 8' island and bar sink. The smaller bay, closest to a front window, was designed as a dry bar and displays liquor bottles highlighted with antique mirror and cabinet lighting.

Because the new owners felt the formal dining room (16' x 21') was a poor use of space and its accompanying silver closet (4' x 7')

unnecessary, they asked the Wentworth team to redesign the dining room as a breakfast/family room and design a private and discrete powder room in the space of the former silver closet. The homeowner also wanted their new breakfast room to accommodate a large round table for four, a love seat and two upholstered swivel chairs for TV viewing. An island accommodates four bar stools and can be set up as a buffet and wet bar for entertaining. Wentworth selected a stained wood finish to enhance its furniture quality and transition from the painted wood kitchen cabinets to the slightly dressier breakfast room. Although the wall between the kitchen and the breakfast room was removed, a glass transom was designed to give each space definition.

To learn more about home remodeling, visit [www.wentworthstudio.com](http://www.wentworthstudio.com) or call Bruce Wentworth at 240-395-0705.