



BEFORE



Remodeling **DONE RIGHT**

Text by B. Crawford Whitham / Photography courtesy of Tim DiSalvo

*S*pring, a time of renewal. For those of you interested in a change, what better way to focus energy, time and money than on updating your home? There are many reasons for you to update, modernize and upsize, but chief among these may be your love for your current location and desire to stay there.

Accommodating your desire and incorporating your vision of the ideal home sometimes requires the eye of an artist to bring perfect harmony of design. You may have a vision, but not necessarily

the perfect one, and that is where the experts can apply their artistry.

Choosing the right person/company for the project should result in a perfect mixture of old and new architecture.

Tim DiSalvo, president of DiSalvo and Company, a company known for their renovations and new homes, lists the criteria they use for a happy outcome.

1. Ask for references and before and after photos. Many of their clients are referred by previous

customers, architects or others in the industry. A meeting should be set up to get to know you and discuss your plans. Experience plays a major role on how to best accomplish what you want to achieve, and appropriate suggestions will be made.

2. Preliminary plans are drawn up and modified as necessary to reflect your wants and needs. Ballpark figures that are as accurate as possible are supplied. For larger projects, Disalvo and Company will connect you with a designer and/or architect and monitor progress along the way.

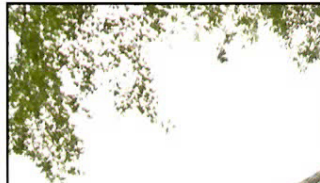
3. Once the contract is signed, professional preparation follows to make the job go as smoothly as possible and minimize your downtime. While other contractors might immediately start demolition, Disalvo starts with mindful planning. As Disalvo says, "You don't want your kitchen gutted and then find out the fixtures you want aren't available for three months. Once we get started, we don't want to start and stop. We want to conduct a full-scale attack until we finish."

During the preparation period, assistance will be given in selecting plumbing fixtures, cabinets, granite, etc. Then everything that is needed for the entire construction is ordered. A timeline is set out to let you know when you need to be out of the house and for how long, when you will be needed for walkthroughs and when decisions need to be made.

4. The project is now ready to begin and they will stay in touch with you and stay pinpointed to the timeline. If unforeseen conditions arise, they will be identified and reasonable solutions will be provided.

5. The renovation does not end when the last nail is hammered in or the last coat of paint is applied. Desalvo and Company brings in a clean-up crew to leave your home in pristine condition.

One satisfied couple had lived in their home for 15 years and considered moving, but after looking at other areas and homes, they decided to remain in their location. They stressed that they did not want it to look pretentious from



the street but rather have a bungalow appearance. Their experience with Disalvo allowed them to make major changes without overwhelming or unbalancing the home.

The front door was relocated and the texture of the façade was changed. Dramatic double arch doors were added along with a standing seam copper roof and Oklahoma flag stone. Inviting stairs, walkways and shutters converted their 1950's home into an appealing family dwelling with great room, playroom and fireplace. The master suite was relocated downstairs, and a friendship entry with all the amenities was added, plus a three car

garage. All of these changes added up to a distinctly warm and beautiful haven laid out in fluid arrangement.

The bottom line is, when it comes time to invest in your home on a large scale or a smaller project, you want the best, because no one in today's economy has money to waste. With the proper steps, your investment will pay dividends. ■

Tim Desalvo & Company

2640 Faxon Avenue
Memphis, TN 38112
901-753-8304
Info@timdisalvo.com