



ROBERT REINHARDT

Reinhardt Architects

Architecture, it has been said, is a social art. Bob Reinhardt, AIA, abides by this philosophy, including his clients in his design process to generate homes that are warm, comfortable, and well-suited to each individual or family's lifestyle. "Bob was able to translate my emotions into thoughtful rational concepts," said one client. Reinhardt works in a range of styles, often transforming houses with complete renovations or seamless additions. "I don't have a signature style," he says. What the houses in his varied portfolio have in common is a sensitive architectural response to his clients' preferences, wishes, and dreams, as well as their functional needs and construction budgets.

"I see myself as a guide through the entire process," explains Reinhardt, who adds that design doesn't stop until a project is built. His ability to solve design challenges and to incorporate ideas clients never expected may be attributed to his education. Reinhardt earned an undergraduate degree in Sociology before earning Bachelor and Master of Architecture degrees from Catholic University. He enjoys bringing out the best in his clients – and also in himself.



ABOVE: The new rear addition creates a sheltered entrance to the garden.
Photograph by Daniel Peck Photography

FACING PAGE: Removing the ceiling above the living, dining, foyer and kitchen of this 1950s' ranch house expanded the living space. New windows amplify the garden view.
Photograph by Greg Hadley Photography



A typical design project begins with a brainstorming session during which Reinhardt, with sketchpad in hand, will illustrate ideas his clients describe. He explains this active process is very productive, but admits the first time he approached a project in this manner it was due to lack of preparation. "I was expected to meet with new clients but I didn't have the floor plans they requested," he remembers. "So we sat together and drew the plans. It was such a useful process that now I always do it." Reinhardt is honest and direct in recounting this story as well as in his practice, making him a favorite with clients and contractors alike.

Beginning with his graduate school thesis, Reinhardt has actively incorporated energy efficiency and green design principles into his work. From simple inclusions such as extra insulation for energy efficiency to more elaborate elements such as photovoltaic panels for solar electricity, Reinhardt always keeps the environment in mind. "As best we can, we take advantage of the site," he explains, stating that passive solar efficiency is always considered.

Projects by Reinhardt Architects have earned awards from the National Association of the Remodeling Industry, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the American Institute of Architects Potomac Valley Chapter. In addition to maintaining his practice, Bob Reinhardt is a member of the AIA, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and has served as a Town Councilman in Garrett Park, MD, where he works and lives with his wife and two black Labrador Retrievers.



ABOVE LEFT: Adding a second floor transformed this 1940s' Cape Cod while maintaining its scale in the context of its Garrett Park, Maryland, neighbors.
Photograph by Les Henig Photography

ABOVE RIGHT: A new kitchen in a 1950s' ranch house features a raised ceiling.
Photograph by Greg Hadley Photography

FACING PAGE TOP: An expanded sunroom blends with the existing Potomac, Maryland, home.
Photograph by Les Henig Photography

FACING PAGE BOTTOM LEFT: With glass on three sides and into the gable, the beaded wood ceiling covers a super-insulated roof over a radiant-heated floor.
Photograph by Les Henig Photography

FACING PAGE BOTTOM RIGHT: A sky lit foyer presents a warm welcome.
Photograph by Les Henig Photography



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