

# A CLASSIC REVIVAL



*The attached garage and driveway say suburbia, but the rest of this contemporary shingle style reads like a Hamptons estate in miniature.*



SWAN ARCHITECTURE

A crisp, contemporary take on the East Coast shingle style gives an Edina family its dream home

BY CAMILLE LEFEVRE



*Above: Sections of scallops and shakes lend variety to the exterior. Top and middle right: The open-plan kitchen and living room flow to the den through French doors. Bottom right: A view from the master bath to the bedroom.*



**WHEN ELEVATION HOMES, A DIVISION OF STREETER & ASSOCIATES,**

decided to build a spec house on a corner lot in Edina’s historic Country Club district as a showcase for the Parade of Homes, it chose an architect it knew well: Andrea Peschel Swan, AIA, of Swan Architecture. Swan had worked with Elevation on a number of projects, including the house next door.

“After studying the lot and the surrounding neighborhood, we decided on a specific aesthetic: a sophisticated shingle-style house,” says Elevation project director Kim Krogstad. “Andrea loved that, so she was a perfect fit for what we were trying to achieve: an updated, contemporary classic for today’s family.”

Earlier in her career, at Cooper, Robertson & Partners in New York City, Swan had designed two homes in the Hamptons in the East Coast shingle style. “For the Edina house, Elevation wanted something more distinguished than their highly successful contemporary cottages,” Swan explains, “and yet, of course, smaller than a Hamptons estate.”

After looking through her research photos from her Hamptons work, Swan decided on one house design in particular—one featuring shingles, gables, and scallops—for inspiration. In keeping with the neighborhood’s aesthetic character, she specified a warm, natural interior for the showcase home, as well as white exterior trim and a light stain.



Just as the project was breaking ground, two doctors with two young boys bought the house. Working with Swan, they requested one change to the design: that she shrink the study on the main level to enlarge the garage to accommodate the kids' sports equipment. No problem.

Otherwise, Swan proceeded as planned, updating the classic shingle style by "keeping interior spaces as generous as possible." A mudroom off the main entrance and garage has hangers for coats and cubbies for backpacks, boots, and shoes.

An open kitchen and living area enjoys easy flow. The kitchen island is the heart of the space, demurely housing the sink, dishwasher, and storage. An axis line from the commercial-grade oven range through the island to the fireplace brings order to the airy space. "And because of that line, I could divide up the ceiling plane, introducing beams and coffers that add another level of sophistication," says Swan.

The openness continues in the two-story stair hall that connects the first and second levels. "We wanted to keep spaces open for flexibility and usability," says Krogstad, "and to ensure there were lots of indoor-outdoor connections."

A beautiful mature oak tree on the southeast corner of the lot inspired Swan to design the southeast corner of the home with twin gables; the valley between the two gables is a kind of curtsy to the tree. A wraparound porch further defines the corner while adding a layer of depth to the house. The owners chose to forgo the landscaping plan for the backyard in favor of installing a sports court for the boys, but a terrace still invites the family to relax outside.

"Andrea's style overall is very clean and airy, which is perfect for this style of house," says Krogstad. A fresh and sophisticated take on the classic shingle style, the home brings Hamptons flair paired with family-friendly features to one of Edina's signature neighborhoods. **AMN**

**CONTEMPORARY SHINGLE STYLE**

**Location:**  
Edina, Minnesota

**Architect:**  
Swan Architecture  
[swanarchitecture.com](http://swanarchitecture.com)

**Principal-in-charge:**  
Andrea Peschel Swan, AIA

**Project lead designer:**  
Andrea Peschel Swan, AIA

**Landscape architect:**  
Gertens

**General contractor:**  
Elevation Homes

**Size:** 4,200 square feet

**Completion:** September 2011

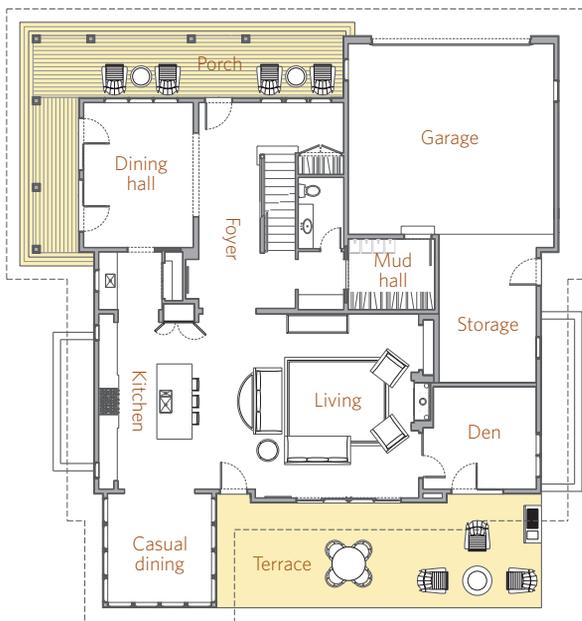
**Photographer:** Steve Henke

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—ARCHITECT ANDREA PESCHEL SWAN, AIA



Above: Twin gables address both the street corner and a majestic oak tree. Top: A bumped-out casual dining space shields the back terrace from street traffic.



### First Floor

*In this efficient arrangement of main-floor living spaces, the kitchen enjoys proximity to two dining areas and the living room and fireplace. Four rooms access outdoor living spaces.*