



Diahann and Chris Potter's great room boasts views of Lake Minnetonka through the expanse of windows behind the sofa.

## Home with a Grand View

Warren Home Restorations brings the Potters' lakeside vision to life.

AFTER SEVERAL YEARS LIVING IN SWITZERLAND, Chris and Diahann Potter began plans to move back to the Twin Cities. Having lived around Lake Minnetonka before, the couple knew they would like to have a place to stay during their extended summer holidays in Minnesota. Thus began the process of an international house hunt.

Diahann logged many hours, days and flights looking at plenty of houses on Lake Minnetonka before they decided upon their current property near Grandview Point in Deephaven. While the house didn't suit their needs in terms of size and amenities, the property was home to the iconic Grandview boathouse that would serve as a lakeside entertainment space for the Potters. Current housing codes do not allow for boathouses to be constructed, so having one

already built on the property was a real selling point for the family.

Having worked with Mark Warren and Warren Home Restorations in the past, the decision of whom to hire for this project was easy. Diahann and Chris trusted Warren and his team to work with them on the design, and make the right decisions that would complement their style and aesthetic. Warren's group is experienced handling the challenges and opportunities in lakeside homes, whether that's access to hard-to-reach properties, incorporating historic character into a new design or finding creative solutions to create something unique.

### changing focus

The most noticeable element of this Minnetonka, Minnesota, home was the garage jutting out onto the property. With its awkwardly placed side-facing door, Mark and Denise Warren's front entry was out-of-sight—literally.

To shift the visual emphasis and create an entryway to be noticed, the Warrens bumped

out the front of their home and added a covered brick porch with a front-facing, contrasting door and twin columns under a striking eyebrow window. Cedar-shake siding, a sharply pitched roof, and a winding brick path all accent the noble entryway. Although the enhancements transformed the home's look, none of these improvements required making major structural changes. □

photographer: Susan Gilmore

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