



PROJECT PROFILE

Oxbow Residence



Project Type: New Residence
Location: Fargo, North Dakota
Designed by Mark Nelson, AIA

The clients for this new Oxbow residence needed their home to serve as a showcase for their extensive art collection. As hosts to many fund-raising events, they also needed the ability to accommodate large gatherings. A 3,000 square foot layout obligated Mark Nelson, the architect for the project, to use all available space to its full potential. An open floor plan provides a spacious feel; however intimacy within individual spaces is maintained. Private areas necessarily remain so, and Nelson's custom designed furnishings and cabinetry can be found throughout the residence.



Although this house draws heavily on the Prairie School aesthetic, modern building materials and technologies are evident throughout. Zoned heating and cooling systems are controlled digitally. Data and communication systems have been integrated, as have the audio/video and security systems. Lighting controls are also programmable. In order to insure that the appropriate level of precision and detail were brought to the project, finish work and general contracting were completed by Mark and the clients.



Due to its location on the flood plain of the Red River of the North, the building was threatened on several occasions. Adding a stone and concrete protective wall alleviated this problem. An outdoor sculpture terrace, additional entertainment space, and another garage were also added as a part of this revision. As a result of this new construction, the house now sits on a water table, visually anchoring the structure and tying it to the landscape. The additional interior and exterior living spaces also give the building greater presence on the site.



Photos courtesy of Mark Anthony.