

balancing act

With respect for history, scale, and each other's expertise, an architect and interior designer transform their Minneapolis kitchen.

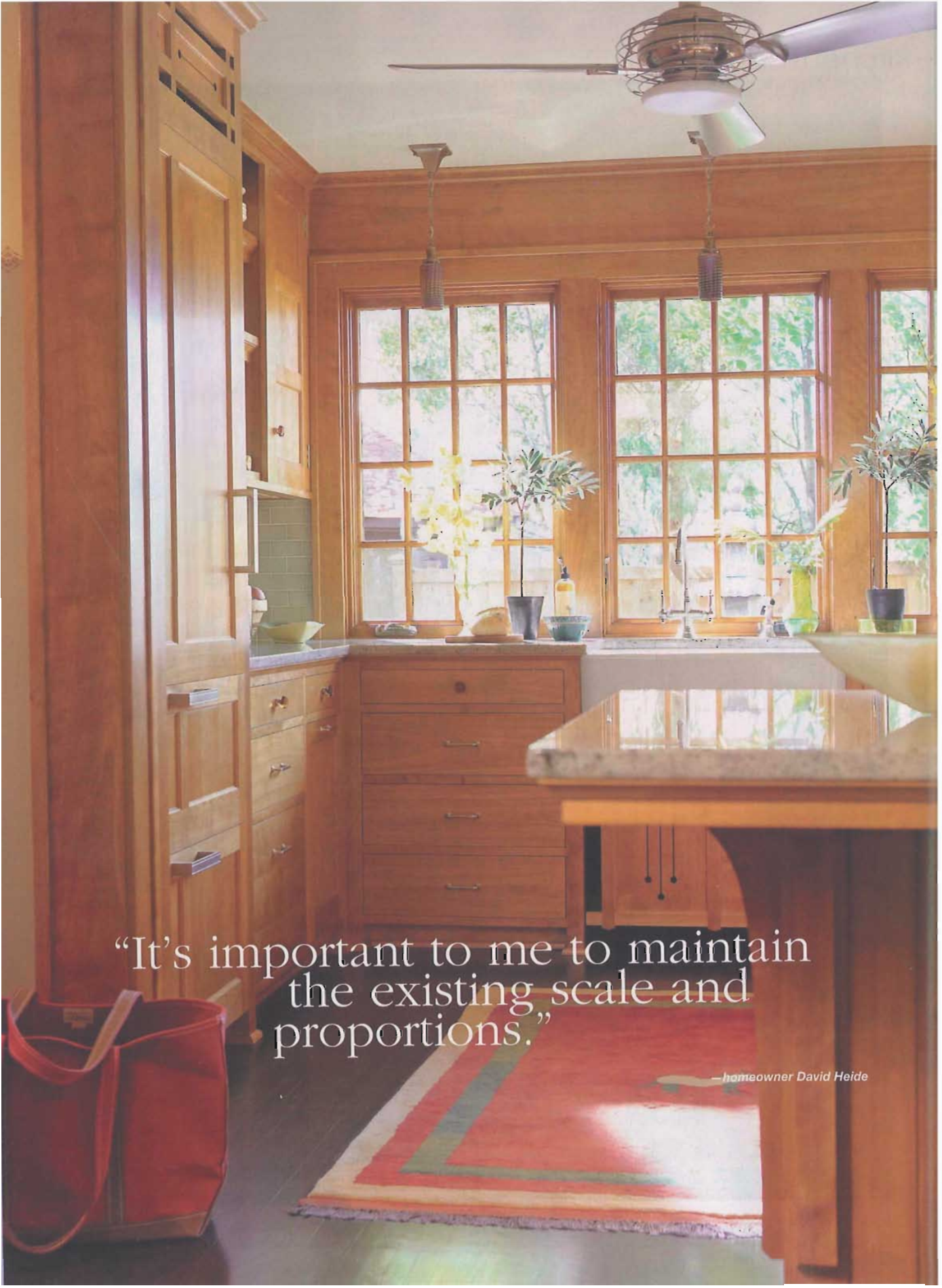
by brian libby

photography by susan gilmore

styled by david anger

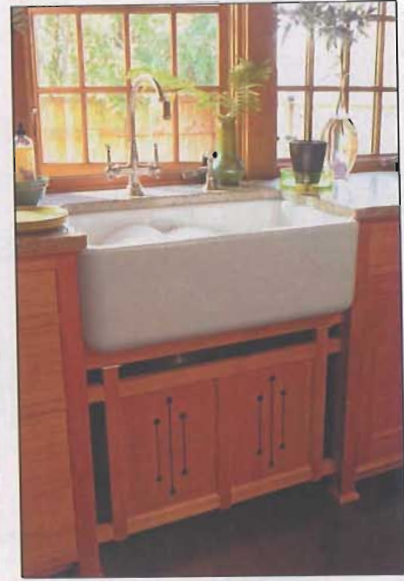
produced by chandra hammond

Layers of garnet and amber shellac highlight red birch cabinets' luminous quality.



“It’s important to me to maintain the existing scale and proportions.”

—homeowner David Heide



OPPOSITE: Architect and homeowner David Heide's architecture firm designed the cabinets and pendant light fixtures (see "Creative Lighting" on page 52). ABOVE LEFT: The peninsula marks the kitchen-breakfast room divide. ABOVE RIGHT: The vintage English porcelain sink is perched on a decorative carved wood cabinet.

ALTHOUGH AN ARCHITECT AND AN INTERIOR DESIGNER MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO RUSH INTO RENOVATIONS when they buy a new home, this Minneapolis couple saw the value in waiting—for five years.

"We had a lot of time to figure out what we wanted to do and to understand the house," architect David Heide says. "That's what I tell clients who buy older homes and immediately want to renovate. I think there's something to be learned from living in them for a while."

David and his partner, interior designer Michael Crull, decided to expand and redesign the kitchen in their circa-1922 Prairie-style home. "It's always a unique situation when somebody in the biz does something for themselves," David says. "We're

constantly having to come up with new ideas to express our point of view. With Michael and me both in the industry, it becomes even more of a delicate balance."

David's career is born from a lifelong love of historic architecture. When he was a child in Des Moines, his mother often took him along to meetings at the Salisbury House, a 1920s mansion based on a famous English manor. "I can't tell you how many versions of it I built with Legos," he says. David spent more than a decade at MacDonald & Mack, a Twin Cities firm specializing in historic renovations, before founding David Heide Design Studio.

The couple made the original kitchen into a breakfast room. This

move allowed them to add on a new, modern kitchen in a better location overlooking the garden. A granite-topped peninsula divides the kitchen and breakfast room, and the granite continues atop built-in shelves in the latter space. "It's important to me to maintain the existing scale and proportions," David says. "The kitchen is not just one big room. The original house has smaller rooms opening onto one another, so we made our openings in a similar way."

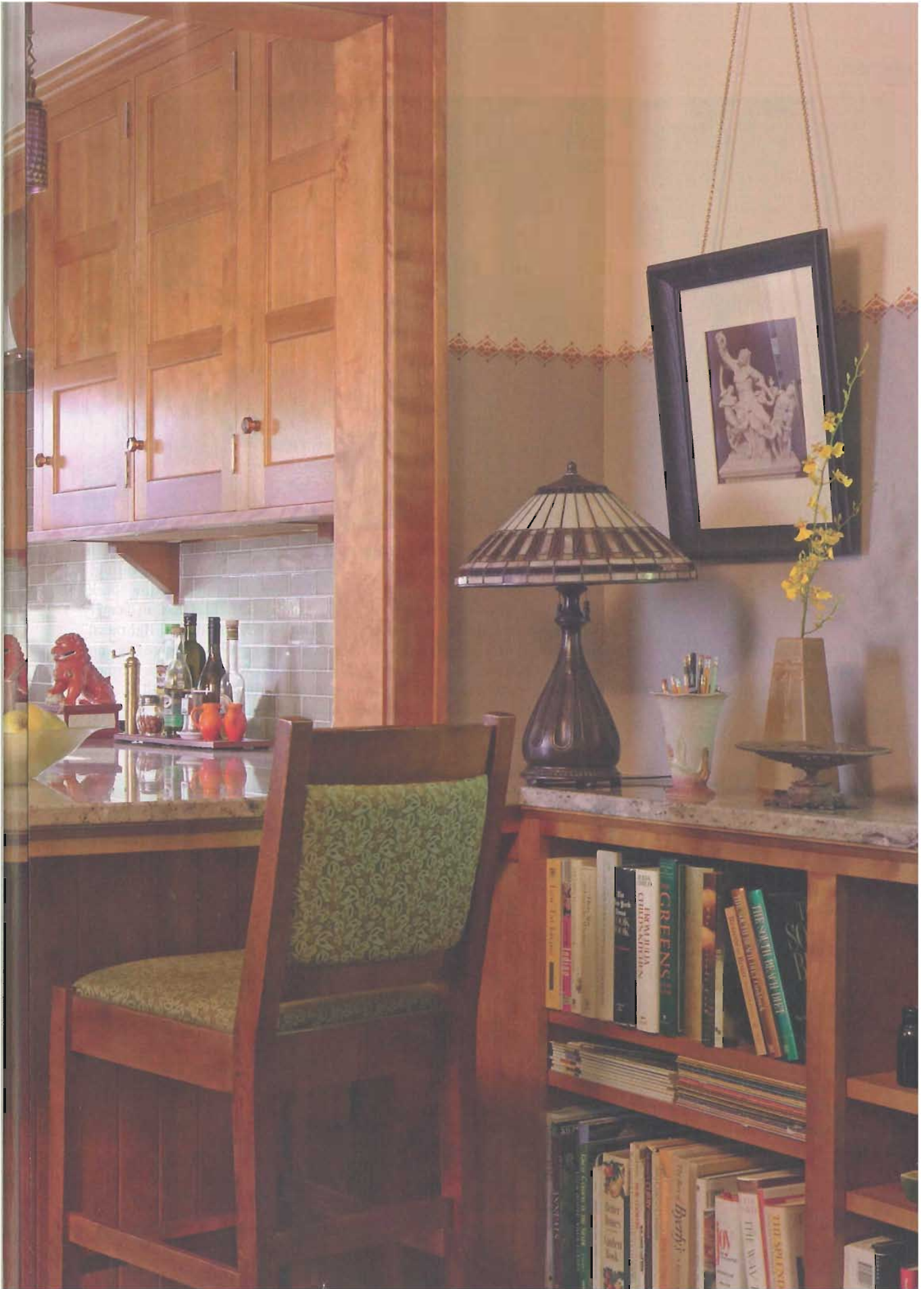
The kitchen cabinets are red birch, complemented by a soft green tile backsplash and granite counters. The centerpiece is a vintage English porcelain sink (very Salisbury House), which sits under a wide bank of



kitchen **renovation**



THIS PHOTO: Homeowners David Heide and Michael Crull can cook, entertain, and relax in a light-filled kitchen that doesn't overwhelm the adjoining small rooms.





CREATIVE LIGHTING

Although David Heide and Michael Crull's new kitchen capitalizes on natural light from three large windows overlooking the backyard, David's architecture firm designed an array of light fixtures. "The light level is very uniform throughout the room," he says.

There is ample task lighting under the cabinets, and several long, thin pendants subtly resemble upside-down candleholders. A quietly futuristic ceiling fan reminds visitors that this isn't a museum of historic styles but an eclectic, real place.

In the breakfast room, a series of traditional lamps is hooked into a single switch. An art glass company, Lundberg Studios, designed custom lampshades with a touch of decorative Victorian and Arts and Crafts style.

"You can make anything work by means of what you partner with it," David says. "It all has to go together and make sense. You have to see it graphically as well as architecturally."

windows. Additional lighting comes from pendants and a discreet series of custom task lights.

The couple spent several years collaborating on their home's renovation, each contributing ideas. "It's almost a game of chess where one of us makes one move and brings something to the table and we kind of go back and forth," David says of working with

Michael, who previously worked in retail merchandising and marketing.

"I have the architecture background, and Michael has an acutely defined sense of color and lightness," David says. "We advocate for one another, but we also are one another's editors. I think it's helpful to have that in a relationship." ■

For more information, see Resources on page 116.

ABOVE: Green tile and granite create complementary linear and random patterns. Open shelving displays brasserie-style dishes and old restaurant china. BELOW: The granite countertop continues into the breakfast room atop shelves for cookbooks.

