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CLEAN SLATE

WARNER MCCONAUGHEY OF HAMMERSMITH INFUSES STYLE AND SUBSTANCE INTO THIS FLOOR-TO-CEILING RENOVATION PHOTOGRAPHED BY Emily Followill



THE OWNERS OF THIS DRUID HILLS HOME presented Warner McConaughey of Hammersmith with a tall order: give their kitchen a 21st-century update while preserving the home's 100-year history. Rising to the challenge, McConaughey delivered a kitchen packed with both modern sensibilities and historic flourishes.

He began by gutting the entire space, tearing down the walls to the adjoining powder room, breakfast room and den, effectively doubling the kitchen's square footage. Relocating the stairwell farther toward the front of the home created room for a butler's pantry and scullery kitchen. "Every single wall has been replaced; there's nothing we didn't touch," says McConaughey. "It was nice that we had a clean slate to start over with, but we also had to keep the home's original character in mind."

Although he removed the maze-like walls separating the small adjoining rooms—a common trait in older homes—McConaughey looked to the ceiling to create the illusion of intimacy while maintaining a modern-day, open-concept living level. "We used a variety of beams and headers in the rooms so that when you're in each space you feel like you're in a more historic room that makes sense with the rest of the house," says the designer. This concept is most apparent in the kitchen, where an intricate beam design helps to define the room.

To fulfill the homeowners' "more modern" directive, McConaughey installed concrete and marble countertops in varying thicknesses and created ample hidden storage that keeps the kitchen void of clutter. The concrete backsplash, mimicking nautical wood slats, is a nod to the couple's favorite vacation destination—Rosemary Beach, Florida. "They're both working professionals, so they wanted to have life feel a little simpler when they got home," McConaughey says. "It's now a space where they can truly unwind."



resources CABINET AND WALL COLOR Amazing Gray by Sherwin-Williams CUSTOM HOOD B & S Sheet Metal Fabricators Inc. CABINETRY Hammettsmith, Inc. HARDWARE Restoration Hardware CONCRETE COUNTERTOPS AND BACKSPLASH Thornton Concrete Studio MARBLE COUNTERTOPS Atlanta Marble Manufacturing BAR STOOLS Lee Industries at Tracery Interiors FAUCETS Grohe RANGE Wolf Sub-Zero LIGHTING Circo Lighting FLOORING Oak with mahogany and ebony stain blend ROWAN SHADES Custom Brands Group

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