



For years to come

While the design of this house has its roots in classical revival architecture from the East Coast and Midwest, its Federal farmhouse character is pure West Coast

Many architectural styles evolve over centuries, as each generation and region adapts a design to suit specific needs.

The house on these pages can trace its design origins back to Europe, then to the Atlantic Seaboard, and through the Midwest to the West Coast – each transition changing and adapting the American Classical Revival architecture.

Architects Anne Adams

and Stuart Silk of Stuart Silk Architects say the style has evolved into what they call a Federal farmhouse look.

“While simplified from the original European architecture, the design is still notable for its substantial and well-crafted detailing,” says Silk. “The symmetry of the gables, the robust square columns and pilasters, and the detailing of the eaves and cornices are all



Above left and right: Twin gables flanking a central entry portico (facing page) highlight the Federal farmhouse character of this new house designed by architects Anne Adams and Stuart Silk. An additional gabled volume accommodates the garage wing.

Above: The robust square columns and pilasters are typical features of the Federal style. The low scale of the portico was designed to ensure the entry would not be too imposing.



Above: The entry opens to a wide passageway that forms the central axis of the house. This leads through to the south-facing dining room. The square columns and pilasters of the entry are repeated in the passageway, reinforcing the formal arrangement of the interior.

Right: Beadboard walls and painted millwork enhance the traditional look. Although the family uses the main dining table daily, there is also a breakfast table in the kitchen.

representative of American domestic architecture of the 19th century."

The owners, David and Tricia Burnett, say they wanted a family home that would look as though it had been in the family for several generations – and would continue to be lived in for several more.

"We had been looking for a house to restore, but couldn't find a property of the right

era," says Tricia Burnett. "We were greatly influenced by the plantation homes of the South, and the Federal-style houses in Washington, DC. But at the same time, we wanted a home that would be comfortable for the whole family."

Adams says the house is essentially two volumes – one accommodating the twin gables and center entry portico, the other an L-shaped building

housing the garaging with a playroom above.

Long-lasting building materials were chosen with sustainability in mind – the roof features heavy-duty cedar shakes, and the siding is also cedar.

"The key design challenge was a 25-foot height limit prescribed by the local zoning code," says Adams. "To be able to fit all the bedrooms,





Above: Designed for comfortable family living, the great room features a large, brick-lined fireplace and ceiling beams designed to impart a sense of solidity and permanence. The brickwork in the fireplace is similar to the brickwork that features on the base of the house exterior. A large area rug and furnishings in similar tones further enhance the relaxing ambiance.

we provided dormer spaces – effectively the house is one-and-a-half stories.”

The single-story entry portico provides a residential scale to the building.

“We didn’t want the entry to be too imposing,” says Silk.

A degree of formality did determine the interior organization, however. The central axis is reinforced by square columns and pilasters that echo

the design of the entry. These wide openings lead through to the great room, which in turn opens through French doors to the south-facing garden.

“This is very much a family space,” says Tricia Burnett. “We didn’t want a formal living and dining room that would be used only occasionally.”

The kitchen and living room are positioned at each end of the south facade, with

the dining room in the center, where it forms part of the central axis. The living room is characterized by painted beams that impart a sense of permanence and solidity. They also help create a more intimate, comfortable living space.

Similarly, a large fireplace, which features brickwork similar to that of the exterior, enhances the cozy ambiance.



Above: The parlor is lined with built-in cabinets housing the owners’ book collection. To provide an aged look, the dark-stained white oak floorboards are laid in random widths of 3in, 4in and 5in.

Left: With its traditional cabinets, which provide bead detailing around the doors, the kitchen is in keeping with the style of the rest of the house. The backsplash features beveled tiles with a crackle glaze.



In keeping with the Federal farmhouse tradition, all the millwork is painted. Silk says moldings, casings, windows and stair railings are also consistent with the era. However, the white oak floorboards have been stained and will provide their own patina over time. The floorboards are laid in random widths, which helps reinforce the aged look.

A separate parlor at the



Above: Tucked beneath the eaves of a large gable, the master suite is designed as a private parents' retreat. The bedroom sanctuary has its own comfortable seating area, and there is also an open fireplace opposite the bed.

front of the house – with a baby grand piano – can be used as a second living area. The parlor also provides separation for the home office, which is positioned beyond the parlor.

Built-in shelving lines the walls of the parlor, accommodating the owners' book collection and providing an intimate sitting room.

The house also has a guest suite, with a hidden entrance

behind a paneled door under the main staircase.

And the master suite, tucked beneath one of the gables, is designed as a parents' retreat. In addition to a large bathroom with banquette seating, the suite has its own seating area and an open fireplace providing a welcome ambiance.

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Design team: Anne Adams and Stuart Silk, Stuart Silk Architects (Seattle, WA)

Structural engineer:

Quantum Consulting Engineers

Interior designer: Patricia Schlapp

Builder: Schultz Miller

Siding: Painted wood

Roof: Heavy cedar shakes

Windows and doors:

Pella Architect Series

Flooring: Select-grade white oak

Paints: Benjamin Moore

Exterior scones and carriage

lantern: Olde Mill Lighting

Heating: Cardinal Heating

Bathtub: Kohler Memoirs

Vanity cabinetry: Painted wood with

Calacatta slabs by Cornerstone Fine

Woodworking

Basin: Kohler Caxton

Bathroom flooring: Carrara marble

tiles from Ann Sacks

Bathroom lighting: Visual Comfort

Story by Colleen Hawkes

Photography by Michael Jensen



Left: Centerpiece of the large master bathroom is a bathtub with a marble surround. Niches within the headboard walls provide display shelving.

Above: The master bathroom is also positioned beneath the eaves. It incorporates a bench seat in front of a low window, and his-and-hers vanity units. There is also a separate walk-in dressing room.