



The second story of the house is again an eclectic mix of old and new. As you wind up the slow curve of the staircase and look above you, the ceiling is rounded and covered in the same dark metal. It creates “its own little room within,” Denise says. The dark metal-tiled look is carried over to the fireplace. A very contemporary flue goes up the entire wall to the vaulted ceiling. It continues the modern farmhouse aesthetic, while simple trusswork brings the old back into play. There are metal tie rods that borrow a design from the famous Green and Green of the arts and crafts era.

That design is mirrored on the balusters and railings on the staircase as well. “The trusses and the exterior old reclaimed lumber show respect for what was there possibly one hundred years ago,” says Murphy.

Denise worked with local blacksmith Ben Eaton to create a large chandelier above the living room. Naughton then installed LED lights that point up to warm the area. It is a major focal point, and a work of art.

Another lighting fixture is an old metal scale that hangs above the dining room table. Denise worked with Interiors, which helped her find such items.

The kitchen also helps warm and balance the open floor plan. A focal point is a large copper trough sink on the island. Denise had seen a similar idea in a magazine and wanted to pull off the look in her home. “You could look at it and think that’s just wild or it could look great,” she says of the copper sink. “But it works and we love it.”

Opposite of the sink is a concrete countertop with antique wine barrel bar stools—another example of mixing old and new.

The Hayes locally sourced as many of the details of the home as possible, hiring Dan Murphy as architect with associate designer Laura Winiger and Jimmy Faust as builder.

The end result is an inviting, interesting home. “I wanted it to be a house that you want to sit and look at,” says Denise. “My house shouldn’t look like your house—we should all be unique.”

Her advice for those building a house? It’s simple: Don’t be afraid to take risks, she says. “But if you’re going to be risky, be risky all over the house.”

