

NARI MINNESOTA – 2025 ROTY AWARDS

PROJECT: WHAT'S YOUR FLAVOR?

CATEGORY: KITCHEN \$50,000 - \$100,000



Note: There is room for 4 stools, 2 each side of the island. We moved stools for this picture to highlight the walnut island.

The initial request was to update a 1990's maple kitchen. Wish list items included modern, updated finishes, exterior ventilation for the range, additional seating around the island, retaining the existing oak flooring, and maximizing storage. During the design development phase, we proposed changing from an over the range microwave to a decorative hood with insert and microwave drawer. We also incorporated a mix of cabinet finishes to create drama within the space. Final selections included custom stain on the existing oak flooring, three different cabinet finishes, two different Cambria countertops and a textured subway tile backsplash. Walnut island cabinets with a bolder Cambria pattern and a walnut accent on the black hood create beautiful focal points. The black painted cabinets add drama when paired with the light maple cabinets. The new layout included enlarging and changing the island shape to add more seating. We extended wall cabinets to the ceiling and relocated the refrigerator to maximize usable space. A floor-to-ceiling cabinet was added to house the coffee maker. A mixer lift and pull-out garbage/recycle bin were also added. The new layout adds amenities to keep the clutter at bay and adds a bold and dramatic mix of finishes. The result is a modern kitchen update which checks all the homeowner's wish boxes while still respecting the home's original aesthetic.

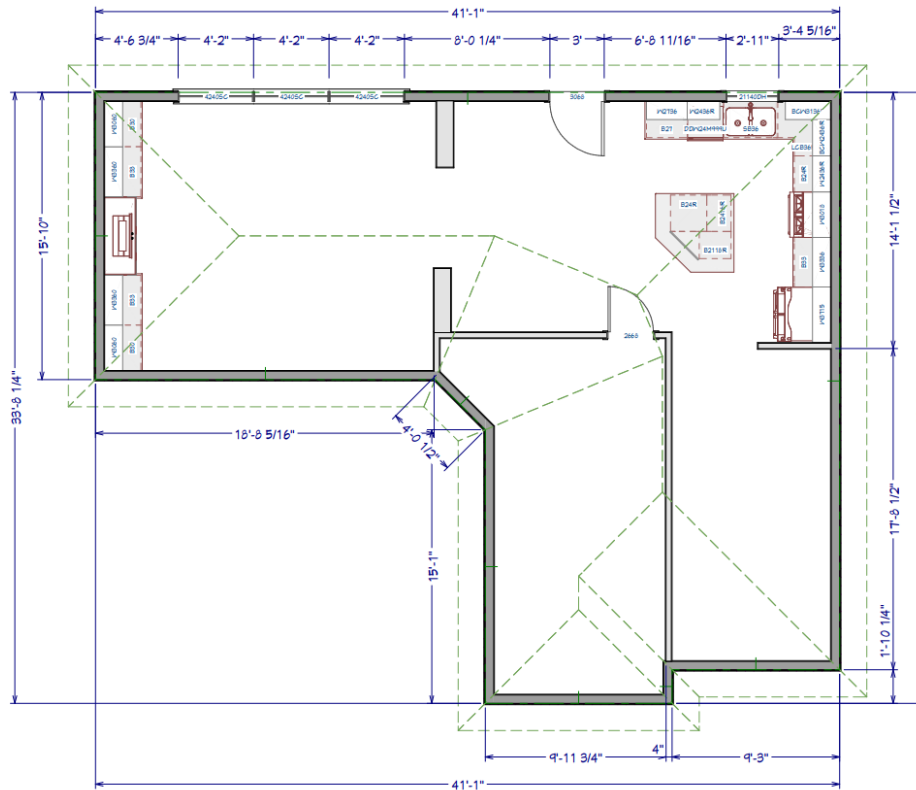
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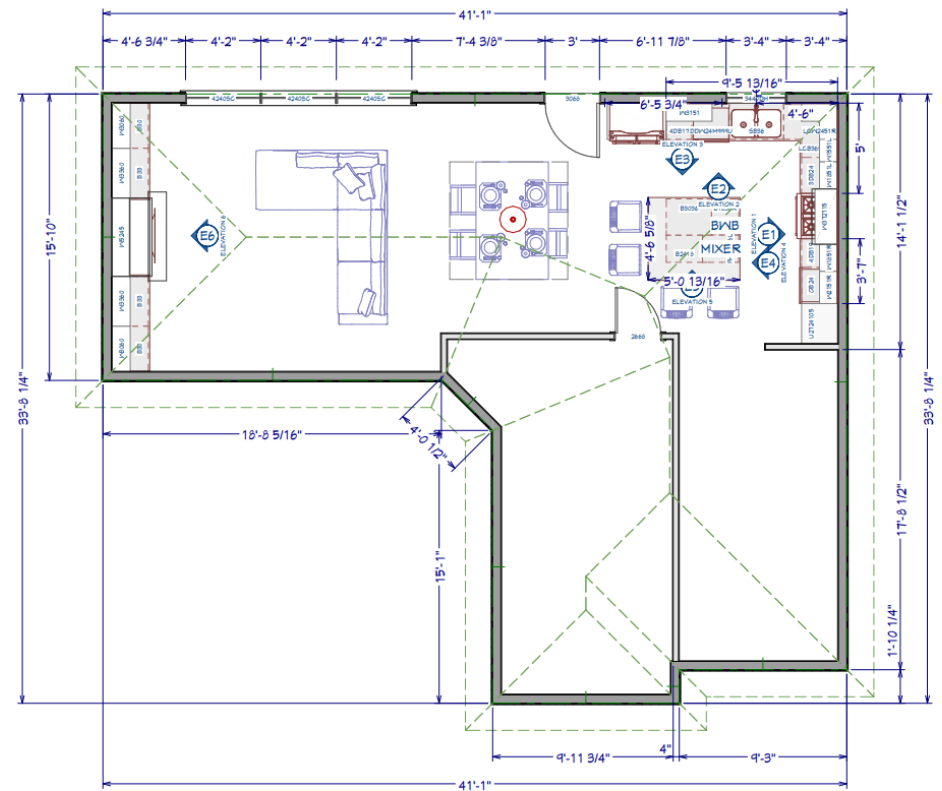
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BEFORE (AS BUILT PLAN)



PROPOSED



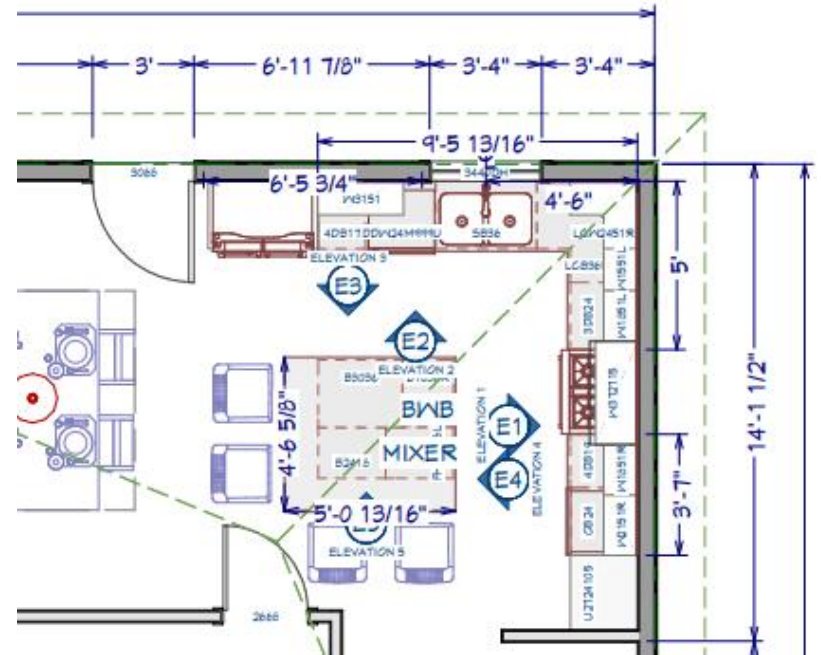
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PROPOSED – 3D



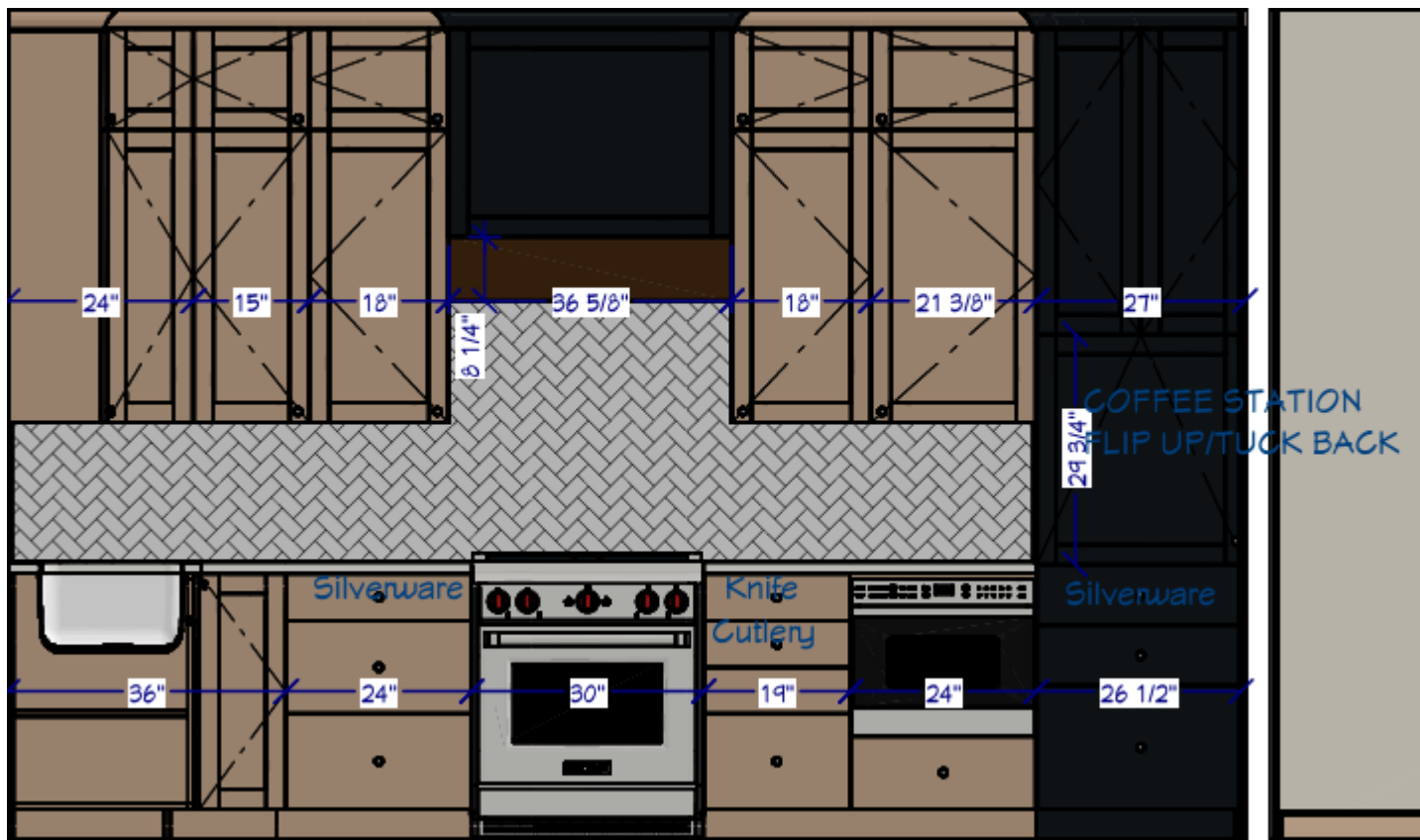
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ELEVATION STOVE



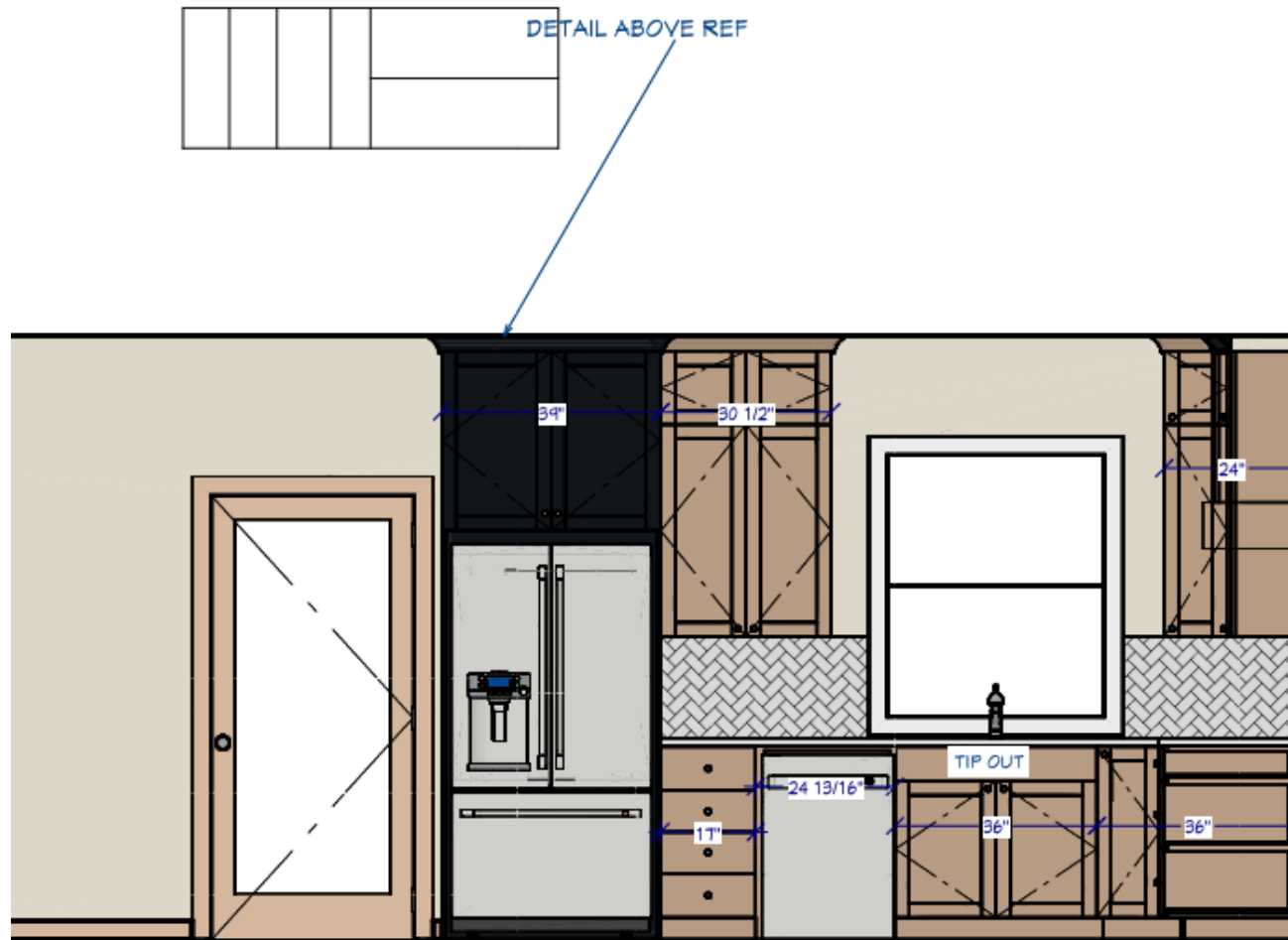
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ELEVATION SINK



ELEVATION 2: SINK

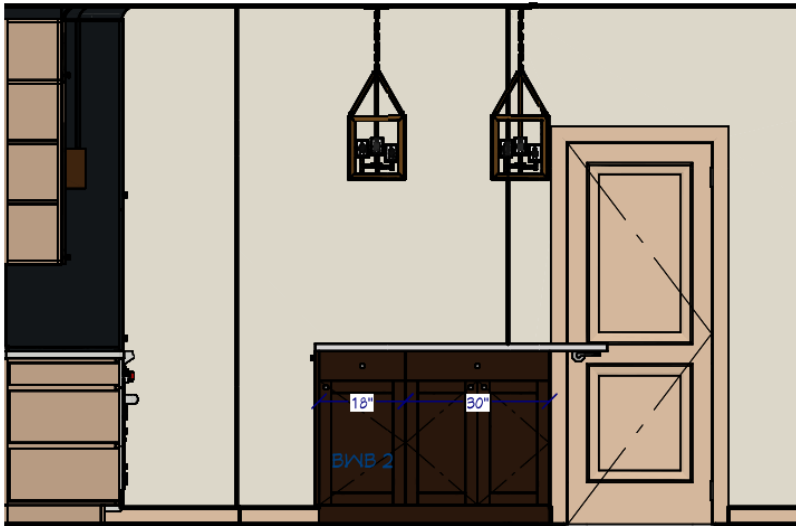
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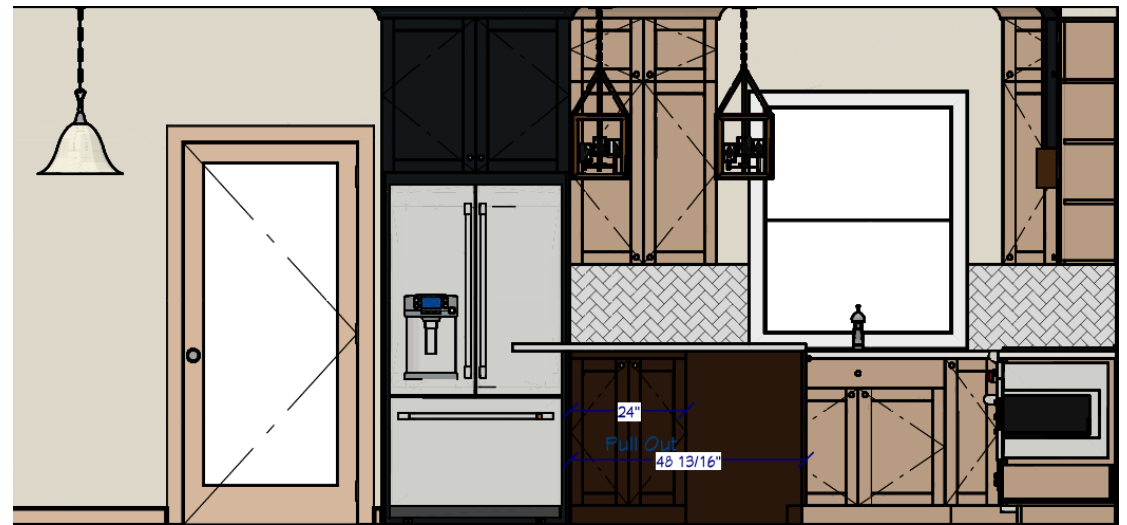
ELEVATIONS – ISLAND FRONT, SIDE, BACK



ELEVATION 3: ISLAND FRONT



ELEVATION 4: Island Side



ELEVATION 5: ISLAND BACK

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PROJECT CHALLENGES

The project had its fair share of challenges, primarily in blending new and existing elements to create a cohesive look. One big hurdle was harmonizing the new cabinet finishes with the existing honey oak floor, maple trim and mahogany doors. We chose a mix of finishes for a dramatic effect.

Refinishing the honey oak floors with a custom stain to complement both the new and existing wood tones was the solution to the problem. The walnut island cabinets and hood accent add a rich contrast, without overwhelming the space. The painted cabinets add drama without clashing with the light maple cabinets and existing trim.

Another challenging task was maximizing the available usable space. We accomplished this by extending the cabinets to the ceiling and relocating the refrigerator to the opposite side of the kitchen. This refrigerator change created space for a floor-to-ceiling cabinet which provides a dedicated spot for the coffee maker. The coffee cabinet along with a mixer lift in the island keeps countertop clutter at bay. The clients love their new modern space which was all about balancing aesthetics with practical storage needs.



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Innovative Solutions/Craftsmanship

- Cambria Quartz Countertops – 2 different colors
- Maximizing Usable Space by Moving the Refrigerator and Extending Cabinets to ceiling
- LED Recessed Lighting, Microwave Drawer
- Incorporation of Three New Different Cabinet Finishes (Walnut, Painted Maple, & Stained Maple)
- Built-In Coffee Nook
- Mixer Lift and pull-out Garbage/Recycle center
- Eco-friendly re-use of Existing Floors with a Custom, Water Based Stain



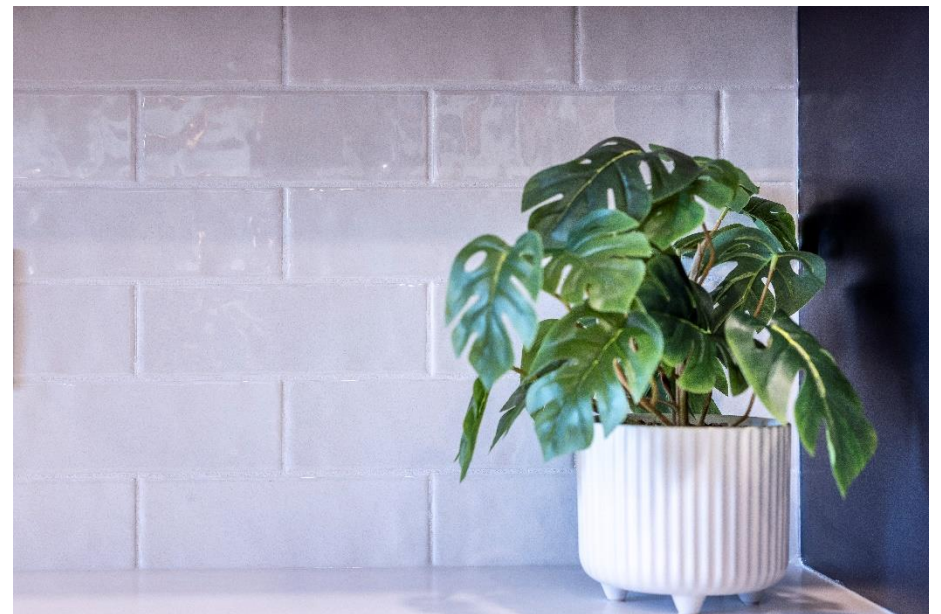
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AESTHETICS



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