

NARI MINNESOTA - REMODELER OF THE YEAR 2026

PROJECT: Framing the Lake

CATEGORY: Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000

This kitchen was designed to give the clients exactly what they wanted: windows surrounded by a soft, tranquil color palette that showcases the lake. As you enter the space light pours through the windows highlighting the oak island and fireplace as places of gathering and warmth.

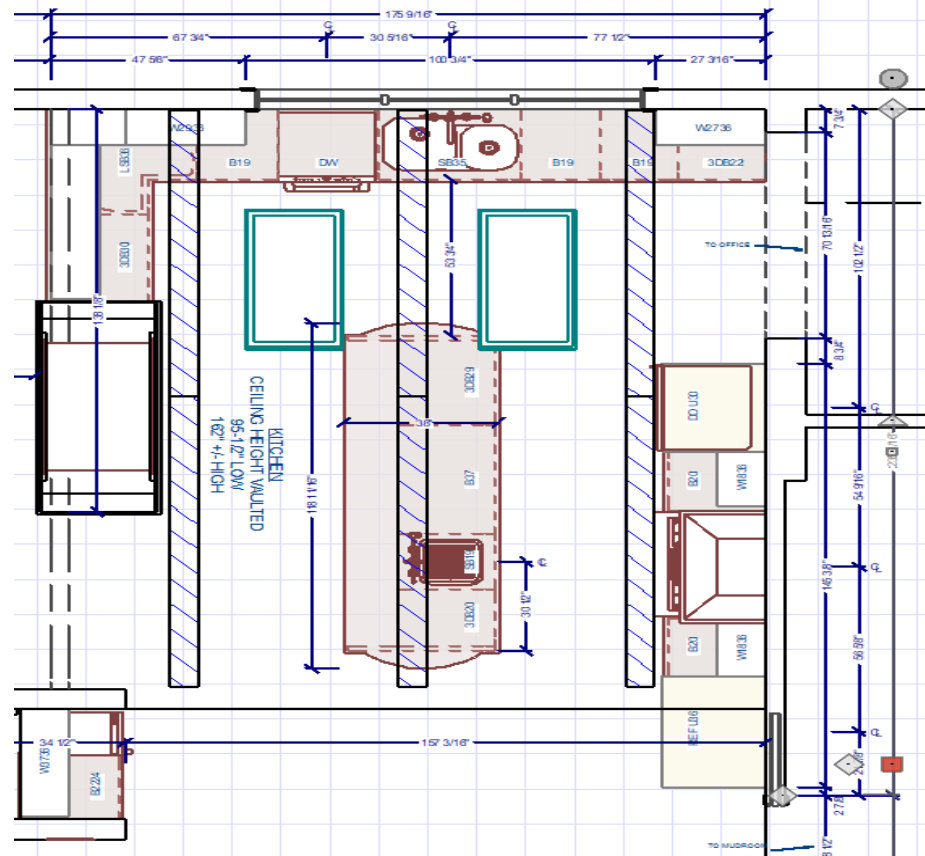
Details were layered with intention from the interwoven lighting to the gold fixtures and hardware that unify the space. The quartzite countertop and backsplash wrap the perimeter and create a sense of calm, while the wood, nestled against the cozy, white, inset cabinets add elegance and a sense of timelessness.

CLIENT NEEDS

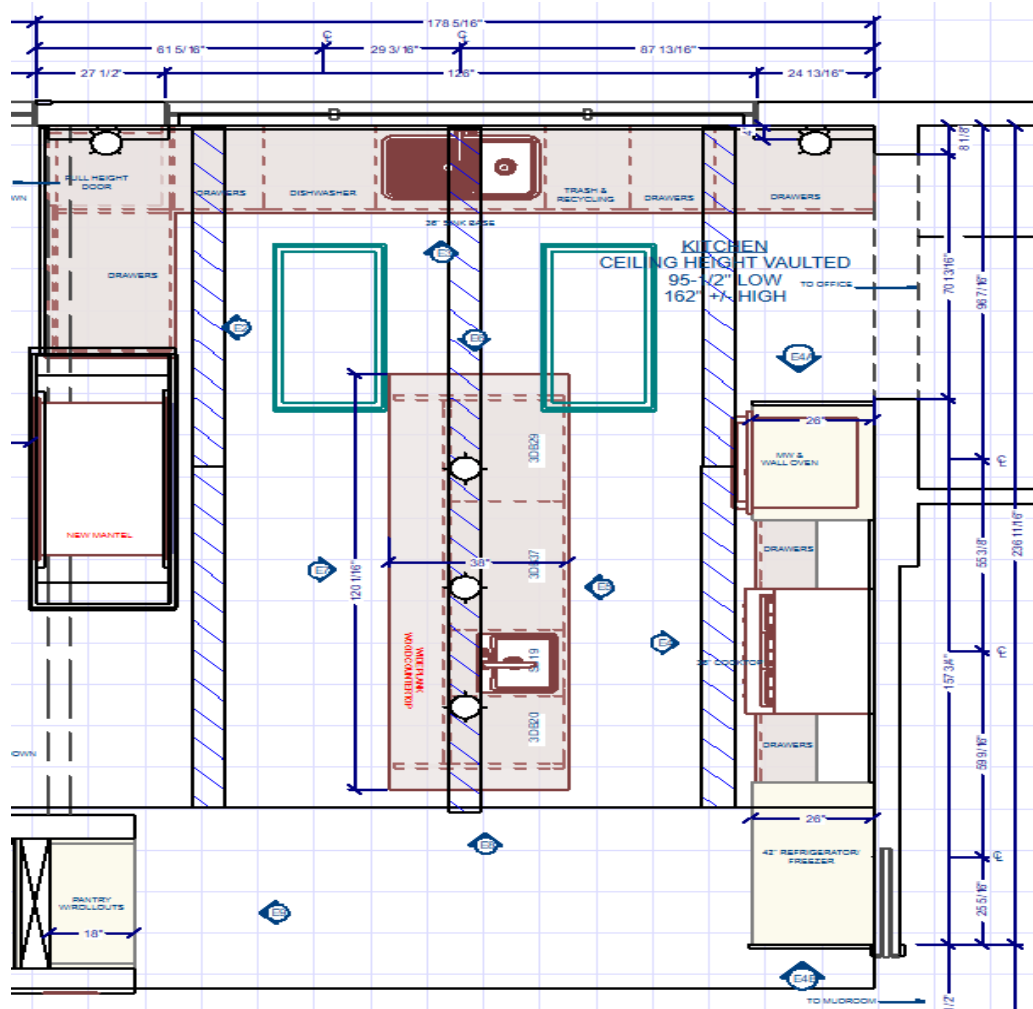
- Larger windows
- Inset cabinetry
- New fireplace mantel
- Redesign dry bar area
- Easy access to paper towels
- New appliances
- Stay within budget



BEFORE FLOOR PLAN Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000



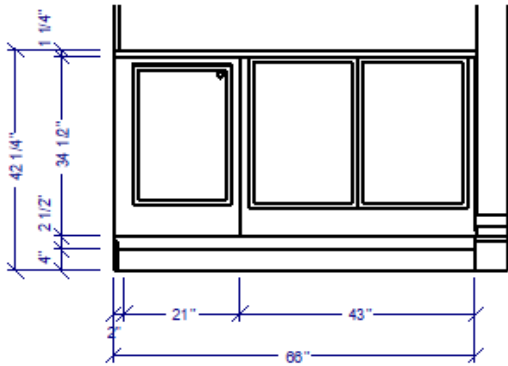
AFTER FLOOR PLAN & PERSPECTIVES Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000



Layout: The clients found that their existing layout worked best for the family. To make the space feel more open, the wall cabinets, around the windows, were removed.

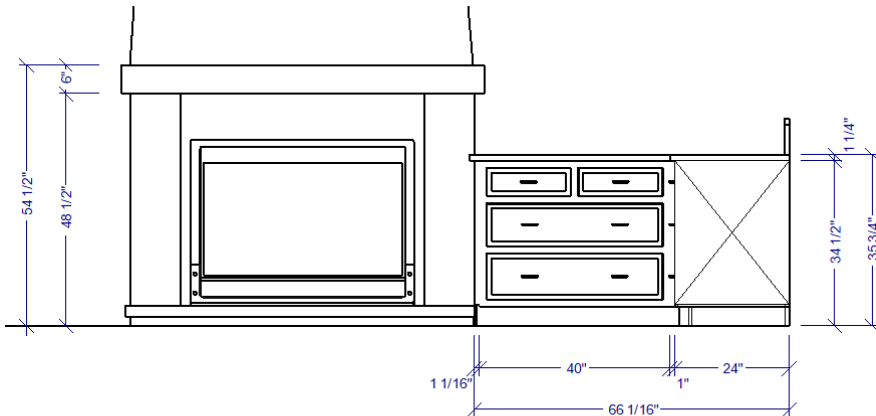


AFTER ELEVATIONS: E1, E2, E3 Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000

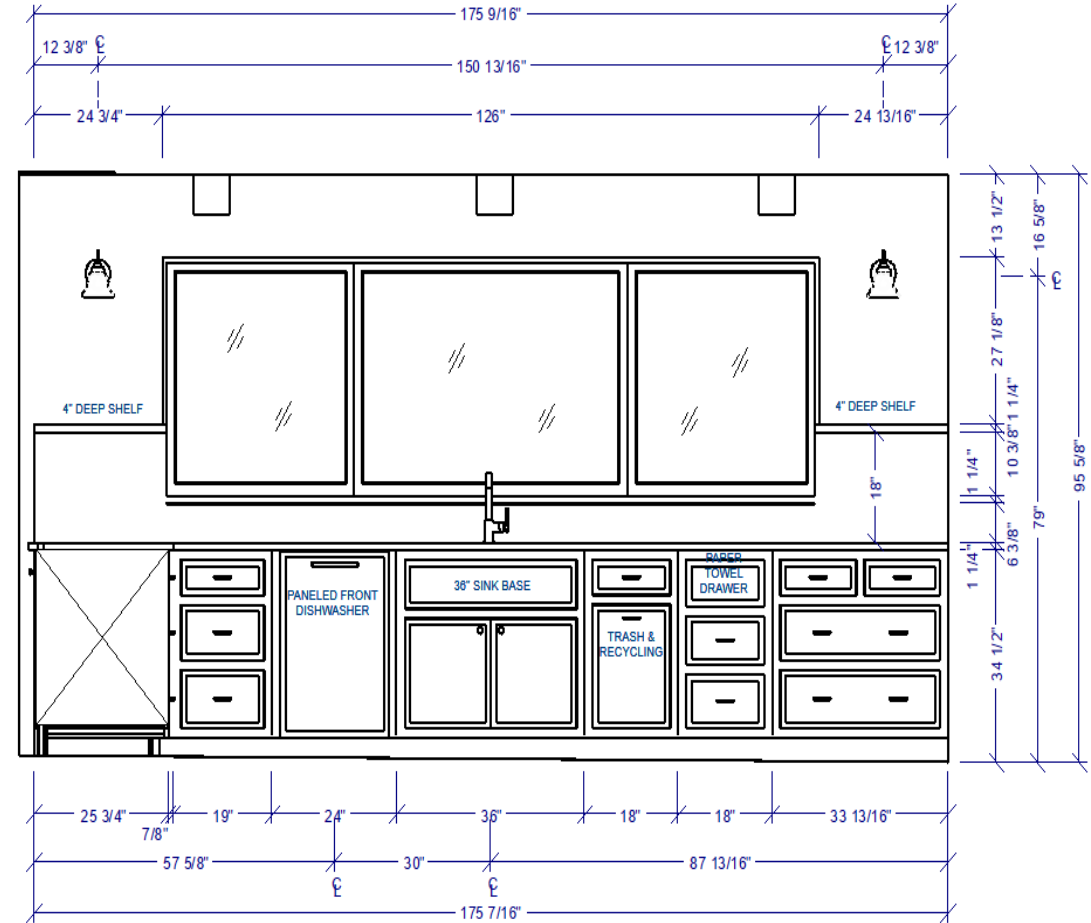


E1

Living Room: A cabinet was added to the sunken Living Room side of the kitchen along with a decorative panel to keep the space accessible and cohesive.



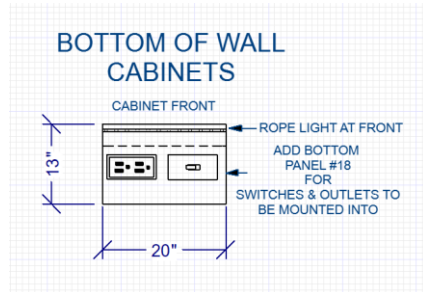
E2



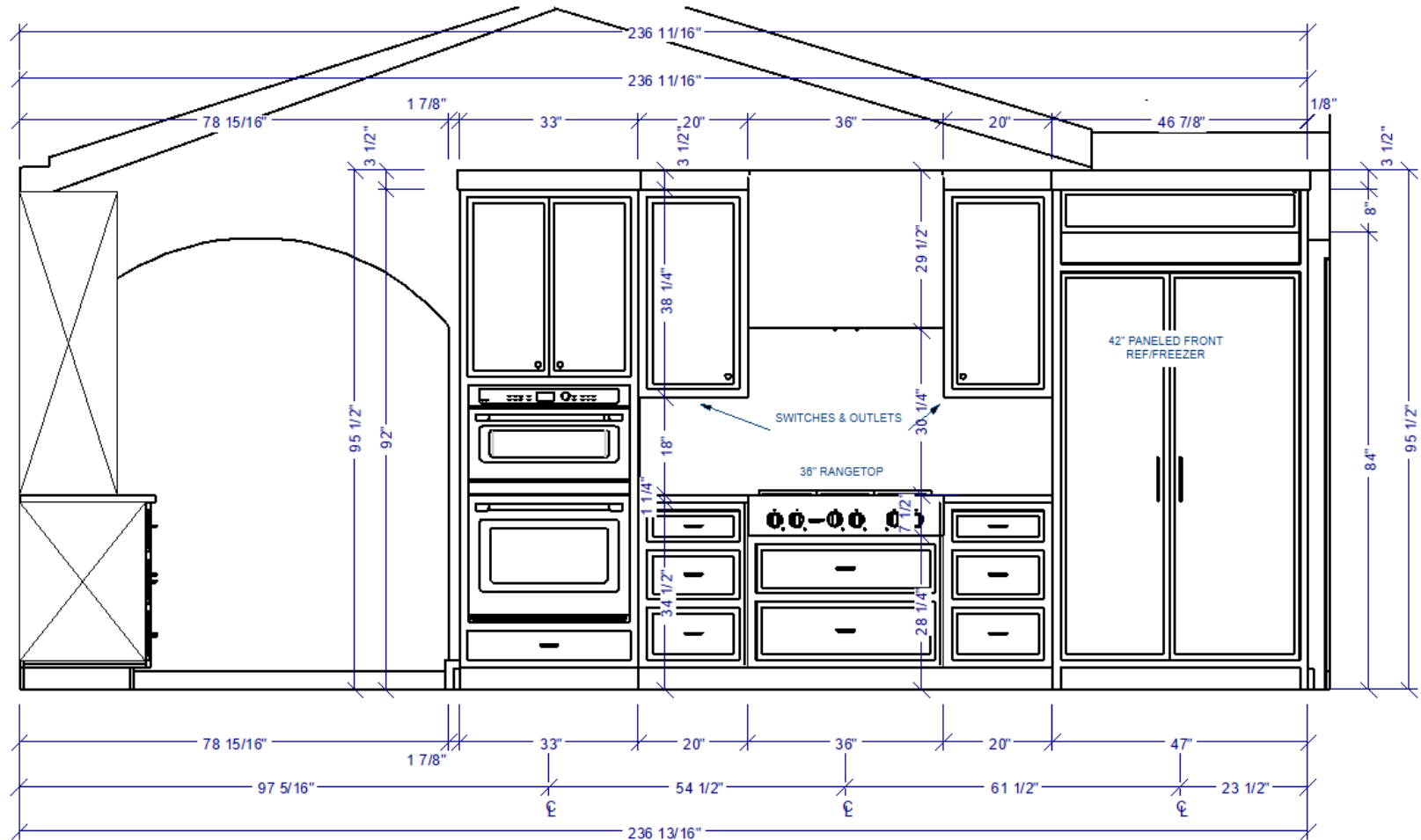
E3

Paper Towels: A Rev-A-Shelf Paper Towel Drawer System was added next to the sink for quick and easy access.

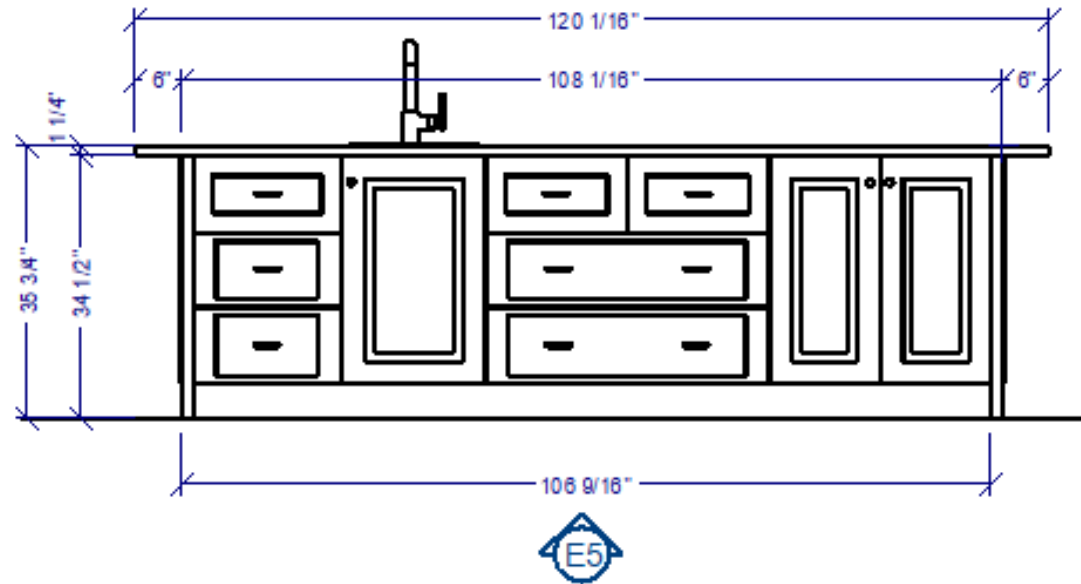
AFTER ELEVATION: E4 Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000



Backsplash: At the rangetop, to maintain the visual fluidity of the quartzite, a box was designed beneath the wall cabinets to house the switches and outlets.

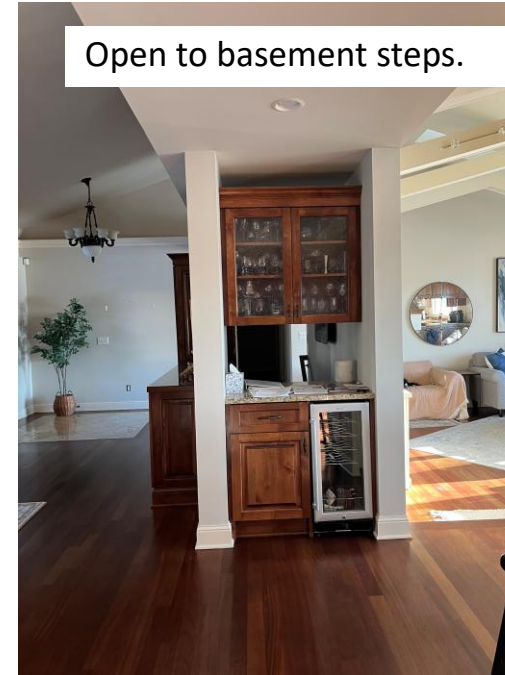


AFTER ELEVATION: E5 Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000



Island: The original island cabinets were painted to match the perimeter cabinets to keep costs down.

BEFORE PHOTOS Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000



Open to basement steps.



Extra tall vent hood.



Wall cabinets block view.
Make space feel tight.



Fussy mantel.

BEFORE AND AFTER Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000



PROJECT CHALLENGES Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000

WINDOWS: To increase the window widths as rendered in the drawings, a beam would have been necessary.

Staying within their budget, the clients opted for three separate windows with posts between each one.



Posts were run from the window header to the basement footings to shore up support on the window wall.

BEFORE



RENDERING



AFTER



FUNCTIONALITY – P1 Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000

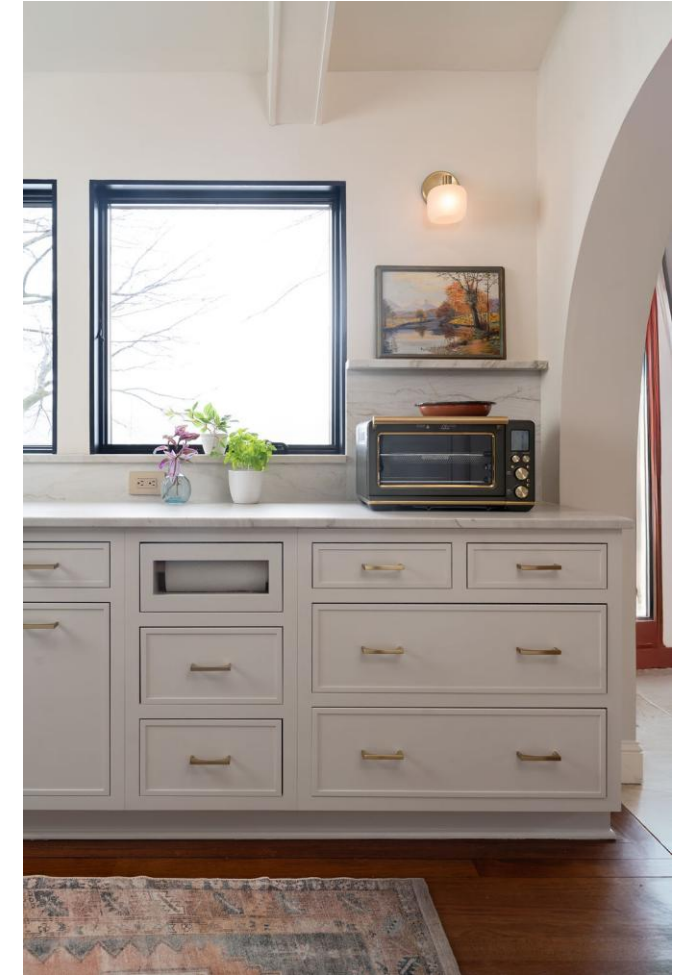
- The window casings were removed and the interiors painted black to help draw your eye towards the lake
- Windows were added on either side of the existing living room window to extend the views even further
- At the rangetop, to keep the beautiful quartzite backsplash pristine, a box was designed beneath the wall cabinets to house switches and outlets



FUNCTIONALITY – P2 Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000



- A Rev-A-Shelf Paper Towel Drawer System was added next to the sink for paper towel access
- Extra overhang on the ends of the island increase seating for the family of five
- Lighting was layered to enhance mood and functionality from keeping the existing track lighting to the hand selected fixtures that add personality and polish
- New Wolf / SubZero appliances ensure quality and functionality well into the future



FUNCTIONALITY – P3 Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000



- The original dry bar area was redesigned into a pantry with rollout shelves to make snacks readily available and to completely block the basement steps located behind



AESTHETICS Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000



- Warm white inset cabinets and quartzite countertops and backsplash create a calming aesthetic
- Plaster on the vent hood and fireplace introduce texture
- The white oak butcher block island countertop and mantel add warmth and ground the space
- Rohl Satin English Gold faucets and gold outlets inject flair and luxury
- Bringing the vent hood in line with the adjacent cabinets creates symmetry, maintaining the tranquil vibe
- Visually opening the area between the kitchen and living room invites natural light and lake views



PROJECT SUMMARY Framing the Lake - Residential Interior \$100,000-250,000



The design achieves exactly what the clients envisioned: a serene kitchen that welcomes family and integrates the lake. It is a true reflection of their spirit, blending quiet elegance with modern sensibility to create the kitchen they intended.