

A wide-angle photograph of a modern kitchen. The kitchen features white shaker-style cabinets with brass handles. A large island with a dark countertop and a dark wood base is in the center. A built-in wine cooler is integrated into the island's base. The backsplash is made of white subway tiles. A window above the sink provides natural light. Three pendant lights hang over the island. A bar area with a wooden shelf holding bottles and glasses is visible on the right. The floor is made of light-colored wood.

Homeward Hills Kitchen Remodel

Residential Kitchen | \$200,000 and Over

Client Needs | Before

The homeowners wanted to bring more life to a kitchen that had gone essentially untouched since 1992 — refreshing the outdated aesthetic while finally gaining real storage. They approached the remodel with a keen eye for both function and design.

We prioritized the following goals:

- Create a more efficient, inviting kitchen within the home's existing footprint.
- Gain additional storage through a hidden walk-in pantry and smarter cabinet design.
- Improve traffic flow and open sightlines through the main living spaces.
- Refresh the outdated golden-oak aesthetic with a cohesive, timeless design.



Before & After



BEFORE



AFTER

Before & After



BEFORE



AFTER

Challenges & Solutions

Structural Obstruction

A load-bearing post in the middle of the main living area blocked any real reconfiguration. Resolved with custom steel beams and a structural engineer's input, priced separately so the homeowners could weigh the investment.

Insufficient Storage

Cupboards were packed so tightly that reaching one item meant unloading everything in front of it. Resolved with a walk-in pantry hidden behind what looks like ordinary cabinetry.

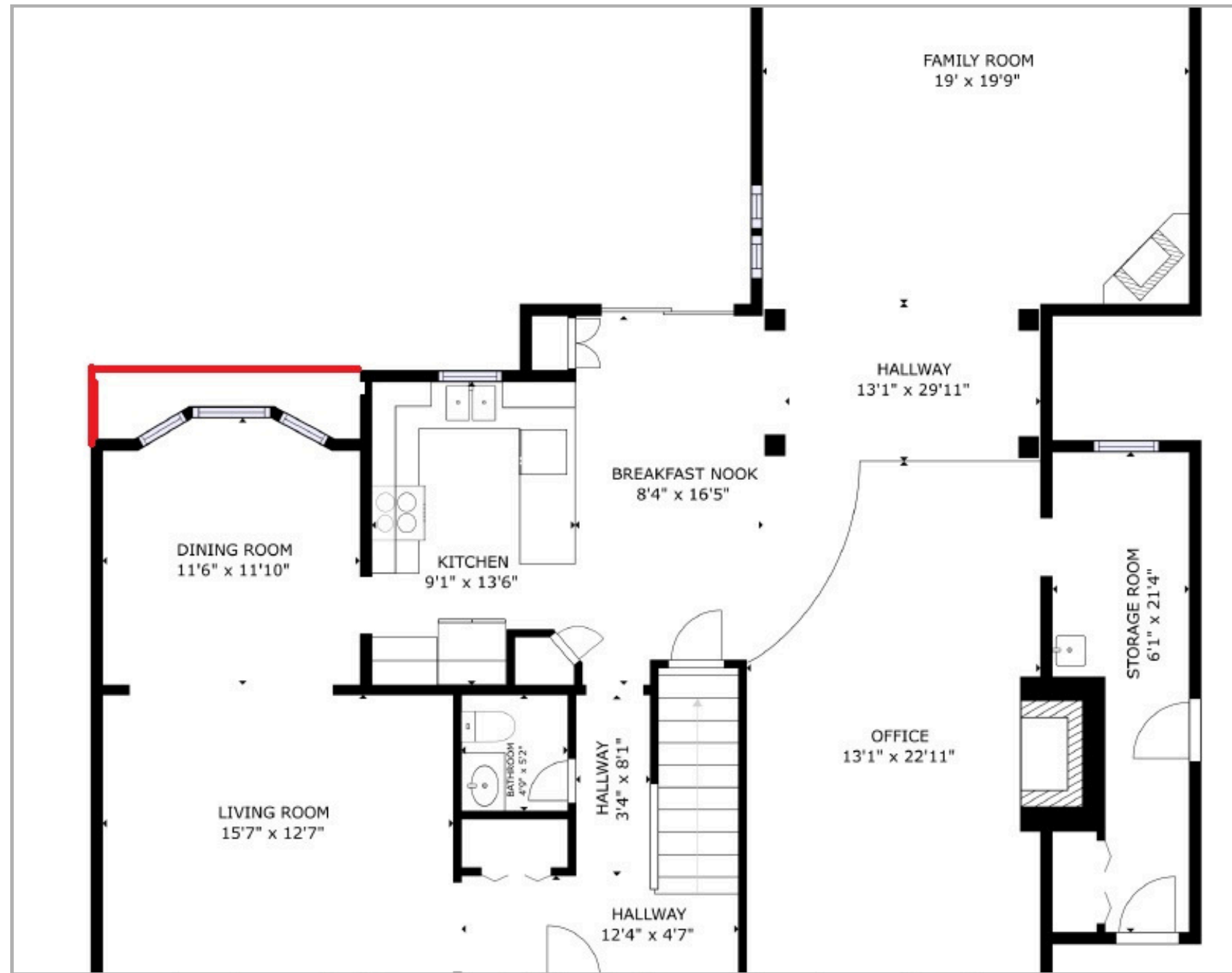
Limited Space for Gathering

The homeowners wanted a cozy seating area near the kitchen, but space was tight. Resolved by expanding into the former dining room plus a small rear addition, fitting two chairs into the new layout without closing the kitchen back in.

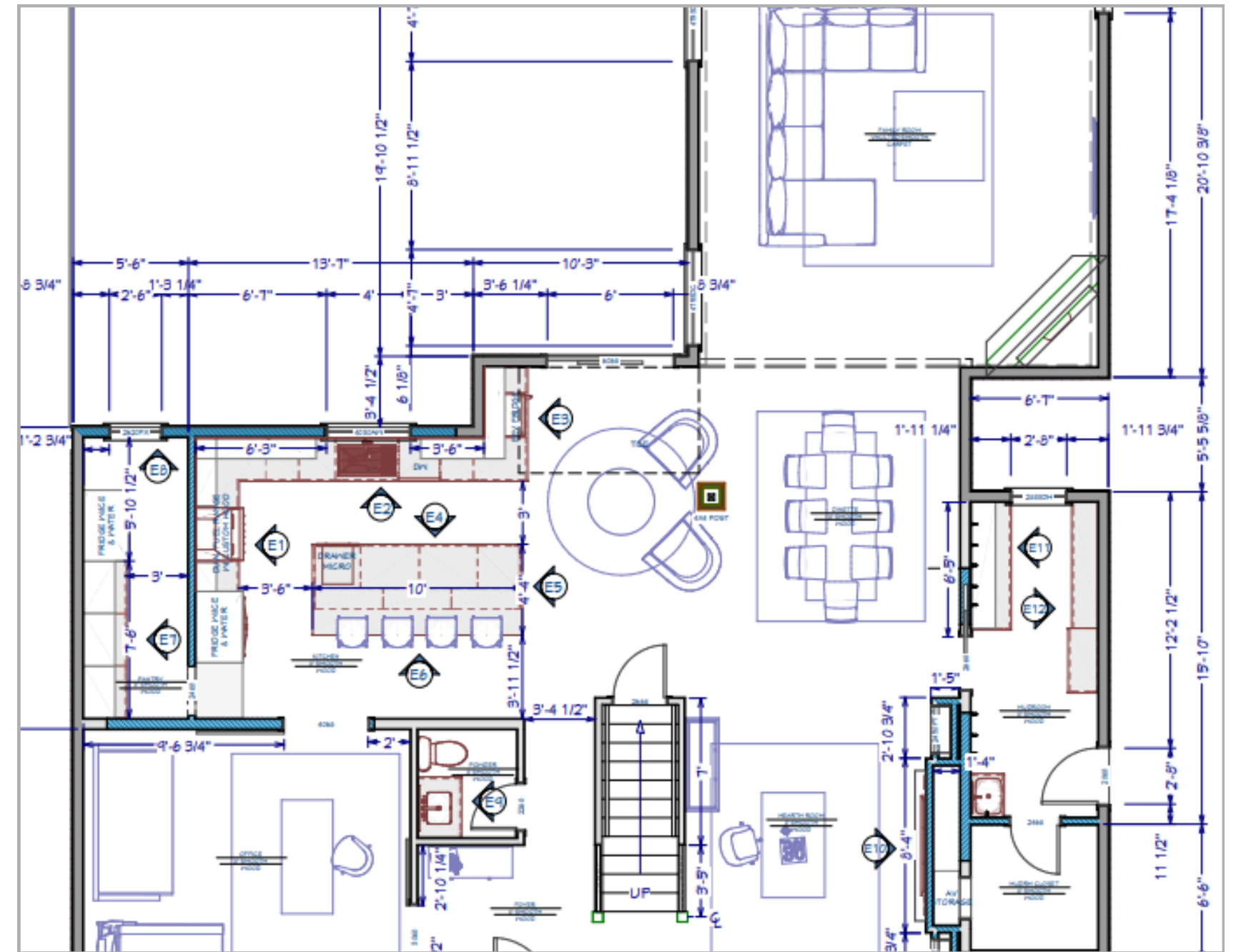
New-to-the-Team Technique

The homeowners wanted a hands-free, touch-activated trash drawer the team had never installed before. Resolved by researching the mechanism and building it in — now used every day.

Before & After | Floor Plans



BEFORE



AFTER

Hidden Walk-In Pantry

A walk-in pantry entered through what appears to be an ordinary cabinet door — the detail visitors react to first.



Craftsmanship & Aesthetic

Every detail was engineered around the homeowners' needs. Custom steel beams removed the structural post invisibly, opening the whole main floor. A touch-activated trash drawer pairs with a fold-down built-in cutting board just above it, sweeping scraps straight into the bin. Precise cabinetry work disguises the pantry entrance as ordinary cabinet fronts. The homeowners wanted to leave the dated golden-oak look behind for a light-filled, timeless feel. Their design partner introduced a refined, cohesive material palette bringing warmth and a modern-organic feel, while long, open sightlines through the main living spaces make the whole home feel larger.



Results

- Removing the structural post and reworking the floor plan made the space read as dramatically larger than its footprint.
- Kitchen now functions as the true hub of the main floor, with open connectivity to living and dining areas.
- Everyday friction points — storage, trash, traffic flow — solved with purpose-built features used daily.



