

DESIGN EXCELLENCE



Pyramid Builders *Custom Remodel*

The homeowner's vision for this whole house remodel, designed by architect Scarlett Breeding of Alt Breeding Schwarz Architects, was to transform the old home's dated and inefficient layout into a spacious showcase. The original home, formerly owned by a high-ranking government official, is sited on the edge of a steep valley in a quiet neighborhood in downtown Washington, D.C. A three-story addition was added that complements the existing architectural vernacular. Expanding the stone faced rear terrace allowed living spaces to flow easily to the outside spaces. The challenges of the project were many. Limited access to the rear yard and extreme slopes made materials, equipment delivery, and extensive landscaping difficult. Creative solutions included building temporary retaining walls and access ways, and using an arborist to help build the foundation around the roots of a large tree.