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RISING ABOVE THE NORM IN ALBANY

CONTENT PROVIDED BY EISENMANN ARCHITECTURE
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK COMPTON

“...illustrating the house’s blend of form and function.”



In vibrant Albany, this residence stands as a beacon of inventive design, skillfully navigating unexpected challenges. A family's dream to remodel their home encountered a hiccup when local regulations contested the legality of the existing basement. A creative solution was developed, revamping the home to cater to the demands of modern living.

An extensive comparison of the options, including excavating a new basement versus adding a second floor, led to an astonishing solution—raising the house four feet to create a new story beneath. The result? A spacious first floor with lofty 10-foot ceilings that houses the living, dining, and kitchen areas, and a repurposed upper level for serene bedrooms.

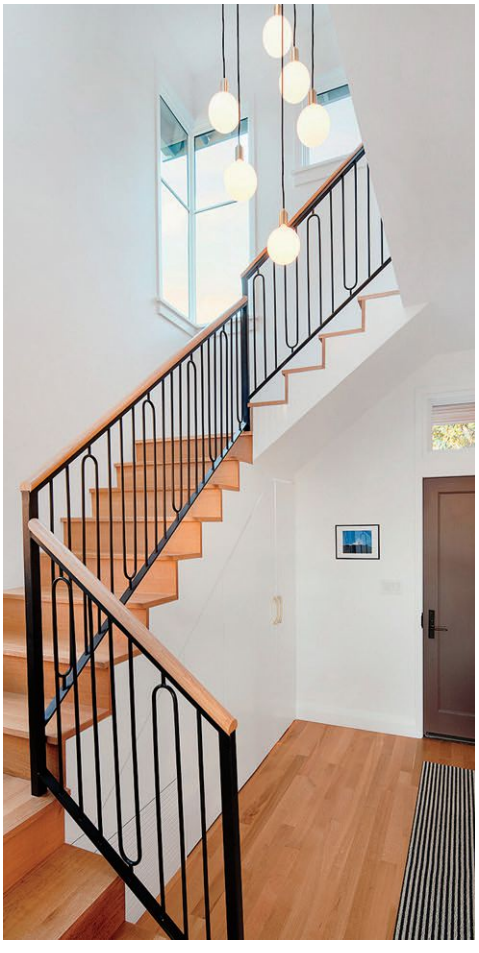
Crucial to this transformation was the strategic utilization of natural light. A variety of window shapes and sizes add playful interplays of light, while cathedral ceilings and carefully chosen window placements make the main bedroom a light-filled oasis.

A generous front porch with a bench and trellis invites community interaction, and is mirrored at the rear deck, which leads to a personalized garden. Additional storage is ingeniously concealed beneath a beautifully detailed staircase, illustrating the house's blend of form and function.

This home boasts a tranquil palette, courtesy of soothing blue-gray and oak cabinetry and quarter sawn oak floors, and further accentuated by a blue stucco exterior, green trim, bronze windows, and a deep plum door.

Born of necessity, this architectural project overcame obstacles to craft a visually captivating, modern, functional home, standing as a testament to strategic problem-solving and encapsulating the spirit of architectural transformation.





Page 75: Enhancing the house's elevation by raising it four feet resulted in an expansive and inviting first floor.

Page 76: Incorporating personalized shelving in the living room sofa nook not only maximizes storage space but also adds a captivating visual element.

Page 77 (top): The kitchen showcases an interplay of finishes that effectively breaks up the elongated cabinetry lines, while infusing brightness and creating a delightful contrast.

Page 77 (bottom): The design of the stairwell not only allows ample natural light to flood the entryway but also incorporates storage solutions for added functionality.

Eisenmann Architecture is a Bay Area and Lake Tahoe firm committed to improving the quality of their clients' lives through inspired design solutions. **www.eisenmannarchitecture.com**