

## kitchen

the prep area, which segues to a wall with a built-in refrigerator next to the hutchlike pantry. "In any kitchen, it's vital to separate the fridge from the cook area, so each function doesn't interfere with the other," says Gleysteen. The other side of the island is the dining area, which assumes its own sensibility within the open room. "Each area works independently, to add up to the room's overall function and livability. Balance was key," Gleysteen says.

Cleaning out the century-old architectural impediments meant that the back staircase became history. Instead, there is just one main staircase, which Gleysteen says is "the epicenter of the house." A "Good morning" landing at the lower end opens to the formal front of the house on one side and the more casual kitchen on the other. It is a charming nod to the house's early 20th-century heritage that enabled Gleysteen to integrate a contemporary floor plan into a traditional house without radically disturbing the original flow.

"It all came together so smoothly," says the home-

**THE DINING SIDE** of the kitchen has generous views to the garden and a table that extends for games and lounging, as well as for family meals and entertaining. The new mudroom provides access from the driveway or backyard and organized storage space for all outer gear.



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