



A Home Within A Home

2025 BAY AREA REMODELING AWARDS

CATEGORY: DETACHED STRUCTURE

BACKGROUND

The clients have a growing family and frequently host relatives for extended stays. They needed a private, functional home office for focused work and calls, as well as a guest suite that could comfortably accommodate long-term visitors. The main house lacked space for these needs, prompting the addition of a separate yet connected ADU.

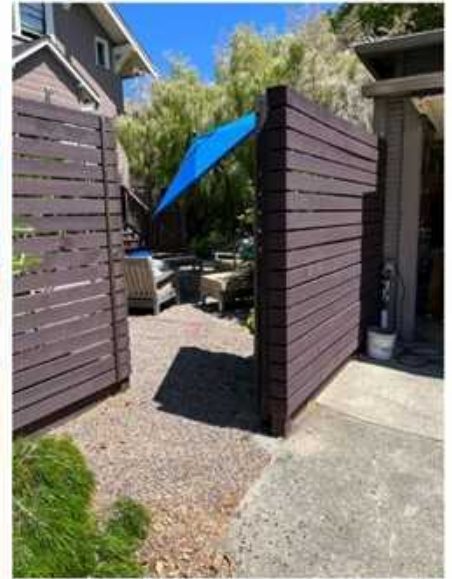
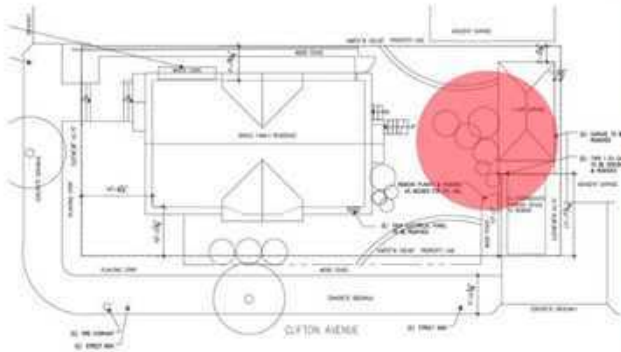
PROJECT STATEMENT

This ADU provides a fully independent living space while maintaining a visual and functional connection to the main house. It features a spacious office with vaulted ceilings and custom cabinetry, a compact yet efficient kitchen with a peninsula for prep and seating, a comfortable living area with a built-in fireplace, and a guest bedroom and bathroom designed for privacy, accessibility, and long-term comfort. Large bifold doors seamlessly connect the ADU to the outdoors, maximizing light and flow throughout the space.

Client Needs

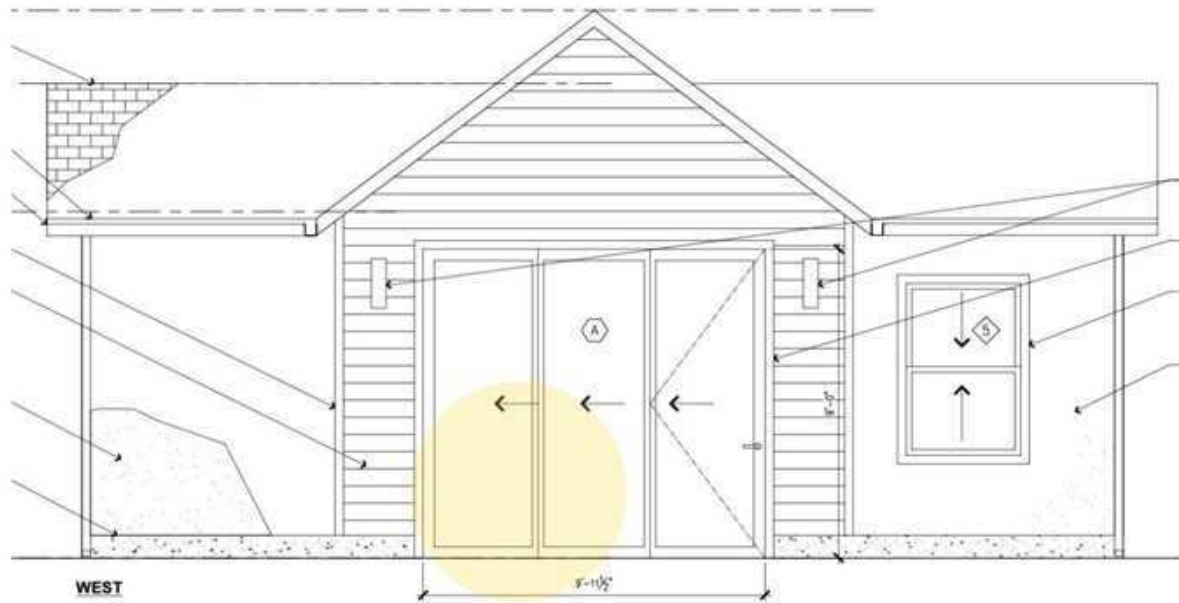
Existing Floor Plan

- Before construction, the property included only the main house, with no dedicated space for guests or a home office. To make room for the new ADU, the existing garage was removed and the surrounding landscaping was cleared and regraded. The ADU was planned as a standalone structure at the rear of the lot, creating a private yet connected space without disrupting the main home's daily flow.



Client Needs

Floor Plan - Exterior



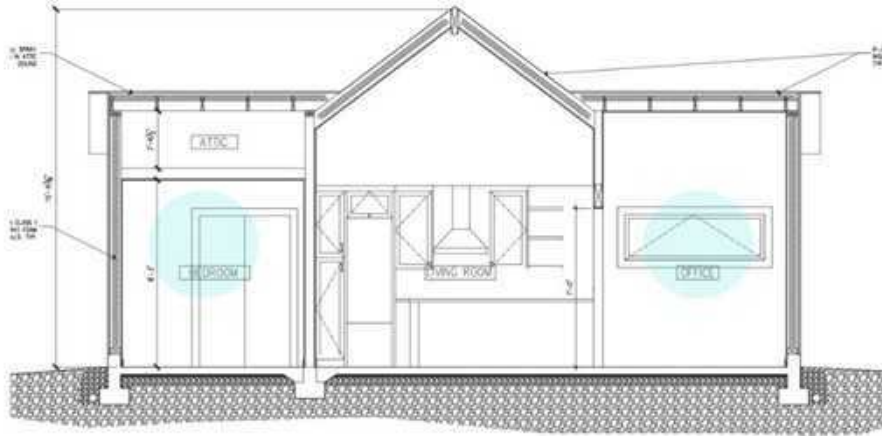
01

Bifold Doors:

Seamlessly connect the ADU living/kitchen area to the outdoors and create a visual link to the main house.

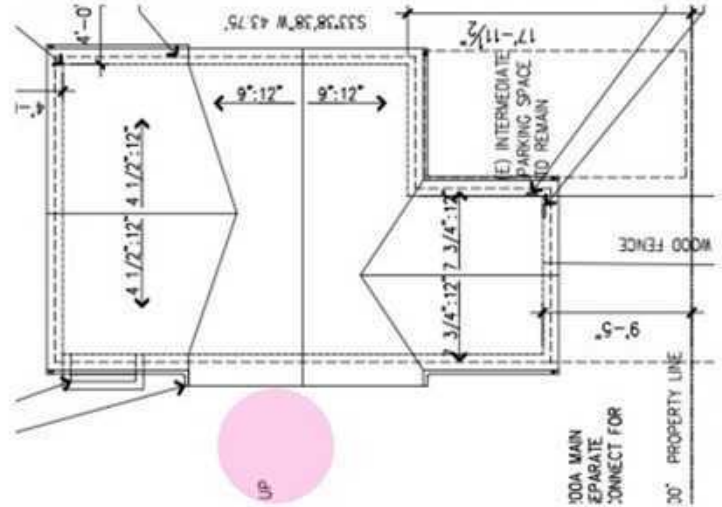
Client Needs

Floor Plan - Exterior



02

Privacy by Layout: Office and guest suite positioned at opposite ends to maintain separation from the main house activities.



03

Maximize Outdoor Space: Efficiently use yard area around the ADU for functionality and flow, while creating a cohesive, visually appealing connection between the new structure, the main house, and the surrounding landscape.

The Living Area

A Connection to the Kitchen & Outdoors

INTERIOR RESULTS



01

The living area serves as the central hub of the ADU, seamlessly connecting to the kitchen and outdoor spaces. A built-in electric fireplace and wall-mounted TV create a comfortable, functional space for both relaxation and gatherings, while the layout allows natural light from the bifold doors to fill the room.

The Office

Productive & Private Workspace

INTERIOR RESULTS



- 02 This dedicated office provides a quiet, functional space for focused work. Vaulted ceilings and abundant natural light enhance the room's airy feel, while custom built-in cabinetry maximizes storage and organization. Thoughtful layout and sound separation from the guest suite ensure privacy for calls and concentration.

The Kitchen

Efficient & Inviting

INTERIOR RESULTS



- 03 The kitchen supports both gathering and everyday tasks, featuring a peninsula with seating, an induction cooktop, fridge, and deep utility sink with pull-down faucet. Generous storage and thoughtful appliance placement make the space highly functional while keeping it connected to the living area and outdoors.

The Bedroom

Comfortable & Private

INTERIOR RESULTS



- 04 The bedroom offers a restful space for long-term visitors, featuring a large window for natural light, a closet for storage, a ceiling fan, and a minisplit for year-round comfort. Its location opposite the office ensures privacy while maintaining a connection to the shared living areas.

The Bathroom

Accessible, Functional, & Well Lit

INTERIOR RESULTS



05

The full bathroom is designed for comfort, accessibility, and long-term use. It features a curbless walk-in shower with glass enclosure, a window for natural light, a storage vanity, and an exhaust fan.

Thoughtful layout and finishes make the space both practical and inviting for guests.

The Bifold Doors

Blurring the Line Between Indoors and Outdoors.

EXTERIOR RESULTS



- 01** Large bifold doors open the living and kitchen area directly to the yard, extending the usable living space and creating a seamless indoor-outdoor flow. When open, they frame views of the yard and main house, visually connecting the two structures while preserving the ADU's standalone feel.

Privacy by Layout

Distinct Zones

EXTERIOR RESULTS



- 02** The office and guest suite are thoughtfully positioned at opposite ends of the ADU, creating clear separation between work, living, and guest spaces. This layout ensures privacy, minimizes noise interference, and allows both residents and visitors to enjoy their areas independently while maintaining an efficient flow throughout the ADU.

Maximize Outdoor Space

Aesthetic & Functional

EXTERIOR RESULTS



- 03** The yard surrounding the ADU is thoughtfully organized to create functional outdoor areas while maintaining a visually appealing layout. Pathways, open spaces, and landscaping work together to enhance flow, provide usable areas for activities, and complement the design of the detached structure, and reinforce the connection between indoor and outdoor living.

Light and Space

Bright, Airy, Connected

AESTHETIC HIGHLIGHTS



Vaulted ceilings, large windows, and sliding bifold doors fill the ADU with natural light and a sense of openness. The layout connects the living, kitchen, and outdoor areas, creating a seamless flow and emphasizing the spaciousness despite the ADU's compact footprint.

Color and Texture Harmony

Bathroom, Office, and Kitchen

AESTHETIC HIGHLIGHTS



The bathroom features a light blue patterned shower niche set against bright white tile.



The office combines custom white built-ins and walls with a contrasting blue accent wall, visually expanding the space. In the kitchen, white countertops pair with a horizontal blue backsplash and coordinating blue pendant lights, creating a cohesive and vibrant color palette throughout the ADU.

Indoor Outdoor Connection

Flow & Texture

AESTHETIC HIGHLIGHTS



The ADU's open-concept living and kitchen area flows seamlessly to the outdoors through expansive bifold doors, creating a strong indoor-outdoor connection. Warm walnut hardwood floors and natural wood siding contrast with bright white walls and cabinetry, providing depth and balance. Subtle variations in texture, from smooth countertops to rich wood grain, add dimension and a layered, inviting feel throughout the space.

Cabinetry & Woodwork

Precision in Form & Function

CRAFTSMANSHIP HIGHLIGHTS



Custom cabinetry throughout the ADU showcases expert design and precision construction. Office cabinets are built within a soffit to conceal vents, and the kitchen features spice pull-outs, double trash drawers, a prep sink with disposal, and a vented beverage fridge. Seamless walnut hardwood floors connect the spaces, while decorative wood siding paired with creamy white stucco creates a cohesive, refined finish.

Tile and Structural Details

Thoughtful Details, Lasting Impact

CRAFTSMANSHIP HIGHLIGHTS



Tile work throughout the ADU highlights attention to detail, including a striking patterned blue shower niche and smooth bright white tiles. Vaulted ceilings, carefully executed trim, and soffit work demonstrate expert construction, ensuring every element reflects superior craftsmanship and precision.

Finished ADU – A Complete Transformation

Seamless Design, Function, and Style

THE FINAL RESULTS

The ADU delivers a fully functional, stylish, and private space that meets the clients' needs for work, guests, and family life. The office is tucked away for privacy, while the guest suite provides a comfortable retreat. At the center, the kitchen and living area form the social hub, encouraging connection and shared moments. Large bifold doors open fully to create a seamless transition to the outdoors and maximize natural light, while the exterior door ensures convenient access. Every detail, from custom cabinetry to tile accents and vaulted ceilings, reflects thoughtful design, expert craftsmanship, and a cohesive, inviting aesthetic.



Final Results



Final Results



Final Results



Final Results



Final Results



Final Results



Final Results

