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~ Dana Tomlinson, Tomlinson & Sons, Inc.

## Architectural Perfection Designed with Italian Charm

Franklin Lake home combines Tuscan style, rustic details and stunning seasonal views.

BY WANDA PERKINS | PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY CAULFIELD STUDIOS



↑ Pictured are Rita and Dana Tomlinson of Tomlinson and Sons, Inc.

← Rustic cedar siding with Chico Buff rock creates a stunning exterior appearance. A circular driveway enhances flagstone landscaping and natural plantings.

↓ The lakeside exterior shows expansive windows, a deck from the master suite, and outdoor landscaping and sitting areas that enjoy wonderful views of Franklin Lake.

Sometimes opportunities and timing just seem to fall perfectly in place. That’s what these homeowners experienced when they viewed a 1.25-acre undeveloped steep lot on Franklin Lake that was tucked in a cul-de-sac on a gravel road near Pelican Rapids. Although they never initially planned to build or own a lake home, their Tuscan style home became a magnificent example of architectural perfection, exquisite workmanship and quality details.

The couple met with Dana Tomlinson, Tomlinson & Sons of Detroit Lakes on the site to discuss building a lake home that would capture stunning,





↑ A 4-season porch adjacent to the kitchen with a rustic rock fireplace and stunning wood ceiling is perfect for casual sitting, visiting and afternoon naps.



↑ From the entryway, a dynamic layout displays the open kitchen, dining area and living room. Hand-

forged iron detailing is evident throughout their home as shown in the staircase, light fixtures and doors.

three-sided views of Franklin Lake. “The initial stage of the building process is an exciting one,” explains Dana Tomlinson of Tomlinson & Sons, Inc., Detroit Lakes, MN. “I remember standing with our new clients on this exceptional piece of property dreaming of the home’s potential views and

orientation to the sun, while envisioning the style. Moving forward, we had the opportunity to collaborate with a fantastic team to build a home that will be enjoyed for years to come.”

Dana and Rita Tomlinson referred architect, Anthony Stoll, AIA, bhh Partners,

Planners/Architects. Stoll recalls the homeowners requested an exterior that had rustic finishes yet maintained some elegant details. Their desire culminated into a one-story home with a walk-out basement, three bedrooms and four baths.

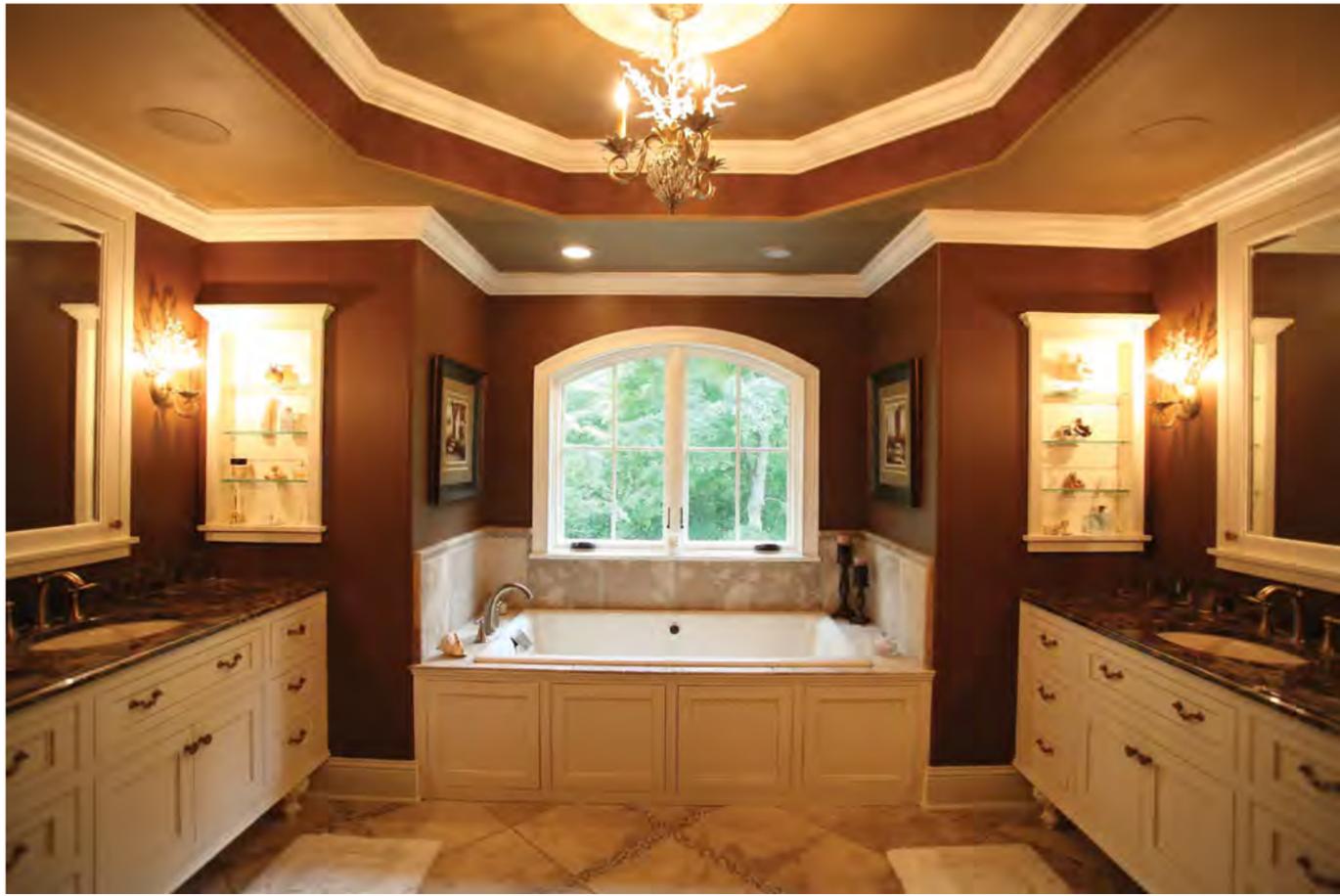
“Some of these details include a circular



A favorite room of the homeowner, the kitchen is equipped with a circular island, Wolf appliances, overhead beams, decorative bronze stove tiles and tumbled limestone.



A vaulted ceiling with exposed arched beams in the great room show attention to detail and suburb craftsmanship of this home.



↑ Magnificent architectural tray ceilings in the master bath showcases a brushed gold chandelier, a Kohler jetted soaking tub and gorgeous Travertine tile flooring. Granite countertops blend rich shades of gold, bronze, brown and cream.

↓ Designed like an Italian vineyard, the vintage wine cellar showcases their favorite wine collection. An arched brick ceiling complements an oil-rubbed bronze door, lantern chandelier and slate tile flooring.



drive, a welcoming front porch and sunroom, and timber accents that transfer from the exterior facade into dramatic interior features incorporated within the Great Room ceiling space," Stoll recalls. "Expansive, arched windows allow beautiful lakeside views and easy transition from the outdoors to indoors."

The homeowners' love of Napa Valley wine country in California inspired the rustic but elegant Tuscan style. An autumn color palette, distressed oak flooring, and a stairway with custom-carved wooden newel posts, iron balusters and grapevine detailing enhances the home's Italian design preference.

"We especially enjoy our custom kitchen with its Tuscan charm," she notes. "It's where we entertain, cook favorite dishes and spend the majority of our time."

A tiered cherry island is open to dining and great room spaces. Butter-colored, custom cabinets, granite countertops, Wolf appliances and a candle chandelier combine to create a dynamic kitchen space. A nearby butler's pantry is perfect



↑ The private master suite enjoys picturesque views of Franklin Lake from inside and from an attached deck. A spa-like bath, walk-in closet and fireplace combine to make this a relaxing, peaceful suite.

→ A Travertine tiled master bath shower is equipped with handy built-ins for toiletries. Brushed gold sconces and custom cabinetry beautifully complete the space.

for entertaining, providing additional appliances and workspace.

"The great room fireplace features French stone-carved surround and vaulted ceilings with exposed rustic wood trusses," Lynne Shears, ASID & AIA states. "Detailed custom cabinetry throughout the home was created with an old world look."

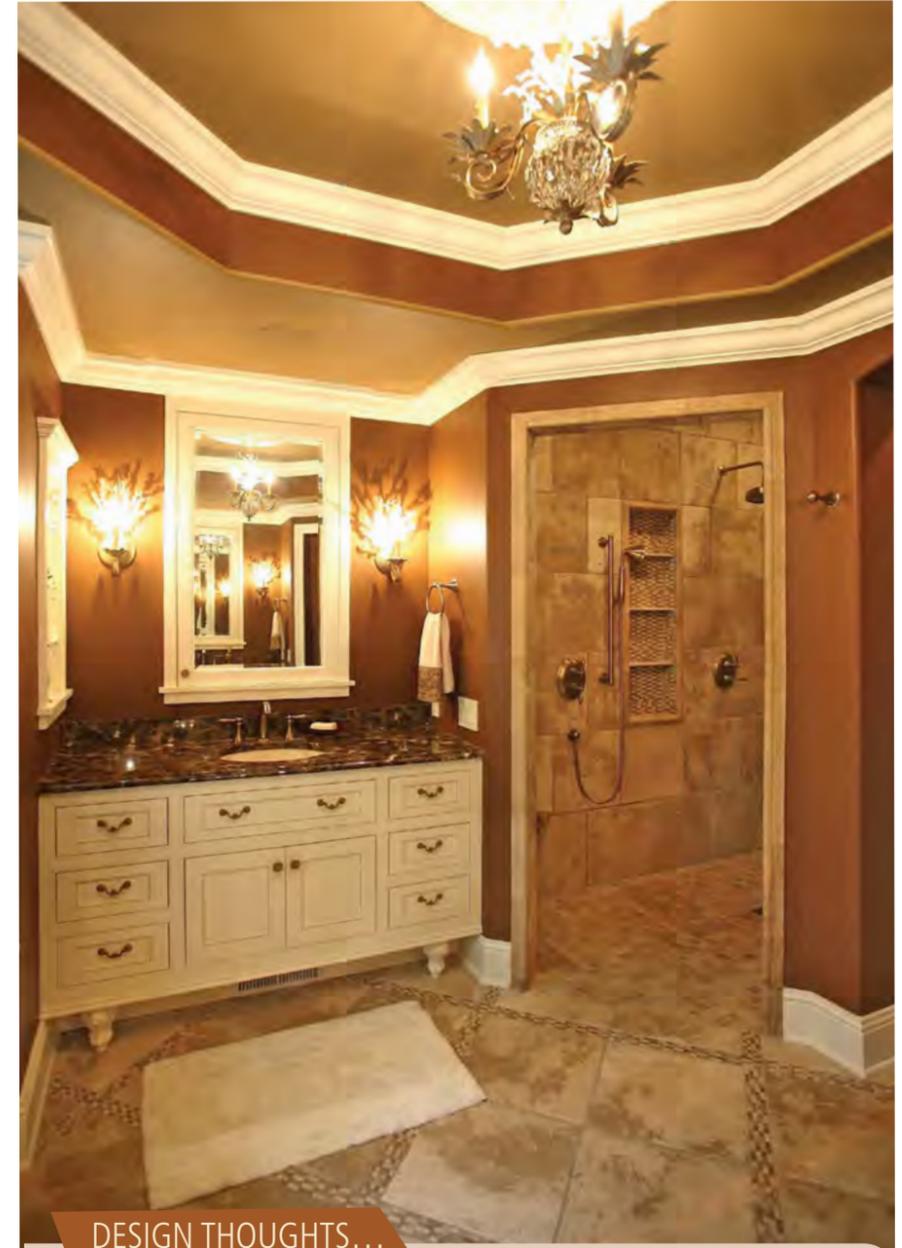
Their master suite includes a private deck, walk-in closet, spa-like bath with a Jacuzzi tub and walk-in shower. "We love the ambiance our gas fireplace brings to our private bedroom," he adds.

On the lower level, a vintage wine cellar combines a barrel-vaulted brick ceiling, mahogany shelving, stone floors and glass doors with iron grill details. An alder bar with granite countertops, living room and additional fireplace complete the space.

"Shortly after the home's completion, we were invited to join the homeowners for a delightful evening of marvelous food, complimented by wines selected from their cellar," Tomlinson reflects. "To have the opportunity to see the home alive was a pleasure and truly rewarding."

Someday, the homeowners hope to visit Italy, where they can sample the flavor and aroma of newly-discovered wines. For now, they enjoy morning coffee time, tossing tennis balls for their cherished golden retrievers, and pontoon rides around their scenic lake home.

"Our home is located in a private setting with gorgeous seasonal views," she concludes. "We love the peaceful comforts it offers us." ❁



### DESIGN THOUGHTS...

"The overall building was designed to tie in with the uniqueness of their site. This includes taking advantage of the site's location at the end of a cul-de-sac which creates a dramatic presentation as you approach the house. The main level focuses on creating an entertainment space that allows main spaces to flow together, taking advantage of lake views. A 4-season porch adjacent to the kitchen provides a casual sitting area with an inviting fireplace."



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Fireplaces: Home & Hearth, Closets: JL Shelving, Electrical: JDP Electric, HVAC: Home Heating, Fireplaces: Gemstone Masonry, Brushes End Painting, Audio/Visual: Custom Cinema and Sound