

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Secrets of the Grass

Safeco Field
is Steve Peeler's turf



NORTHWEST PEOPLE

BY LAWRENCE KREISMAN
PHOTOGRAPHED BY STEVE RINGMAN

Opening Up the Bungalow



This Ravenna bungalow was probably fortunate to have its clapboard covered by asbestos boards for many years. They protected its original sheathing, which is now restored, as are the bargeboards and rafters that give it a charming street presence.

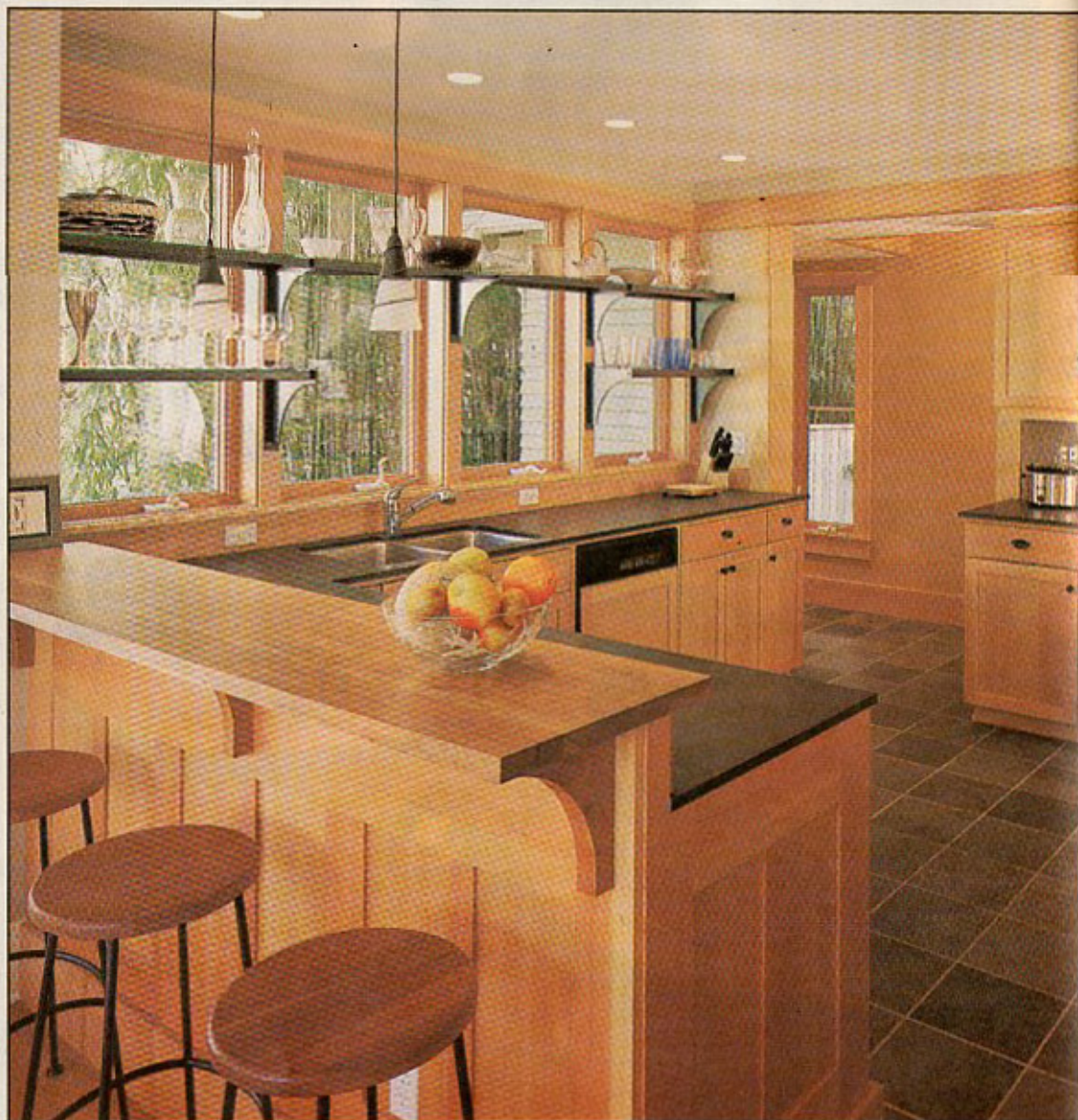
RENEWED INTEREST in the American Arts & Crafts movement has made bungalows — those practical, structurally honest early-20th-century homes — desirable housing once again. People appreciate the informal plans and handsome woodwork, the brick, stone and river rock foundations and chimneys, the broad overhangs and generous porches. The bungalow has become so chic it is used as a prototype for new suburban housing.

The original bungalow was the dream of young families wishing to own their own home. The remarkable value of these buildings is that nearly a century after they were built, they still serve their purpose well, yet can be made to accommodate modern lifestyles with some expansion and redefining of interior spaces.

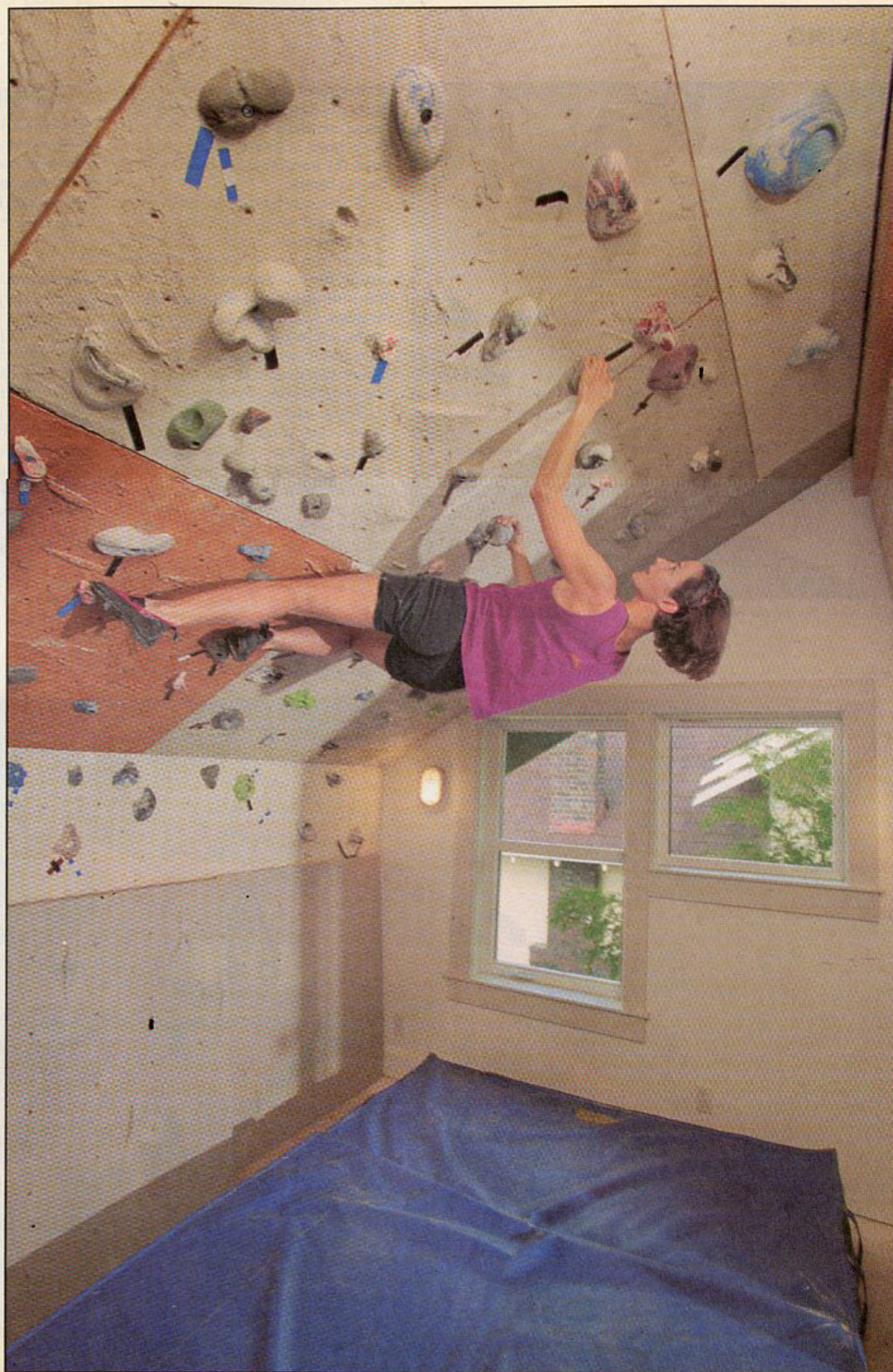
That's exactly what appealed to Chris and Monica Smith Alliegro as they planned their wedding and searched for their first home. They found it in one of Seattle's loveliest and least-changed bungalow havens, along the northern edge of Ravenna Park. Most of the residences in the Ravenna neighborhood date from the Alaskan-Yukon-Pacific Exposition (held on the nearby University of Washington campus in 1909) to a little after the "Great War."

As with many bungalows, the 1911 building had been renovated by previous owners — a mixed blessing, because they had redone the interior but not addressed some of the basic phys-

A Ravenna Craftsman adapts gracefully to contemporary tastes and lifestyles



Clear fir cabinetry and granite counters are part of the kitchen's mix of traditional and contemporary design touches. The room was brightened with a new wall of north-facing windows and by removing a wall between it and the dining room.



Monica Alliegro demonstrates the "climbing room" she and her husband had built in a spare bedroom upstairs. Both are avid rock climbers.

NORTHWEST LIVING

place (now painted) and the chamfered-trim door surrounds.

They left the dining room as it was, but removed the wall separating it from the kitchen, one of the rooms that had been upgraded by previous owners. While keeping a similar layout, the couple decided to change its appearance.

There was only a small north-facing window in the old kitchen. Monica wanted to open the house to natural light. Now an entire band of windows fills the area with light, and the kitchen also shares the light of the dining room windows. The range at the back of the room is framed in an alcove of cabinetry and counters to provide additional preparation space. An exterior porch has been enclosed to create a substantial pantry.

Cabinetry is clear fir with cherry and granite counters. Campbell points out that while their approach was contemporary, they did incorporate some woodwork and trim to evoke the Craftsman era. "The cupboards are modern-style European. That was a conscious choice

— more modern and streamlined. We did compromise with paneled cabinet doors, and also in the brackets supporting the counter."

The biggest change for the 90-year-old bungalow was adding a second-floor shed roof at its back, prompted by an early decision to not disturb the charming front-gable attic dormer. An attractive wood stairway now leads from the living room to a new master bedroom, dressing room and bath, and extra bedroom.

The extra bedroom serves another

Arts and Crafts Homes and Gardens

The Royal Oak Foundation and Historic Seattle will present two lectures by architectural historian and author Wendy Hitchmough. Her topics will be C.F.A. Voysey, one of Britain's most important early 20th-century designers, who had a great influence on American architecture and interiors, and the Arts & Crafts garden. The lectures will be next Saturday, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Seattle Art Museum, First Avenue and University Street. Cost is \$15-\$20. Information: 206-622-6952.

purpose for now — the couple's climbing room. The Alliegros are avid rock climbers who took a climbing trip to the Southwest for their honeymoon last year. The new room is outfitted, floor to sloping ceiling, with climbing holds.

"This wasn't in the plans," Monica said, "but since we don't have children, we're the children, and we have other space for guests. We use it all the time."

During construction, the couple lived next door, thanks to an oddity of their bungalow lot. After World War I, a Seat-

tle ordinance allowed property owners to build a second dwelling on a lot to help with housing for returning veterans. The bungalow's owners built a one-bedroom cottage in their back yard. The Alliegros lived in it while remodeling and plan now to renovate it for a library.

The remodel more than doubled living space in their bungalow. It was more costly than originally expected because the couple upgraded to more expensive materials and finishes as the project developed, then decided to complete the remodel rather than do some things in later phases.

"We decided we would rather have it all done," Monica said. "I don't mind doing the landscape and the cottage as separate projects, but we wanted to be finished with the house. We love the results." ☐

Lawrence Kreisman is program director for Historic Seattle and director of "Viewpoints," the tour program of the Seattle Architectural Foundation. Steve Ringman is a Seattle Times photographer.

NEW SHIPMENTS



COME SEE THE LATEST ARRIVALS FROM CHINA, JAPAN AND THE PHILIPPINES

15,000 SQUARE FOOT WAREHOUSE FEATURING ANTIQUE AND CONTEMPORARY FURNITURE AND ACCESSORIES FROM ASIA



OPEN TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY 11AM TO 5PM

954 DENNY WAY | SEATTLE, WA 98109 | PH 206.287.1877 | FX 206.287.9025