

Kilpatrick_2011

Seymour Histories

Story and Photos by Tracey Shadday

Meet Margaret and Bill Kilpatrick. They purchased their get-away home on Wayeeses Shore approximately five years ago after almost giving up on a two-year search to find the perfect lake home. It was love at first sight. The couple resides north of Burlington where they both work full time. A trip across the state is worth the drive for a weekend of viewing minks, loons, a family of Mergansers and a chance to see a bald eagle.

As a UVM wildlife biologist, Bill was attracted to the Seymour Lake area because of the feeling of seclusion the lakeshore offers. Surrounded by cedar, balsam fir and maple, the Kilpatricks can enjoy a dip in their hot tub in 360 degree privacy. While sitting on their back deck sipping cold drinks, they have a perfect view of the sun setting over the lake all within a frame of evergreens.

"This is a view I can't get in my main home. We come here to get away, not to do yard work", explains Margaret, whose only lawn management involves trimming low hanging branches from trees.

The Kilpatricks purchased the home from Tom & Andrea Ciardelli, who completely remodeled the structure. The original camp, built in the 1980s, was built from planks fashioned from trees found on the property. Since there were no windows, the building had a dark interior and offered no views of the lake. The couple credit builder Conrad Fortin for providing excellent suggestions for the extensive renovation which included turning the upstairs 90 degrees to offer a clear view of the lake as well as building layered decking in the backyard. They, too, wanted to keep the natural vegetation along the shoreline so that lawn care would be minimal and privacy would be maintained. All of the original boulders remain.

Andrea remarks, "No perennial garden could match the natural stonescape that exists along the lake shore".

With their retirement date uncertain, the Kilpatricks look forward to a time when they can make their get-away a four-season home. They hope to terrace the side yard to create a safer pathway for friends and add plants that will offer food for the lake's flora and fauna. □



Margaret and Bill Kilpatrick at their shore.



Their view of Seymour, "framed in evergreens."