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hroughout his storied career, Charles Hilton has been able to create some truly memorable spaces for his clients. But he saved one of his most amazing transformations for this project, which was recently completed in his own home.

"When we first bought our home, we realized immediately that we wanted to work on the kitch-

en," explains Charles from his office in Greenwich. "There were lots of chocolate brown and speckling things. The kitchen had a lot of cabinets and Formica countertops. Plus, it was a little too dark and narrow for us."

Wanting to open up the kitchen to allow for more workspace, Charles fully gutted the room and began making dramatic changes. He mounted custom cabinets and countertops and installed all new appliances from Wolf, including a range. And a kitchen island with seating was added to allow for more prep space and storage.

To bring in much-needed light, he added bell jar light fixtures as well as elegant French doors that offer a view of the pool just outside. He also made sure that the walls and cabinetry were a light cream color to brighten the space.

One of the most unusual renovation details is a special section that was made to display Charles's growing bottle-opener collection. To date, he has collected more than 60 bottle openers from his various travels.

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