

## Architecture firm moves to roomier quarters in Petoskey

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Photo By: Robert White/News-Review

PETOSKEY — The Elaine Keiser Architect firm recently put its design skills to use in creating a new office space for itself.

Located at 2076 M-119, Petoskey, the firm's new site offers double the space of its previous one a short distance away.

Along with architect and principal Elaine Keiser, the firm includes project designer Greg Hill, technical designer Kirk Stefko, architect Anthony Walker, office manager Angela Russ and Elaine Keiser's spouse, Andrew.

When she was 14, Keiser knew that she wanted to design things.

"I became a fan for Frank Lloyd Wright," she said. "When I was in college my dad took me to see (Lawrence Technological University in the Detroit area), and when I was a senior I graduated between semesters and starting taking architecture classes at Tech."

She finished her education with a master of architecture degree, and is a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

After working in the field in the Detroit area and Northern Michigan, she decided to start her own business, Elaine Keiser Architect Inc. in August of 2000. By 2002, the firm was sharing office space with a pair of dentists on M-119.

Last fall a small building in front of the dentist's office went on the market, and Keiser "snapped it up."

"I'd been looking at the building for some time and knew what I'd do with it if I could buy it," she said.

Some of the original structure remains, but the front and the back were devised by Keiser, along with the bright yellow exterior color

Upstairs is a large open area where the staff can bring their children and they can play games or watch TV. And with four children, Elaine says, she needed the area for her children as well.

The Keiser firm's design experience includes remodeling jobs such as the one at its new office, home and business additions, new buildings and reworking of an old building. The firm designed the interior and exterior for the new Kilwin's Chocolates on U.S. 31 — created by renovating a former Oleson's supermarket — and a large glass showroom with moving inside walls for Walstrom Marine in Harbor Springs.

Elaine Keiser Architect also designs homes, ranging from million-dollar waterfront residences on the waterfront to smaller custom homes.

If you would like to talk about a project with Elaine Keiser Architect, you can stop by its office or call (231) 439-0472. The firm also has a website at [www.ekarchitect.com](http://www.ekarchitect.com).