

Showhouse at Regents Park

Steeped in tradition but suited for today, this Atlanta town house combines timeless design with comfort and convenience

by Heather J. Paper photographed by Erica George Dines produced by Clinton Smith interiors by Dan Carithers architecture by Pak Heydt & Associates



ABOVE: In the living room, Brunshawig & Fils fabric covers a sofa and tufted chair from the Dan Carithers Collection by Sherrill Furniture. A chair from William Word Fine Antiques and an antique child's chair complete the seating area. Matching Vaughan lamps create symmetry on mismatched end tables by Holland & Co. (left) and Guy Chaddock & Co. A large landscape painting from The Madison Gallery complements the wall color by Ralph Lauren Paint. OPPOSITE PAGE: An antique crystal chandelier and gilt mirror offer an elegant backdrop for a dining table by Althorp. The flooring is by Antique Building Products.

BELOW: Designer Dan Carithers paired a Rugs by Robinson striped carpet with solid, toile, and animal-print fabrics by Cowtan & Tout. The chandelier is by Masterpiece Lighting. OPPOSITE PAGE: A hood by Stone Age Designs and beams on the ceiling add rusticity to the kitchen. The designer combined a color palette of browns and creams; built-in cabinetry by Rutt/Heritage; and accessories, such as plates on the wall and lamps on the island, to visually connect the kitchen to the family room. Barstools are by Wright Table Company.





↳ Transforming a new house into a home takes more than a deft design touch. It also takes heart and soul. In the 2008 *Southern Accents* Showhouse at Regents Park in Atlanta, a dedicated design team created a residence with a sense of the past that's also well-suited to the present—and the future. ↳

From the start, the objective of Regents Park was to establish an elegant alternative for urban dwellers. Made up of 23 luxurious town homes and flats, the development has the familiar feeling of tradition with modern-day conveniences. Though it has the grandeur of estate living, the low-maintenance aspect makes it easy to slip away for a long weekend.

"I love a good collaboration," says residential designer Yong Pak of Pak Heydt & Associates, who worked on the architectural design of the house with his business partner, Charles Heydt. "Getting the bones of the house right—the architecture—is fun, but when you have a great designer, it's the total package," says Pak. "With Dan Carithers, we sat down with plans early on, discussing our ideas to be sure that we weren't competing against one other. With that kind of integrated approach, you can really see the level of quality from top to bottom."

Much of the success of this collaboration can be attributed to the fact that the team saw eye-to-eye on one basic premise: The home needed to suit the way people live today. One of the best examples, Carithers points out, is the combined library, living room, and dining room. "When you're in the living room, it's a living room. The table at one end makes



ABOVE: Muted wallcovering and fabrics by Schumacher give the master bedroom a serene feeling. A mirror from William Word Fine Antiques tops a dresser from The Gables Antiques. A table by G&J Styles (right) and one covered by a table skirt serve as nightstands. OPPOSITE PAGE: Carithers created a tailored entry to welcome visitors to the showhouse.

it a dining room, but when it's not being used for dining, it's a library table. Here, all three work together because that's how we live," says the designer.

Another example of Carithers' mastery in blending room roles can be found in the informal living area. Your first impression is that it's a family room; only upon closer inspection do you realize that, on one side of the space, kitchen appliances are hidden discreetly behind handsome cabinetry. "I didn't want it to have the immediate impact of a kitchen," he explains. "You need a kitchen, yes, but it doesn't have to have a neon sign that says, 'I am a kitchen.'"

Not surprisingly, Carithers' color scheme throughout the house—like each of his design choices—is at once classic and contemporary. A deep chocolate brown, for instance, wraps the entry and informal living quarters, with bright white trim emphasizing the architectural details. He goes on to note that the nearby kitchen cabinetry is the same shade as the stone fireplace, keeping the color scheme from "jumping around"; instead, it flows together as a cohesive whole.

If you had to use one word to describe the interior design—and the architecture, for that matter—that single descriptor would have to be *gracious*, which is precisely what these professionals planned all along. "There were several discussions early on about creating gracious spaces," recalls Heydt. "We wanted to make the most of every space, using details to make it a wonderful visual experience."

"When you come into this house, you feel like you're home," adds Pak. "It's like a luxury suite full of personal memories." That is, perhaps, the highest compliment any home could have. ♦

For details, see *Sourcebook*, page 206.

Family Room



↪ In the family room, dark brown walls combine with wood flooring and rustic beams to emanate as much warmth as the fireplace itself. In turn, the rest of the palette is neutral, the tints and shades all on the warm side of the spectrum. The seating has a collected look that enhances the room's comfortable quality. ↩

FAMILY ROOM SOURCES

Floor lamp: Vaughan
Accessories in bookcase: Ainsworth-Noah
Table: Guy Chaddock & Co.
Flooring: Antique Building Products
Rug: Rugs by Robinson
High-back chair: Hickory Chair
Books: Grey Parrot Books
Knife box on table: Tom Hayes & Associates/Toby West, Ltd.

Paint: Ralph Lauren Paint
Fabric: Cowtan & Tout
Sofa and ottoman: Dan Carithers Collection
by Sherrill Furniture
Hutch: The Gables Antiques
Accessories in hutch: Ainsworth-Noah
Leopard-print chairs: Althorp
Tray on ottoman: Parc Monceau
Beams: Wyatt Childs, Inc.

Kitchen & Breakfast Room



↔ If Carithers has one hard-and-fast rule, it's that rules need not apply. In the breakfast room, for instance, he decided to forgo the conventional table and four matching chairs, opting instead to surround the pedestal table with a wing chair, an armless chair, and a bench perfect for an intimate dinner. ↔

BREAKFAST ROOM SOURCES

Table: Wright Table Company
Ceramic vessels: Ainsworth-Noah
Rug: Rugs by Robinson
Flooring: Antique Building Products
Art: The Madison Gallery
Lighting: Vaughan
Fabric: Pierre Frey
Armoire and seating: Hickory Chair

KITCHEN SOURCES

Hood: Stone Age Designs
Ceramics on hood: Ainsworth-Noah
Cabinetry: Rutt/Heritage
Transferware on wall and ceramic vessels on stove: Tom Hayes & Associates/
Toby West, Ltd.
Backsplash: Renaissance Tile & Bath
Beams: Wyatt Childs, Inc.

Terrace

↔ There's no reason that outdoor living spaces should be any less stylish than their interior counterparts. On the terrace, for example, a chaise longue and side table immediately conjure images of lounging on a hot day with a cool drink. Above the chaise, an overscale mirror does more than just look nice; it seemingly doubles the size of the space. ↔



TERRACE SOURCES

Furniture, mirror,
and accessories:
PierceMartin
Lantern: Bevolo