

What we did
with the
**Bishop's
House**

A simple crayon drawing and a beloved former owner inspire a beautiful renovation to this Atlanta home.

By AMY BICKERS • photographs by LAUREY W. GLENN



The House Today

with his youngest daughter and a box of crayons. They colored a dream house with a rooftop of cherry hues. ✦
The builder imagined a grand place to honor the man his family had loved and laughed with for nearly a decade. ✦

THERE ONCE WAS AN EPISCOPAL bishop who lived in a modest home in Atlanta on a tree-lined street named for Georgia's sweetest fruit. He often visited his next-door neighbors—a builder, his wife, and their four beautiful daughters. He always arrived with his signature entree, chicken in a bag. He also brought laughter (the Right Reverend C. Judson Child, Jr., the seventh bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta, was known for his quick wit and easy sense of humor). When the day came for him to move in 2004, he sold the house to the family next door, and then the builder sat down

The Inspiration



INSPIRED
DETAIL
No. 1

The front entry greets guests with a warm glow from the six story-high and twinkling glass windows on the doors, properly scaled copper lanterns, and gently curving steps.

**INSPIRED
DE LA**
No. 5

The front hallway's ceiling is covered with the same salvaged wood used on the family room fireplace.



reference to the bishops you find on a chess board rather than in a cathedral. (I'd like how Michael brought a different meaning to the idea of the bishop," Linda says.)

Further evidence of Michael's creative thinking: The front hallway ceiling and family room fireplace surround both came from a side-of-the-road find—\$400 worth of salvaged wood Michael picked up on a drive to Highlands, North Carolina. He brought it back in two truckloads.

There's another travel souvenir in the kitchen. Michael and Lisa asked kitchen designer Jane Hoffman to include a butcher block piece—discovered in a Pine Mountain, Georgia, antique shop—in the floor plan. Its distressed green paint finish and hand-carved details perfectly fit the home's old-world feel. Positioned at the end of the island facing the family room, the great find never goes unnoticed.

Linda's own travels around the South added to the home's design. When Michael and Lisa decided, mid-construction, that they wanted a pool house, Linda sketched out a drawing based on an entry arch she'd seen at Christ Church on St. Simons Island. "I had just been there and seen this wonderful little every piece," Linda says. "There are so many details in churches, little gates and doorways that are inspiring."

Another inspired element came not from road trips but rather from a walk down the street. Michael asked neighbor and furniture builder Rob Carr to make the breakfast table and bench. Rob, guided by the look and feel of church pews,

**INSPIRED
DE LA**
No. 6

A dramatic console table is a souvenir from a Highlands, North Carolina, trip. Michael and Lisa found it at Acorn's, a shop located at Old Edwards Inn and Spa.

**INSPIRED
DE LA**
No. 7

Comfortable furnishings encourage family time. Wall-to-wall built-ins provide plenty of storage for media components, games, and books.

**INSPIRED
DE LA**
No. 8

The home is decorated with pieces that are unusual but that complement its formal architecture. The dining room's rustic quartz—acquired with a gift from artists and architects—has the timeless appeal of a repurposed piece.

An entry arbor at Christ Church on St. Simons Island inspired the design of the post house, a last-minute addition to the project.

INSPIRED
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No. 9



got into the Gothic spirit of things by carving our spired roof designs in the furniture pieces.

"When the home was complete, the family took on the task of moving right next door. Michael says moving next door is much harder than moving across town because you tend not to want things out and you move piece by piece. (The girls got paid per box.) In their first night in the house, three years ago, their first dinner was chicken in a bag.

"The Bishop Child was a phenomenal guy," Michael says of his former neighbor, who passed away in 2005 and never saw the completed home. "People have come up to me and said how proud he would be, that he would have loved to have a family in this house. So I think we have good neighbors." ■

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A Grain-Vaulted Foyer

is a classic example of Gothic architecture used in many churches built in the Middle Ages.



More Inspired Details

The Ladisic home is filled with design ideas that fit the theme of "The Bishop's House."



Leaded Glass

lends old-world charm and elegance to the reading room doors.

Stained Glass Windows

are translucent works of art often associated with the great cathedrals of the world.



A Storybook Cottage Roof

in a mix of red, orange, and green tiles adds fairy tale charm.
momettyllc.com

Chess Pieces

inspired the carved finials on the secondary staircase.



A Wall Sconce

on the second floor carries the ecclesiastical theme into the small brick entry to the master bedroom.