

DREAM HOMES

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Timeless Treasure



Backed by Camelback Mountain, this red-tile-roofed residence offers hints of Old Spain. Visitors are welcomed with formal flower beds, a centerpiece fountain, and gates with curvaceous ironwork leading to the front courtyard and the entry.

A Graceful Spanish Colonial Home Offers Endless Appeal and Comfort

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When the last of their three sons went off to college, an Arizona couple began looking for a lot on which to build a new house. But instead of downsizing, as many empty-nesters do, the two decided to construct the home of their dreams. And what a dream it became.

The land they found—at the time undeveloped—allowed them to stretch their wings, literally and figuratively. The 5-acre site is framed by a postcard view of Camelback Mountain, and was an unexpected find in an established Paradise Valley neighborhood.

The residence they built is a commodious Spanish Colonial gem with stretches of resortlike grounds, and interiors that wed elegance with comfort. A detached guest house charms with its stone facade and Western sensibility. It was built especially for the couple's sons to visit and enjoy, their mom says.

The main house features ceilings with hefty beams characteristic of Spanish Colonial style, and a gallery with windowlike doors that open rooms to the outside. One might say the plan for this residence was born of the parcel's earth. That is because architect Mark Candelaria and the man of the house—himself prominent in the home-building industry—"walked the property and laid out the house, drawing it in the dirt," notes Candelaria, a Phoenix Home & Garden Master of the Southwest. "We wanted to make sure it would be aligned the right way, with multiple courtyards. We really tried to take advantage of the great views, and link the inside to the outside."

Bringing the dream house and its environs to reality was a team effort from the start. Joining the architect were builder Greg Hunt, interior designers Patty Burdick, Allied Member ASID—and a Phoenix Home & Garden Master of the Southwest—and her associate, designer Kathryn Davis. Landscape architect Greg Trutza, likewise a Phoenix Home & Garden Master of the Southwest, planned the grounds, which were featured in the magazine's November 2010 issue.

Interiors have a collected look, with select furnishings, several antiques and many works of art having come from the owners' previous homes. "There is as much old as there is new here," says Burdick, who had worked on three of the couple's earlier houses. She describes the updated and enhanced decor here as a blending of Southwest, Spanish Colonial, English Traditional and even African elements.

Art in diverse genres plays a major role in the home's design scheme, and, often, nonrepresentational pieces hold sway in unexpected places. Interspersed with the Spanish Colonial leanings of the dining room, for example, is a large Contemporary painting. "We tried to keep this house from being prissy," Burdick remarks. "It has some guts."

Everywhere you turn, there are fun stories to go with the home's treasures. Dolls from Mexico have been turned into lamps. Spanish Colonial-era pots on the dining room table once held chocolate, and the then-expensive ingredient needed to be locked up with keys, states Burdick.

Only a few years old, the timeless-looking residence is a setting where friends and family gather and memories are in the making. One of the couple's sons is keeping that trend going. He will soon be getting married at his parents' estate.

They, meanwhile, are delighted by all that transpired in the four years of planning and building their dream home. "My husband and I are grateful every day that we live here," the wife states. □





The dining room, which opens to a patio and pool ramada beyond, has a lively spirit. Beneath traditional Spanish ceiling beams and a wispy iron chandelier, seating is upholstered in bold red. Above the antique Peruvian buffet, an abstract painting by Marcia Myers meshes today with yesteryear. Flooring is reclaimed chestnut, and the fireplace is made of French limestone.





Opposite: Adjacent to a sweeping two-story ornamental iron railing and an outsize tiered chandelier, a stairway vestibule serves as a mini art gallery. The black-on-black painting is by Hiro Yokose, while a sculpture of a bronze eagle set upon a tall stone pedestal was created by Gwynn Murrill. Terra-cotta pots and an old Spanish table topped with a potted agave provide contrast. Flooring is limestone.

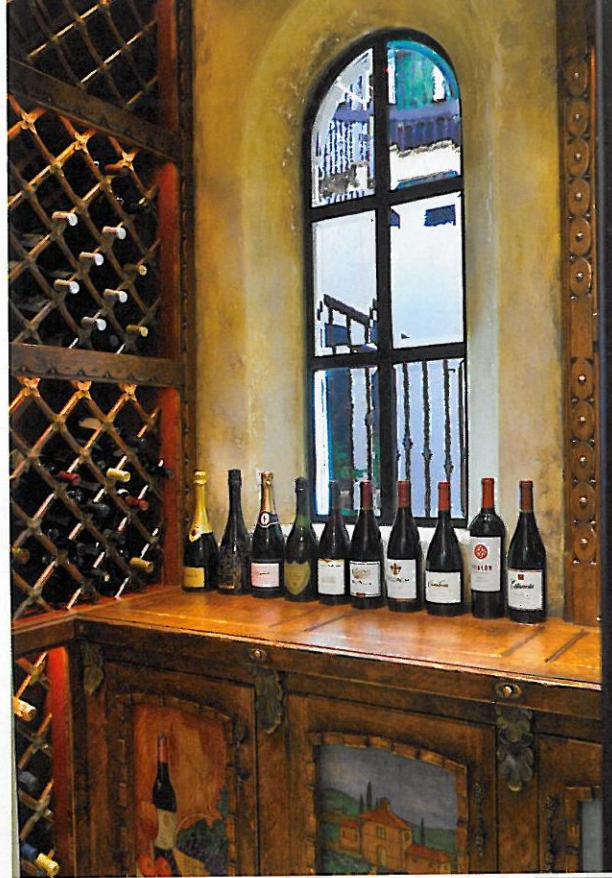
Above: French doors with mullioned glass panes bring the outside into the formal living room, where a mix of cultures and periods creates warmth and interest. Modern art, such as the painting by Dirk De Bruycker above the fireplace; exotic finds, such as the mantel's carved Guatemalan heads; and an old rustic English fireside bench are among touches that keep the space from being too serious, notes interior designer Patty Burdick. The carpet is an antique Oushak. A Bolivian silver water jar, or *olla*, adds gleam on the Contemporary glass-and-metal coffee table (foreground).

Left: A repository for miniature English bull heads and other bric-a-brac, a 17th-century demilune table from Italy plays a starring role in the foyer. The painting is by Dorothy Brett.

Right: Walls finished to look old and a deep-set arched window are part of the charm of this wine room. Cabinetry, whose doors are painted with a wine-themed still-life and vineyard scenes, was crafted by Scottie Reid, a Phoenix Home & Garden Master of the Southwest. Carved molding outlines wine racks.

Below: The wet bar, located off the family room, likewise was created by Reid. Behind the wood-tassled bar, a cabinet's sliding door conceals a desk.

Opposite: Arched double doors lead to the study, a setting of coziness and sophistication that is the province of the man of the house. Walls and the coffered ceiling are crafted of alder with a red-painted finish. Furnishings, including side chairs in a large, masculine houndstooth check, were chosen with comfort in mind. Among the room's collectibles are an African chief's stool (foreground).



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Opposite: The lady of the house loves to cook, so her kitchen is not just for show. Its centerpiece—a large island with lots of room for both food prep and casual dining—has a gently aged black finish base and a quartz top. Tucked into the island are a microwave drawer, fridge drawers, a warming oven and an extra oven that interior designer Patty Burdick calls a “Thanksgiving oven,” handy for heavy-cooking holidays and such. A trio of cone-shaped iron pendant lights hangs over the unit. Cabinets, Burdick’s design, have an antique glazed cream finish. Glazed terra-cotta tiles in a gold-and-white checkerboard pattern form the backsplash.

This page: In the powder room, patterned gold-and-white tiles of the wainscoting and ornate mirror surround are embedded in the walls’ plaster, says Burdick. At the ceiling, deep crown molding is enhanced by decorative painting. A silver-plated sink is set into the painted black and silver-leafed vanity base. Shaded sconces shed soft lighting.

Embroidered sheers allow filtered daylight into the master bedroom, a sanctuary that invites reading a good book or watching TV, as well as sleeping. In this case, the television is hidden in an old carved Spanish vestment chest at the foot of the bed and pops up by remote control when desired. The bed is upholstered in a paisley-print velvet. Above the limestone fireplace is a colorful painting by Maria Titarenko.



“We tried to keep this house from being prissy. It has some guts”



An oval free-standing tub in the master bathroom has a place of importance under an arched backdrop made of a relief of handmade terra-cotta flowers. Marble flooring is set in a terra-cotta mosaic grid. On the far wall is a tall bachelor's chest with carved pilasters. Above it is a painting by Ryan Hale.

See Sources.