



COMING *Home*

After sitting empty for five years, this cozy cottage was a diamond in the rough just waiting to be discovered by someone with a discerning eye.

TEXT BY LINDA WRIGHT

In this 1930s cottage the original arched openings to the dining room and living room are repeated in the shape of the built-in bookshelves found in the living room.



After graduating college and living in Atlanta for years, this business professional decided to move back to her hometown. She had lived in a new house in Atlanta but was hoping to find a home in her parents' charming older neighborhood. After checking out three disappointing possibilities, her father encouraged her to look at the cottage around the corner from them that had been empty for several years. "I took one step in and fell in love with it," she exclaims, "and it's walking distance to my parents."

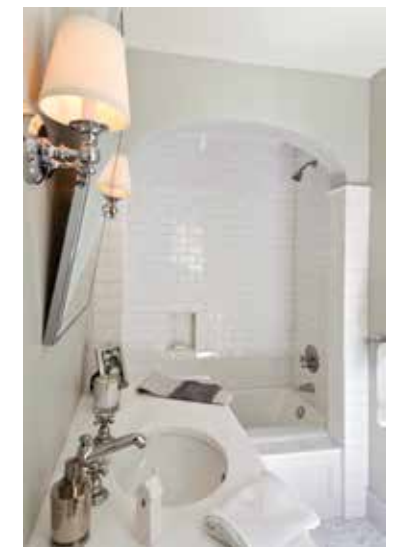
With the help of old friends, builder David Camp and interior designer Lauren Conner, the cottage's metamorphosis began. The front of the house was reworked by David to create a little portico and charming entrance. To continue the inviting welcome seen from the exterior, David made some interior changes as well. Upon entering the home there was a coat closet front and center. So one of the first changes David made was to close up the opening. Now a beautiful painting greets visitors as they enter. Other than that change the front living room and dining room needed only painting.



The kitchen was completely redesigned with new cabinets and new appliances. Beams were added to the ceiling to match the original beams found in the master bedroom. The homeowner requested a kitchen island, and David happily complied with a beautiful wood top and storage below. Lauren found an iron chandelier perfectly suited to hang above the island. She also designed a banquette and suggested a farm table for the eating area.

The two bedrooms each received an en suite bathroom. The master bath has an open shower with no door or shower curtain to clean and a light-filled window. The guest bath has an arched opening for the tub, producing a cozy bathing alcove.

Lauren helped select the colors for the home, choosing cool shades of gray. Fortunately, they were able to keep the original floors throughout, and with refinishing they looked like new. New furnishings were sourced at local retail shops and at Scott Antique Markets in Atlanta.





Comfortable outdoor furniture invites guests to sit and relax on the back porch. And with the handy iron and stone table serving drinks and food is easy. The stone fireplace and TV make this porch an almost year-round entertaining center for the cottage.

The original back porch was falling in when the house was purchased, but together David and Lauren created an outdoor haven with the addition of a stone fireplace and comfortable seating. The crumbling wooden floor was replaced with durable bluestone, and during football season this is where the entertaining happens.

To complete the new old home landscape designer Holly Camp produced the inviting front landscape. A pea-gravel parking pad has room for two cars, and there is still space for a small lawn surrounded by tiny boxwoods.

In the beginning of the remodel the homeowner did not ask for much, just to make the house more modern and to have a master bath and closet. This simple request resulted in much more: a place that says welcome home. 🏡

