



HOME SWEET! HOME

How we crafted our home in Historic Downtown Mansfield to match our tastes with our desire to celebrate the personality of the neighborhood • By Daryle Perez

Our home is located in Historic Downtown Mansfield a block west of Main Street. Sitting on top of a hill gives it a grand appearance when you approach it headed southbound into downtown. Downtown Mansfield has been going through a revitalization for the past six years, and we wanted to build our house in the middle of the new and future development of this Historic area.

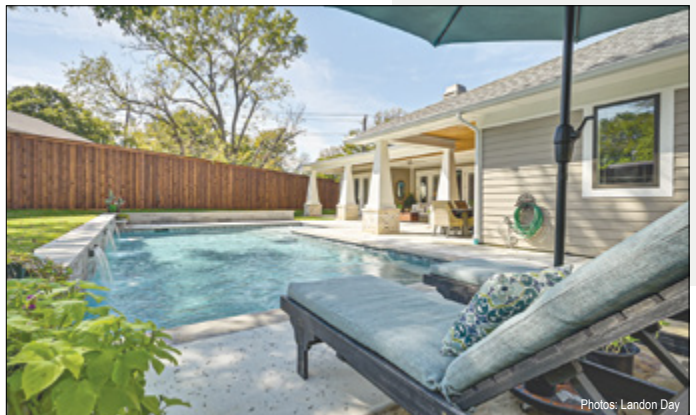
The one-story house plan is a modern translation of a prairie styled farmhouse home plan, evident by its hipped rooflines. The home has the traditional broad bracketed eaves and an entry porch supported by antique bricked pilasters and square tapered columns. Cement fiber siding with the bold, continuous cornice emphasizes the strong horizontal plains of prairie home designs. The rear garage de-emphasizes the auto and celebrates the home.

From the curb, you can see a set of concrete steps from the original home that once stood on the property. We

incorporated them into the design of the front landscaping to preserve some history of the land. We wanted passersby to see a home that enhances the Historic area and feels like it has already been established downtown for many years.

We designed the home to look as if we purchased an older historic home and restored it to a classic yet modern look. It is a two-bedroom with one flex room that we have furnished as an office, with a laundry room, dining room, great room, and full-size guest bath. The gas fire place in the great room is surrounded by the same exterior brick to bring outside decorative elements into the home. Classic white shiplap walls can be seen in the guest bathroom and above the master bedroom fireplace. The home is surrounded by swing-out casement windows, another added old style characteristic.

Upon entering the foyer of the home, one views the open floor plan with the formal dining room to the left and the spacious great room with beamed ceiling and views to beyond.



Photos: Landon Day

The island kitchen is to the left with a walk-in pantry for additional storage. The kitchen is accented by a coffee bar and wine cooler. The master suite of this home is entered via the master foyer with double doors leading to the rear porch.

The master bedroom has its own gas fireplace. Separating the his and hers closet is the master bath with the large double mirrors, plenty of storage space and a stylish tub. The two bathrooms are the only spaces in the house that are tiled.

The floors throughout the home are hardwood and provide a warm, classic feel. Although the home looks modernized, we wanted to add classic characteristics into the home that are timeless.

Before we designed this home, we evaluated the time we spent in our former house. During holidays and get-togethers, people always seem to migrate to the kitchen area or to the back yard patio where we spent most of our time in the warmer months. This home was designed to embrace how our

guests utilized our home. Our former home had the formal dining room separate from the living and kitchen. During holidays, we had the family separated for meals because our table could not accommodate everyone. By opening the remaining barriers between the great room, the dining room and the kitchen, we can all be together for family events as our family continues to grow.

Walking out to the back porch, we added the table and chairs near the outdoor TV for sports; it swivels out to be viewed by anyone that may be in the pool. The swimming pool was designed to also bring a modern touch outside. We love to entertain, especially when the weather presents the perfect conditions for being outdoors. The main artwork in the home and along the walls of the back porch were all commissioned by local artists, and each has a story behind them. The garage is an oversized two-car that was placed at the rear of the home to not distract from the curb appeal of the front. **A**