home of the month
May's profile of a well-designed space

By K鹦e Wawrzak

The Crowders — Thomas, Ray, and their children, Rachel and Garrett — do not have to leave the northwest Raleigh neighborhood that they love. Their new elegant, contemporary home was designed to provide a respectful and welcoming atmosphere of the old home in addition to offering plenty of natural light and room for entertaining.

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Our family’s healing after the fire.”

Says Crowder:

his family’s needs, says Thomas

Road home sensitively responds to

garden — is her favorite part of

ther’s architecture and her mother’s

where she is surrounded by her fa-

ter Rachel, a recent high school

vegetation and a koi pond. Daugh-

Crowder, the family’s horticulturist,

Japanese-inspired garden on the

north side of the house. Here, Kay

interior and exterior. A 16-foot wall

seamless connections between the

contribute color and texture. 

posed steel columns and beams ac-

ance.

Stunning laminated wood beams

boasts excellent insulation value.

the floor and concrete masonry

ing the daytime.

The cool concrete gracefully part-

an exhibit area, or gallery, for the Crow-

hibit area, or gallery, for the Crow-

kitchen and a living room. 

open public spaces — the foyer,

A dramatic arching roof shelters

into the main living space from the

Large windows with horizontal mulli-

front of the house, with the master

the children’s bedrooms on the north, giving land-

members plenty of privacy and comfort. The

a dramatic arching roof shelters

The cool concrete gracefully part-

The plan

1 | Entrance gallery
2 | Study
3 | Bedroom
4 | Window seat
5 | Master bedroom
6 | Master bath
7 | Linens
8 | Laundry pantry
9 | Kitchen
10 | Work space
11 | Storage
12 | Living room
13 | Dining room
14 | Gardening room
15 | Mechanical
16 | Pantry
17 | Parking

INTERIOR

The cost contemporary elegance of concrete gracefully partners with the warmth of wood in the living room. Stunffiting laminated wood beams and a tongue-and-groove wood ceiling open the main living space. Exposed steel columns and beams add another material contrast as well as tell the story of how the house is constructed. Hardwood floors and maple cabinetry contribute color and texture. Architects and homeowner Tommy Crowder says of the space, “Makes for casual living. 'Visually it opens up to the outside and the room feels much larger than it actually is. The view of the full pond extends the living space outside.'”

THE KITCHEN

The kitchen is the heart of this house. Lowered soffits create an inviting setting by moderating the scale of the open living space. The Crowders also added an eating 'rooms within a room.' Architect Thomas panel's comments

An interesting response to disaster... ‘The magic and elegance of the house is especially apparent at night.”

HOME

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Kate Wakeford can be reached at homeandgarden@newsobserver.com.