A ranch reimagined

By Sarah Pace
photo by Robert Marquardt

A Raleigh and Wake County continue to grow, the demand for single-family housing increases. While much of this demand is met through development using zoning regulations, attention increases on preserving existing housing inside the Beltline.

Many older bungalows are being returned to their previous glory, albeit with modern amenities. Still, a large number of houses from the ‘50s, ‘60s, and ‘70s, typically ranchers, suffer a less pleasant fate. The age, mood, size, and perceived lack of style classify many of them as prime candidates for tearing down.

The Ball Residence, inside the Raleigh Beltline, emerged that outcome. In many ways, this is not your grandmother’s ranch. It’s a reimagining and addition, designed by Cherry Huffman Architects in Raleigh, showcases the potential of working with existing housing and evaluating property for more than just land value.

A square peg gracious entry porch, which begins at the driveway and leads to the front door, welcomes visitors to the Ball Residence. For Louis Cherry, an architect of the project, “the porch expresses an important relationship with the existing trees.” A series of inverted U-shaped wooden columns and brass sconce lights mark the entrance. Cherry describes the entry porch as a formal entry in front and a more casual side entry for the backyard.

Beneath the fleece was a friend

By Nancy Smith

In name was Galen. Son of Perquita, and named for his father’s sister. He stood about his height and weighed 200 to 250 pounds, but he carried his weight well. High bonnet, you know.

His long was handsome, distinguished, even as he sported a yellow flowered jacket. He had a look in his dark eye, like he knew what he was thinking. “I would love to run my fingers through those cheeks, pull out the tufts,” the gentleman said.

Galen observed warily on the moment waiting to rise, his flags poised to weigh down. His daily rest tallied about 16 hours; the other night were given over to eating. Once a year, he had a haircut. A man’s a man.

As you might expect, his earning capacity took him to the outer rings of the country. He only knew once from his inland side of his Samson-like locks, netting about $300 over his lifetime. Like his twin sister Deborah, he had a thick nest that was a rich blend of brown and gray, not unlike my own locks. It was about 14 inches long, just about right for happy spinning.

This was the main draw. But subtract from his income the cost of the meat, the cropping lines, re-painting the fences, sowing grass seed in the pasture. And, toward the end, the medical care that tipped the equation.

Stalwart, he revealed a bad hoof only through a slight limp that gave way to an all-out failure. An iodine and water wash was given to him, and there was a</raw_text>
Andy Eccleshall paints a home undergoing a remodel, using a photograph from the owner. Eccleshall has found a niche capturing homeowners’ emotional attachment.

“People have such an emotional attachment to their homes. They want a painting that encompasses how they feel.”

**ANDY ECCLESHELL**

“For the home portraits, Eccleshall starts by taking pictures of a home and its details from different angles and does research to ensure historical accuracy for older homes. He works out of his home studio,spread out pictures of homes he has painted, including an elegant one in St. John, New Brunswick, Canada, which was his first private commission. His portraits are painted in oil on canvas and are priced from $1,500 to $3,000 each. The artist also does large portraits, including a 9-foot by 13-foot mural for a commercial space in Winter Park.”

He paints portraits of home.

**BY NICOLE TORIC**

A native of western Pennsylvania, artist Andy Eccleshall has been painting homes for nearly 20 years. He is known for his large and dramatic—often panoramic—works on canvas. He paints an array of styles and subjects, ranging from scenic landscapes to historical murals.

Eccleshall has been featured in several publications, including Home & Garden and the Planning Shed. His work has been included in numerous exhibitions and collections, including the Pennsylvania Museum of Art and the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh. He has also been commissioned to paint portraits of notable individuals, including famous authors and politicians. His paintings have been sold to collectors around the world, including the United States, Canada, and Europe.