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home of
the month

June's profile of a well-designed living space

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naturally connected



Silk Hope home integrates inside and out
to make the most of an efficient space

Home of the Month, a collaboration with N.C. State University's College of Design, shows possibilities for constructing a living space built with homeowners' living patterns and preferences in mind. Each month, we profile a new home, selected by an expert panel, from designs by area architects. The goal: to offer inspiration and knowledge that can be applied to any living space.

By MARSHALL DUNLAP
GUEST COLUMNIST

SILK HOPE
rolling, forested hills and farmlands along Silk Hope Road are populated by tobacco barns, general stores guarding sedate crossroads and the surviving homesteads of centuries past and present.

Although a well-kept Victorian house a mile north of Silk Hope catches the eye, another site not far behind quickly steals attention. Framed by a mature stand of trees at the crest of a rising field, an unusual structure — one isn't initially sure whether it's a house — blends into the landscape yet is nearly impossible to miss. Welcome to the Campbell Residence.

Architects commonly struggle with whether to blend a new home into its surroundings or make an eye-catching statement. Siler City architect Hal Lindley managed to achieve both ideals in his design for a modest, modern residence in rural Chatham County.

SEE CAMPBELL, PAGE 5E

the project the campbell residence

architect | Hal Lindley
location | Silk Hope
beds/baths | 2/2
completion | 2003
square footage | 1,872 heated, 1,800 unheated
cost | \$240,000
key design concepts | Efficient use of space and openness to the outdoors



the great room

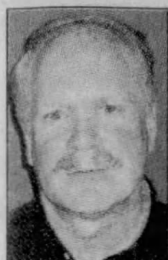
Half of the interior of the Campbell Residence is incorporated into a single open space, integrating kitchen, dining and living spaces. With the ability to open the house up in every direction, the multiple doors also allow owner Tom Campbell to take advantage of cross breezes to condition his home naturally when weather permits.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF HAL LINDLEY

CAMPBELL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1E

Completed in 2003, the Campbell Residence combines an unobtrusive exterior of natural siding and a forest green metal roof with an architectural form that is distinctive from the region's traditional housing stock.



Hal Lindley was project architect.

Owner Tom Campbell said his priority was to "downsize rather than to follow an assumed set of rules."

Lindley agreed, "The goal was to

serve Tom's day-to-day needs without wasting any square footage.

"It was critical to provide panoramic views of the property from everywhere within the home while designing the spaces to respond to the owner's specific lifestyle," the architect said.

If these ideas sound familiar, they should. Lindley and Campbell were enthusiastic about many of the concepts that underlie architect Sarah Susanka's "Not So Big House" movement. Susanka's residential designs and writings, emphasizing efficiently crafted use of space, have become something of a phenomenon and provided plenty of inspiration for the Campbell Residence.

Indoors, outdoors meld

It's immediately apparent to see how Lindley connected the inside and outside. A deep, shaded porch wraps around the house, providing a colonnaded buffer that provides shelter from the sun and other elements. In truth, this space is not so much a porch as it is an extension of the interior. Consider the square footage. The house has 1,872 square feet of interior heated space and 1,800 square feet of exterior porch, all of which is engaged under the same low-pitch roof and separated by walls dominated by immense sliding-glass doors.

"We wanted access to the porch from every part of the home," Lindley emphasizes "so we wrapped the interior with openings."

Campbell finds the glass "walls" perfect. "It's like living outdoors — wherever I am in the house I can look around and feel like I'm out walking in this incredible natural environment."

Still, the use of glass, if carelessly designed, can prove a nightmare for energy-conscious owners. Wary of rising financial and environmental costs of heating and cooling, Campbell wanted a home that would be comfortable and energy-efficient.

To ensure this, Lindley chose heavy triple-pane glass for all doors and windows. He also crafted the dimensions of the wraparound porch to work with the sun in all seasons. On the critical south face of the home, the glazing is shaded from direct sunlight during the summer, while in the winter, the sun's lower position in the sky bathes the interior with light and warmth.

With the ability to open the house up in every direction, the multiple doors also allow Campbell to take advantage of cross breezes to cool his home naturally when weather permits.

"My energy bills have been absolutely minimal, and I can't imagine a more comfortable home," he says.

the porch

A deep, shaded porch wraps around the Campbell Residence. The exterior porch has almost as much square footage as the interior of the house (1,800 outside, 1,872 inside). A low-pitch roof and walls dominated by immense sliding-glass doors unite it all.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF HAL LINDLEY

Flexible and sociable

Campbell, a teacher, says his home is a popular gathering spot for his friends. Lindley's well-thought-out design takes such socializing into consideration.

Fully half of the home's interior, devoted to the kitchen, dining and living spaces, is incorporated into a single open space. A generous kitchen island anchors one end; on the other is a grand piano that one can easily imagine entertaining a houseful of visitors.

"It's a party house, for sure!" Campbell beams.

The rest of the interior consists of two modest bedrooms, each with its own bath. Of the two, the master is distinguished by a more generous bathing area and one of Campbell's favorite perks, a small sauna.

The second bedroom is designed for several purposes — while it functions as a study, it can also provide accommodations for overnight guests.

Campbell could not be more pleased with his home's arrangement.

"It reflects my lifestyle precisely,

SEE IT ONLINE

Go to newsobserver.com to see more photos of the Campbell Residence, the Home of the Month for June.

without an inch of wasted space," he says.

The house of a lifetime

Campbell is further pleased that his house is designed for a lifetime. The single-story open plan with easy circulation allows for wheelchair access should it ever be needed.

With durability a priority, Lindley took a creative approach in selecting his materials. While the exterior walls use natural cypress siding, the columns supporting the roof around the entire porch consist of inventively crafted pressure-treated lumber.

Taking extra caution to prevent long-term decay, Lindley designed the columns to float above their foundation by using galvanized steel connections to the concrete below.

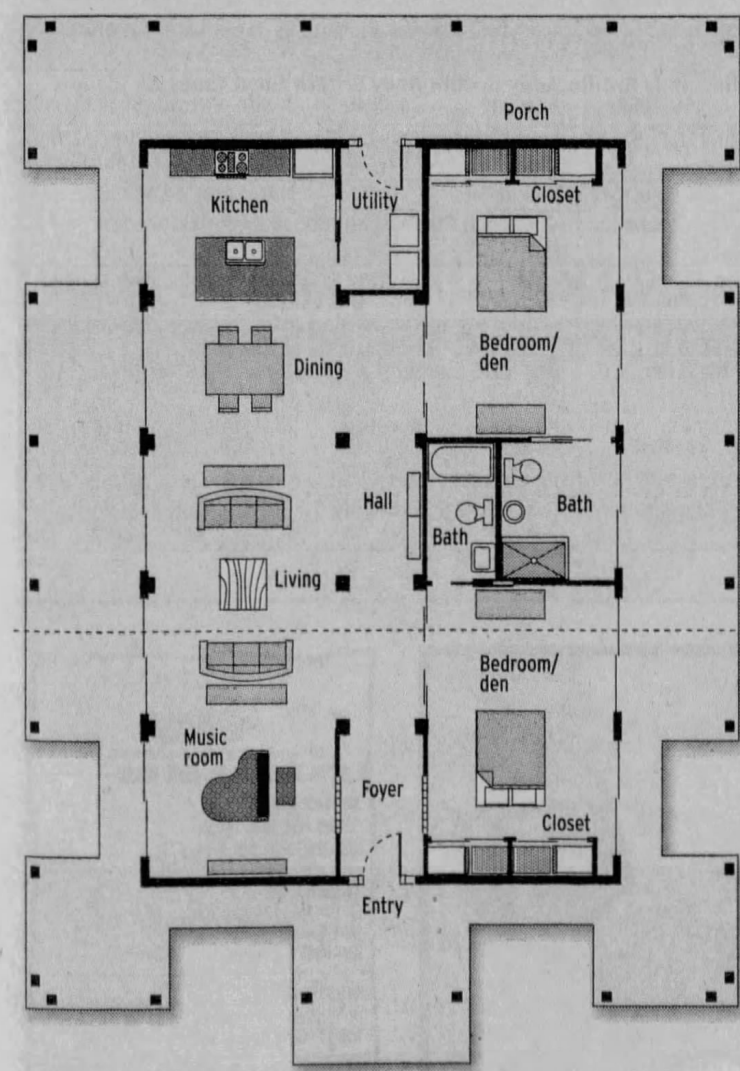
The concrete is employed as far

more than an underlying structural element. The entire home, in fact, rests upon a concrete slab floor that extends to the exterior porch, uniting the interior and exterior spaces across the threshold of the glass doors.

Not only does the concrete provide a cost-efficient, low-maintenance and extremely durable floor, it serves as an inadvertent work of art. Poured early on, the surface became a canvas for the activities and materials of a construction site — clay, tool marks, boot prints — before it was sealed and polished.

Though it is perhaps the most accidental of the fine touches incorporated into the design of Campbell's residence, this mosaic display of the house's earliest formative stages will last for a lifetime. And that's precisely what he wanted.

Marshall Dunlap is a 2004 graduate of the master's program in architecture at N.C. State University's College of Design. He is the owner and operator of Dunlap Design and Construction.



the bathroom

Both of the Campbell

Residence bedrooms have a bathroom. Of the two, the master is distinguished by a more generous bathing area and one of Campbell's favorite perks, a small sauna.

the plan

The owner's priority was to "downsize rather than to follow an assumed set of rules." The architect agreed, providing a plan to "serve ... day-to-day needs without wasting any square footage."