Executing a role reversal between spaces, the couple turned the home's former playroom into their new dining space. Though a much smaller area than the original dining room, the space is ample for the family's dining needs. Plus, it has an especially pleasant ambience with verdant views of the formal gardens just outside its fan-lighted French doors and smallpaned casement windows.

Hillary's other changes were mainly cosmetic. "We made the whole house warmer with color—we painted every room," she notes. Variations on honey-tinted tan accented with fresh white woodwork permeate the house, replacing a pinkish hue. "The original limestone in the bathroom had a pink tone, as did the paint throughout the house. So when we repainted the entire interior, I needed to stain the limestone to give it more of a honey hue," Hillary explains. In the kitchen, she changed the island countertop to recycled mahogany. "It's beautiful—everyone comments on it," she observes. Otherwise, improvements made by the previous owners to both the bath and the kitchen were good to go.

In the master bedroom, the mantel—small and white when the family moved in—didn't have the gravitas Hillary wanted. "It's the first thing you see when you walk in the room, and I wanted it to make a statement." A different color of paint, alone, wasn't enough to establish it as a strong focal point.

"We decided to request hand-selected reclaimed oak to rebuild the mantel," explains Hillary, "and then we gave the drawings of what we wanted to a friend of ours who specializes in detailed handcrafted furniture." John and Hillary's first instinct was to stain the mantel's old wood to accentuate its age and grain. But Hillary had second thoughts. "I concluded it would fight with the other antique pieces in the room, so I went with paint in a warm accent color," she says.

Left: French antiques—the mirror used as a headboard and the bench at the foot of the bed—make the master bedroom mellow.

Top right: Details like a long tapestry bed pillow give the room grace.

Right: An oil painting by artist Dina Lowery hangs above the mantel.





Pages 184-193

DAWSON'S CREED

Landscape architect: Hugh Dargan & Associates, 2961 Hardman Ct. N.E., Atlanta, GA 30305; 404/231-5660.

Pages 184—187. Entry—Console (antique): Lush Life Garden & Flowers, 404/841-9661.

Mirror: Davis & Fille Ltd. Antiques, 404/352-5210. Urn: Foxglove Antiques, 404/233-0222. Paint ("Wilmington Tan" #HC-34): Benjamin Moore & Co., 888/236-6667. Living room—Upholstered sofa and chairs; throw; teal chest; French screens; drapery; mirror: South of Market, 404/995-9399. Pillows on sofa (Ralph Lauren): The Polo Shop, 404/261-2663. Art by Todd Murphy: The Lowe Gallery, 404/352-8114. Art over mantel (by Carolyn Carr): Fay Gold Gallery, 404/233-3843. Bench: Laura Walker Ltd., 678/488-6895. Paint ("Wilmington Tan" #HC-34): Benjamin Moore & Co., 888/236-6667. Mirrored sconces: Bungalow, 404/367-8522. Family room in background—Sofa;

drapery: South of Market, 404/995-9399. Spindle chair (antique): Jeff Littrell Antiques, 404/231-8662. Pages 188—189. Dining room—Dining table:

Anne Flaire Antiques, 404/352-1960. Dining chairs; spindle chair: Jeff Littrell Antiques, 404/231-8662. Sconces: Interiors Market, 404/352-0055. Paint color ("Woodstock Tan" #HC-20): Benjamin

Moore & Co., 888/236-6667. Chandelier; drapery: South of Market, 404/995-9399. Kitchen—Butcher block on kitchen island:

mahogany. Remaining items: original to house.
Pages 190—191. Master bedroom—Headboard:

South of Market, 404/995-9399. Bed linens: Belle Chambre, 404/816-5333. Tapestry bed pillow; drapery: Laura Walker Ltd., 678/488-6895. Mantel (reclaimed oak; designed by Hillary Dawson); painting above mantel (by Dina Lowery): owner's collection. Bench: Foxglove Antiques, 404/233-0222. Chair in gray velvet: Bungalow, 404/367-8522. Paint ("Monroe Bisque" #HC-26): Benjamin Moore & Co., 888/236-6667. Lamps: The Stalls

Antique Market, 404/352-4430.

Pages 192—193. Master bath—Footstool
(antique): Parc Monceau, 404/467-8107. Tin
planter: The Stalls Antique Market, 404/352-4430.

Pages 194-198

EYE-OPENER BREAKFASTS

The Atlantic, 954/567-8020,

luxurycollection.com/atlantic. Five Points Restaurant, 212/253-5700, fivepointsrestaurant.com. La Posada Resort & Spa, 866/331-7625, rockresorts.com. The Peninsula New York, 212/956-2888, newyork.peninsula.com.

CLARIFICATIONS

- In Kitchens with Charisma: Edwardian Elegance, May 2006, pages 148-152, the kitchen designer is Alona Sahar, Design Director, Clive Christian San Francisco, San Francisco Design Center, 101 Henry Adams, Suite 348, San Francisco, CA 94103; 415/522-1910.
- In Outward Bound, July 2006, pages 78-86, the House and Home phone number is 518/284-2136.
- The photographer in Showhouse Showcase: Cool Blue, July 2006, page 128, is Michael Partenio.

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