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GOLD LIST

ARCHITECTURE / C.P. DREWETT, DREWETT WORKS
INTERIOR DESIGN / CLAIRE OWNBY, OWNBY DESIGN
HOME BUILDER / RICH BROCK, BEDBROCK DEVELOPERS, LLC

OUTSIDE IN

OPTIMIZED FOR ENTERTAINING,
A PARADISE VALLEY HOUSE CONNECTS
WITH ITS DESERT SURROUNDS.

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It was just the two of them now, an empty-nester couple ready for a new address in Paradise Valley. But the modern home they envisioned building on the unassuming lot with fantastic mountain views would be a place they anticipated many besides themselves would enjoy. “These clients are deeply hospitable people,” says C.P. Drewett, the architect hired to construct the couple’s residence. “The manner in which a group of friends would enjoy the space was nearly as important to them as how they would live there individually.” This meant the structure would be designed in a way that made it as comfortable for two as for a houseful of guests, and a key to this was enabling seamless movement between indoor and outdoor entertaining spaces.

The shape of the parcel, a flag lot—much like a rectangular flag on a pole—is an unusual configuration but one builder Rich Brock considers an advantage. “It allows for a longer driveway,” he explains, “so we could set the house farther back from the street.” Camelback Mountain rises a short distance away, offering a foreshortened perspective on the area’s signature geologic feature. “We wanted to maximize views of Camelback Mountain,” the wife says, so Drewett oriented the back of the house, where most entertaining would take place, to take in these spectacular sights. He also created two covered open spaces—a living room and a dining room—to entice the couple, and their guests, outside. The exterior living room



was designed with 25-foot-tall glazed pocket walls that retract, joining it to the interior's great room and opening much of the rear façade to the elements, literally bringing the outside in.

Further connecting the house to the landscape, Drewett chose Cantera Negra stone for select dramatic vertical elements, such as exterior columns and interior accent walls. "We paid homage to early territorial architecture while applying modernist principles," he says. To reinforce the stone's organic feel, each piece was hand-cut and installed one by one in a seemingly random sequence à la Frank Lloyd Wright. Horizontal planes of stucco traverse these vertical stone stacks, creating what the architect calls a

bridging effect—not an easy feat, Brock insists. "It was a laborious install," he recalls. "The Cantera had to look like it was going through the glass, so there are U-channels buried in the stone. And because of all the cantilevered overhangs, we installed a lot of steel I-beams and posts. They will never sag."

For the interiors as well, "the driving force was the undulating Cantera," says interior designer Claire Ownby. "We all fell in love with the color and wanted to bring it into the decor." To complement the stone's tobacco shade, the team selected walnut for the doors and fireplace surround. This warmed the expanses of hard surfaces, such as the faux-limestone porcelain tile floors, and satisfied the

For a couple's house in Paradise Valley, architect C.P. Drewett created a sleek modern kitchen with Caesarstone counters and tile backsplashes from Art Stone LLC. Porcelain-tile floors from Villagio Tile & Stone provide contrast to the dark-stained vertical-grain white-oak cabinetry fabricated by Reliance Custom Cabinets.

Interior designer Claire Ownby, who crafted furniture for the great room's living area, took her cues for the palette from the architecture: The sofa's Romo fabric mimics the Cantera Negra stone columns, chairs sport a Pindler granite hue, and the Innovations Rodeo faux leather on the coffee table resembles the floor tiles. Nearby, Shakúff's Tube chandelier hangs over a dining table surrounded by chairs in a charcoal Pindler fabric.



An exterior living room encourages outdoor living, a key feature of the house. Perpendicular glass doors disappear into columns of stacked Cantera Negra stone builder Rich Brock found at Stone Source. When the doors retract, the space joins the interior's great room, and much of the house is opened to the elements. The quartet of chairs and the coffee table are from All American Outdoor Living.



couple's individual aesthetics. "It helped balance his more traditional tastes and her more contemporary ones," Ownby says. The stone's dusky color shows up as one end of a neutral spectrum that proceeds from darker shades—as in the living room rug—to lighter hues, like the flooring. "Embracing the neutral palette let the outside views and the architecture be the shining stars," Ownby says. "The palette is calming and easy to live with. Even the patterns we used were small-scale and subtle, so they almost read as solids."

The interior designer also paid detailed attention to the kitchen layout, an important entertaining space. "It's open to everything," she notes. "We placed the sink so it's out of view of the dining room. That way, people can prep or clean without being seen." Nearby, a bar faces the outdoor living room, generating a hub of activity. "Bars can feel wasteful to clients," Drewett says. "But this is so central, it takes on a lot of life." Even when not mixing drinks for guests, the couple enjoy the space to themselves, having breakfast there most mornings. But whether it's just the two of them or a larger gathering of friends and family, the residents are now comfortably at home in their new contemporary abode that's full of life—inside and outside. ■

"We wanted to ensure the house would stand the test of time," the husband says. Just off the outdoor living and dining rooms, which share a double-sided fireplace, swimming beckons from the pool by Mossman Brothers Pools. The lounge chairs are by All American Outdoor Living; plantings are from Landscape Resources.





An oyster-stone porcelain-tile floor from Facings of America grounds the master bathroom, which features a custom floating vanity showcasing a Duravit sink minimally adorned with Graff fixtures and flanked by Tech Lighting's Manette Grande pendants. Overhead, clerestory windows ensure privacy while allowing in natural light.

More irregularly stacked Cantera Negra stone frames the fireplace in the master bedroom, where a pair of custom chairs and a petrified-wood side table from Organic Findings sit atop a Cowboy Mustang rug from The Floor Collection Design. The custom bed is swathed in a Kravet fabric. Outside, Camelback Mountain rises to the right.



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