

Home

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original position a pair of attractive oak pedestals that were relegated to the attic when earlier residents constructed an arched doorway between the living room and dining room.

They also enjoy the home's décor, which suits antique furnishings from Monica's family.

"Phil lived in a farmhouse, and I grew up in a ranch style home with all modern furniture," Monica says. "But I had antiques from my grandmother, and it all just fit together."

She was immediately drawn to the decorative touches of the

previous owners, which took inspiration from the original floral wallpaper in the front bedroom.

"The house had the perfect colors — just what I like," Monica says.

With no pressing projects in their living space, the Begleys have had fun working at their own pace on the backyard, sun porch and basement. The large back lot provides room for gardens and a patio, all on view from a sun porch that the Begleys constructed from old doors.

Phil points out the value of the porch's southern exposure which captures warmth

throughout the winter. "I think my favorite place is the porch," Monica admits. "I like watching the birds and the garden."

Phil's choice would probably be the rooms on the lower level that he painstakingly created from a partially-finished basement. With the help of friends, the Begleys dug out the dirt floor and hoisted buckets of earth through the basement windows.

The resulting family room and den are designed for entertainment and relaxation.

The family room features a handsomely restored bar the couple discovered in Hannibal, Mo., and pieced together to fit

the space. A nostalgic soda-fountain booth and memorabilia from the 1950s sets the scene for entertaining.

In the den, items from Phil's childhood and from the family's travels create a distinctive private retreat. Collections focused on baseball, fishing, skiing, and vintage musical instruments decorate the walls and ceiling.

As the days grow shorter and the temperatures hint at the coming chill of winter, the Begleys know that an artful blend of old and new have made their home a bright and cozy haven for all seasons.