

Renovation tips for your historic home

Balance Design, a Candler Park-based interior design firm, has a decade of experience under its belt in decorating some of the neighborhood's and city's historic homes.

The company's founder and Candler Park resident Stephanie Andrews along with design director Elisabeth Paulson strive to keep the past intact while updating historic homes.

"We love working with historic homes in Atlanta's classic neighborhoods," said Andrews. "From restoring and renovating kitchens and baths, to opening up living spaces or simply embracing uneven floors, an old home has a legacy to consider. Our job is to reveal that spirit through considered design."

Here are five steps from the design duo on enhancing a historical home

1. Open a wall. You never know what you will find. Don't be afraid to open a wall in your historical home. You won't lose the historical integrity by taking down a single wall.

2. Make an individual statement. Be bold! Paint your front door or anything else that individualizes your home.

3. Mix in modern elements. There is nothing more beautiful and elegant than modern outdoor furniture on a classic porch. Here, we also think of




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New built-in bookshelves stained to match the original 1920's trim. Room designed by Balance Design.

lighting! Modern furniture, furnishings and lighting often accentuate the older details of your historical home.

4. Play with the landscaping. Add a sculptural tree or textured grass to create an interesting dynamic outdoor space.

5. Continue the legacy. Research the home's history. Consider keeping the claw foot tub, refinish the pedestal sink, build shelves to match the trim or salvage old tile. 

For more, visit balancedesignatlanta.com or the new blog, *Design Pulp*, at designpulp.net.