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worth the wait.

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LIKE THE NEARBY WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL, THE CRAFTSMANSHIP THAT WENT INTO THIS BALTIMORE-AREA HOME EVOKES IMAGES OF STONEMASONS, TRADE GUILDS AND ANCIENT SKILLS PASSED FROM FATHER TO SON. But, unlike the cathedral, it didn't take 80-plus years to complete—though, as Baltimore designer Patrick Sutton will concede, it wasn't exactly an overnight pop-up either. "This was a long and careful project," he says. "Every detail was examined by the clients. As a result, it's a very personal house."

Listening hard to his clients' request for a substantive house, Sutton, who is also responsible for the home's interior architecture, translated their dreams into a place filled with old-world materials and finishes—herringbone patterned floors, carved moldings, marmorino kitchen walls—things associated with the best of classic European architecture.

INTERIOR DESIGN Patrick Sutton, Patrick Sutton Associates
HOME BUILDER Jeffrey Powers, NAHB, The Powers Companies
ARCHITECTURE Judith A. Miller, AIA, LEED AP, Architecture by Design, Inc.
LANDSCAPE DESIGN Marcel Gavrelis, Gavrelis & Associates, Inc.
BEDROOMS 6 BATHROOMS 10 SQUARE FEET 13,000





WALKING TOUR

Deep moldings, a soaring ceiling and Vaughan's Zurich lantern add old-world charm to a hallway off the foyer. It opens into the first-floor master bedroom suite, where a leather-covered chair and two-arm wall sconce—both from Dennis & Leen—create a welcoming vignette.



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Contractor Jeffrey Powers says that tasks such as installing the beamed family room ceiling and laying French limestone couldn't be rushed. "Even the retaining walls outside were done by a mason who cut the stone in his own yard and then brought it to the site," explains Powers. Those handcrafted stone walls were dreamt up by landscape designer Marcel Gavrelis, who also brought in Pennsylvania boulders to anchor the planting beds. "We used stone in the gardens to transition off the fieldstone exterior," says Gavrelis, "so it wouldn't look like the house had dropped from the sky."

In response to the mandate for a home with substance, ceilings are twelve feet high and even the hallways are generously proportioned. As architect Judith Miller tells it, "The wife likes to walk without feeling restricted."

STREET CRED

The fieldstone-and-textured stucco façade creates gracious curb appeal to this Baltimore-area home. Landscape designer Marcel Gavrelis added dogwoods, redbuds and layers of plantings for colorful blooms year round.



RICH FLAVOR
 In the living room, high-gloss white moldings, curtains in Great Plains' Rendezvous and Ebanista's Carpello sofa in Kravet's Openwork fabric play off dark walls painted in Benjamin Moore's Iron Mountain. The Macau coffee table by Dennis & Leen lends texture while Donghia's Athena Alta table lamp adds sparkle.



PRESS AND FOLD
 A collection of framed blue eucalyptus leaves pressed in silk—from Patrick Sutton Home—provides a luxurious backdrop in the master bedroom. A pillow in blue Fortuny fabric silhouettes against an Ebanista chaise covered in Bergamo's Argon.

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The lady of the house also requested curved dormers, deep overhangs and rooms with generous proportions. That meant a lot of space to fill, and Sutton saw this as an opportunity to be inspired. For one cavernous downstairs room, he created a French orangery with decorative finishes by Kelly Walker of Baltimore Artstar—the ceiling looks like it's oxidized bronze and plaster walls are reminiscent of a 17th-century chateau. To complete the illusion, the designer chose a lovely rustic table from Patrick Sutton Home that pairs beautifully with Lee Industries' Low Back Campaign chairs. Best of all, the orangery has turned out to be a very useful space. "It's not a folly at all!" reports a clearly delighted Sutton. "The husband holds business meetings there all the time."



OVER WROUGHT

Designer Patrick Sutton conceptualized the iron stair railing to be consistent with the home's old-world atmosphere, and then placed a large photo by Kendrick Moholt at the landing for modern contrast.

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As parents of two teenage boys, the homeowners said they wouldn't mind if their Continental-style manse got a little less serious at times either. "They wanted to have fun with it," says Sutton.

So, in every room he was careful to offset the more refined furnishings and finishes with whimsical touches. In the living room, a modern white glass chandelier by Christopher Guy contrasts with the cozy traditional shape of a Niermann Weeks French club chair. In the family room, where there's a deep sofa by Ebanista, Sutton says he designed the pair of oversize wrought-iron sconces based on some fixtures he'd seen in Sardinia: "Each one consists of an array of 14 half shades that create a warm glow against the beeswaxed walls."



BLUE PLATE SPECIAL

In the kitchen, blue cabinets complement the Ann Sacks tile backsplash at the stove; draperies in Cowtan & Tout's Castello fabric provide bright contrast. Kravet's Jacobean chairs surround a Formations table while Noir's Abacus stools pull up to an island illuminated by an O'Lampia light fixture.



TABLE FOR FOURTEEN
The formal dining room enjoys an Italian flavor with chairs by Edward Ferrell + Lewis Mittman dressed in Donghia's Sous-Tache brocade and Bergamo's silk velvet. A Holly Hunt table sits on a reclaimed-wood floor set in a herringbone pattern.



IMMERSION THERAPY

Aquatic's Serenity 2 soaking tub with Kohler's IV Georges Brass tub filler is the focal point in the master bath. The Lagos Azul limestone tile floor is inset with mosaic from Waterworks' Architectonics Collection. The walls are covered in Phillip Jeffries' Damask Print Manila Hemp.

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Another surprise appears in the formal dining room, where not one, but two, enormous glittering Dennis & Leen crystal chandeliers hang from the ceiling. "I have a friend who says 'anything worth doing is worth over-doing,'" laughs Sutton when asked about doubling up on light fixtures.

The biggest dose of playfulness though, lives in the basement—where a billiards table from Adler Pool Tables sits amidst a profusion of colorful, comfortable seating. As Sutton describes it, "If you're thirteen, it's the hottest room in the house!"

Despite the long journey, Powers says he's extremely proud of how the project turned out. "It was a slow process, but it's the painstaking details that make this a truly custom home." **L**



CHAMBER MADE
A Louis XVI canopy bed from Niermann Weeks, Hickory Chair's Eton Short sofa and Currey & Company's Waterloo chandelier make the master bedroom a glamorous retreat. Draperies in Cowtan & Tout's Mirador fabric are offset by walls upholstered in Stark's Saray Silk 2.