





DESIGNING History

by Jay Sheridan

As the community commemorates the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Franklin, little-known historical details are emerging all over town. Take the Dozier House on West Main Street, the site of the Second Annual O'More Alumni Show House April 4-27.

When Thrive Homes began the process early last year of restoring the landmark Queen Anne Victorian so that 26 leading interior designers could make it a showcase for *Traditional Home* magazine, it was as if layers of history were being peeled back. Built in 1904, the home had been used commercially for 75 years, but the bones of the structure and its dramatic wraparound porch remained intact.

It turns out the story of that property goes back much farther. According to Battle of Franklin Trust CEO Eric Jacobson, the land that sits on the crown of the hill was the site of four cannons that fired more than 600 rounds of 12-pound artillery into the teeth of the battle on November 30, 1864. The Pennsylvania battery was located just inside the US defensive line, and the Confederates charging toward the Carter House on Columbia Avenue were wide open to the cannon fire. Before the battle was over, nearly 10,000 casualties had fell.

Fast forward to 2013, when Nathan Dozier stopped by the construction site to see what was being done to the



landmark home his great-grandfather had built. A student of history, Dozier had collected the papers and studied the path of his ancestor. He then revealed an even deeper connection to the Civil War.

Nathaniel Dozier was a teenager living in Middle Tennessee when news came that his father had been wounded and soon died from injuries sustained in combat around Chattanooga. That was 1863 and Nathaniel was granted permission as a 14-year-old to replace his dad as a bugler with General Nathan Bedford Forrest's cavalry. He rose through the ranks to serve as part of Confederate President Jefferson Davis's escort, and was captured in early 1865, just before the war ended.

Dozier made his home in Franklin and ended up being a very successful businessman. When the West Main Street home was built in 1904, it was a landmark residence. He was in his 50s, and his wife, Tennessee "Tennie" Pinkerton Dozier, was a force in her own right, an historian who served in leadership positions with both the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Daughters of the American Revolution. In fact, it was Tennie who was largely responsible for the monument that sits at the center of Franklin's Public Square today.

It's a lasting legacy, but neither could have imagined what the future would hold for their dream home over the next two centuries. The residence was converted for use as a funeral home in the 1930s, and the front façade was

"modernized" in 1957 to cover the historic details. Thousands of square feet of later additions were added over time.

The funeral home went out of business in 2006, and for nearly a decade, the property sat vacant while the community debated its fate. Thrive Homes, which specializes in historic restoration and sensitive infill in National Register neighborhoods, took on the challenge. Having toured the inaugural O'More Alumni Show House last April, they saw the potential, which brings us to the present.

At 6,000 square feet, the Dozier Home has been returned to its former glory as an anchor residence in downtown Franklin's Hincheyville neighborhood. The award-winning interior design alumni of Franklin's O'More College of Design have partnered to make the home a show place for the best in architecture and design.

Presenting sponsors include *Traditional Home*, Bob Parks Realty, First Farmers and Smokey Mountain Tops, and leading suppliers have graciously contributed products that wow.

From the exterior, it's the Belgard pavers that line a path up to the front door, leading through the formal gardens, and ending on a secluded patio and fire pit in the rear. Hand-crafted light fixtures from Bevelo light the entry and are featured throughout the house alongside period-appropriate products from Circa Lighting.





The Kitchen has the latest line of appliances by Electrolux, the best in walnut and maple from Mid-South Custom Cabinets and exquisite natural stone surfaces by Smokey Mountain Tops that stand out. Plumbing fixtures throughout are by Kohler; the paint scheme reflects Sherwin-Williams' Historic Collection. Fabrics, furniture, wall coverings and more have been provided by companies including Sunbrella Home and Seabrook.

Wind up the sun-washed stairwell to the Loft, and state-of-the-art, solar powered skylights by Velux flood the area with natural light. Beyond, what was a dark, unfinished attic is now home to three full bedrooms and bathrooms. Timeless, on-trend tile was provided by Watson Floor Gallery and incorporated extensively on both floors of the home.

To see progress photos and read more about the designers' concepts, please visit www.omoreshowhouse.com.

As you enter, the Grand Foyer immediately captures attention with soaring ceilings and custom details from Vintage Millwork meeting with original plaster dentil mouldings. Savage Interior Design promises to wow visitors from the outset, followed quickly by Dana Goodman Interiors to the left in the Study, Jennifer Jones Design in the Game Room, K Evers Interiors in the Living Room and Mark Simmons Interiors in the Dining Room. A classic Butlers Pantry by Franklin Preservation Associates separates the formal living spaces from the Kitchen by Kitchen & Bath Images, the Breakfast Room by Kitchell & Brown Interiors and the Sun Room by J Haynes Interiors.

Through the Stairwell Hall by Eric Ross Interiors and past a downstairs Powder Room by Margaret Neal Interiors, the Master Suite by Timeless Interiors features an over-the-top spa bathroom and closets for him and her that would rival most bedrooms in scale and function. Rounding out the first level is Kim Zimmer Interior Design's well-conceived Laundry Room, which includes unexpected delights like a concealed drying rack for delicates and a wrapping station for gifts, along with plenty of storage. Davshire Interiors has extended the three-season living space through smartly designed, over-sized porches. Outside, in an original brick outbuilding, three bays include an Art Studio by Amanda Totoro Design and Casella Interiors, a Potting Shed by Misti Fahr Designs and a Canine Spa by Kristen Prudoff Designs.



Portrait of Nathaniel B. Dozier as a teenage soldier

Upstairs, the living space has been nearly doubled by building out the former attic. Through the Loft by Lauren Devens Interiors, original heart pine floors, exposed beams and large bead board-lined storage closets have been incorporated into three Guest Bedrooms by Starbuck Designers, Cadenhead Design and Sandler Design Group, respectively, each with a full bathroom.

The O'More Alumni Show House runs from April 4-27 at 1009 West Main Street. The home will be open Tuesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., until 7 p.m. on Thursdays and closed on Mondays. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased on-site. Plenty of parking is available on site.



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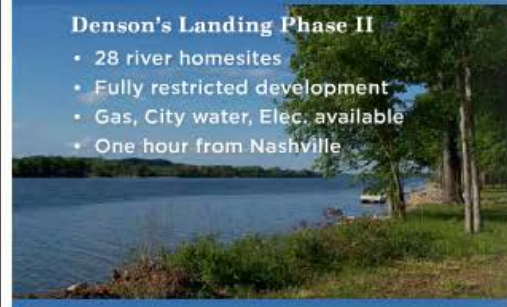
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