THE PROVEN DETAILS FOR A DURABLE HOME p. 56

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SEPTEMBER 2015 NO. 253 www.finehomebuilding.com A pro's step-by-step process for restoring wood floors p.40

finishing touch

LASTING INSPIRATION

Glass in the garden

What was originally planned as a modest three-season porch evolved into this striking 36-ft. by 18-ft. four-season pavilion. Some of the 8-ft.-high floor-to-ceiling walls of glass open like French doors to the yard and have retractable electronically operated screens mounted in their headers. The timberlike columns that separate each wall of glass are actually hollow boxes to accommodate wiring for outlets, lights, and infrared heating units. The roof decking is 2x6 and 2x8 square-edge southern yellow pine reclaimed from tobacco sheds. The boards' original patina was preserved; some have their original peeling white paint, while others display milling marks that add beautiful texture. The ceiling beams are painted Douglas fir. The wood-burning fireplace is made from locally sourced stone, and the mantel is an antique hand-hewn timber. The pavilion floor is sealed Tennessee flagstone.

The pavilion's ample dining and sitting areas, relaxing daybed suspended from the ceiling, and cooking and grilling area behind the fireplace allow the homeowners to enjoy this special space day in and day out. They have earned a well-deserved reputation for throwing the best pavilion parties in town. —Maureen Friedman

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