

132 Pages of Amazing Autumn Inspiration

COTTAGES

& BUNGALOWS

The

Entertaining

Issue

Host the best fall-themed gatherings with fun finds

Project House
Family Room
Reveal!

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2021 • Display until 10/26/2021
VOLUME 15, NO. 05 • \$10.99 US



Engaged Media LLC

Homes with a story to tell
Surviving a hurricane, overcoming raccoons,
a flour mill house conversion and more

Plus,
fall mantel and
staircase styling



A Kit House

BY MICHAEL WINN OF WINN DESIGN + BUILD

For Keeps

A Sears Kit Home gets a new lease on life



Located in the Del Ray neighborhood of Alexandria, Virginia,

believe it or not, this charming 1927 bungalow originally came from a Sears catalog. Sears Modern Kit Homes were offered between 1908 and 1942, and over 70,000 were sold during that time. The kits included most of the materials needed to build a home and a 75-page instruction manual. They were assembled onsite and offered the latest technology available at the time, including indoor plumbing, electricity and central heating.

With only one bathroom upstairs and a dated and dark kitchen, the homeowners wanted their Craftsman style home to function more efficiently. They were protective of the home's history and thoughtful about the renovation in order to maintain the home's integrity.

Winn Design + Build was hired to design and build a two-story addition that created a new kitchen, family room and powder room on the first floor, plus two more bedrooms and a second bathroom on the top floor. The original pitch of the roofline is replicated in the addition, while new flooring and trim coordinate with the existing interior finishes.

Preserving a historic home means focusing on the maintenance and repair of existing historic materials and retention of a property's form as it has evolved over time. Preservation starts with regular maintenance to stave off unnecessary repairs.

After a 12-week wait, it is now a perfect place for two happy retirees to enjoy a new season of life for themselves and their home.

SEE SOURCES, PAGE 128.

Know Your Terms: Sears Home Kits

- **Ready-Cut House:** This type of kit home included plans, specifications and detailed assembly instructions, along with precut and factory-fitted lumber and all other building materials except masonry.
- **Honor Bilt:** Among Ready-Cut Houses, the Honor Bilt line was the standard setter and included high-quality materials and heavy framing.
- **Standard Built:** Less expensive than the Honor Bilt line and of correspondingly lower quality, these homes were lightly framed and generally recommended for warmer weather climates.