

INCREDIBLE BEFORES AND AFTERS—INSIDE AND OUT

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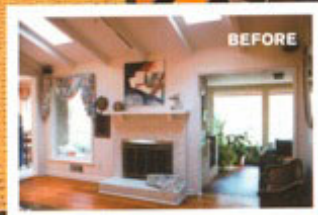
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## DISTINCTIVE DETAILS



**M**rs. Richard Farbolin's move from a country estate to her smaller Brookhaven home was a sentimental journey—from transplanting her favorite 100-year-old Japanese maple to designing a dining room that seats all of her children and grandchildren for Thanksgiving.

A close-knit team effort helped Mrs. Farbolin downsize. The players were architect Linda D'Orazio MacArthur; E. Graham Pittman & Associates Landscape Architects; contractor Bobby Garrett of The Garrett Group; and Barbara Westbrook of Westbrook Interiors. The latter two have worked with the Farbolin family for the past 10 years.

Mrs. Farbolin selected a blue-and-white house with a Cape Cod feel that was just less than 4,000 square feet. The team transformed it into a 5,600-square-foot home with personalized spaces designed to help her feel comfortable alone or with guests.

Exterior changes to the house were dramatic, from the new

putty-brown paint to the addition of river rock, cedar shake and cypress trim. A front porch and creamy white columns "give the home more Southern charm," MacArthur says.

MacArthur's plans also repositioned the garage to the rear of the house, where a carriage house once stood. The back was transformed into a "compound" for dog Max, visiting grandchildren, and for gardening.

The crowning touch was moving a 20-by-20-foot Japanese maple tree to shade Mrs. Farbolin's new bedroom. "It has sentimental value, and she hated to leave it, so I said, 'Let's take it with you.' It weighed about 8,000 pounds, and it took an 18-wheeler!" Pittman says.

A Sunday driver might mistake the revamped home for a totally new residence. What Mrs. Farbolin loves to hear, now that the 14-month project is complete, is what her neighbors think. "When I walk my dog, Max, they all say, 'Great house!' and 'We love what you did to your house!'"