

THE PSG REPORT

PSG CONSTRUCTION, INC.

2000, Volume V



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PHOTO: EVERETT & SOULÉ

PAUL AND STEPHEN GIDUS CONSTRUCTION

THE PSG REPORT

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Paul Gidus
Partner



Stephen Gidus
Partner

On the Cover:

Inefficient and cramped for a family of eight, this original kitchen (left) was dramatically reconfigured to provide multi-task areas geared to the entire family.

See story page 4

**Retaining PSG Construction in Early Stages of Planning Can Save Thousands of Dollars****Project Can Be Planned Thoroughly to Avoid Costly Disappointments**

No one willingly pays more for a service or product than they have to. But that's exactly what happens to countless homeowners who have plans completed – before consulting with PSG Construction in the critical design/development stages of the project.

Catering to the clients' needs in the early stages of a remodeling or new home project is what PSG Construction is geared to do with their *Pre-Construction Services*. PSG has developed a three-step system that takes clients through the remodeling process in a thoroughly planned out, more cost-effective way.

Pre-Construction Services serve several purposes. They can:

- Potentially save clients thousands of dollars in the design/development stages
- Save money during the course of the project
- Help clients reach their desired goals without making disappointing compromises during the course of the project

We couldn't have done this project without PSG's planning.

– Joe and Margaret Simonds

"It's frustrating for clients to approach us with drawings they are ready to proceed with, thinking the project will cost 'X' number of dollars because the architect has estimated it that way. The client is shocked to find out their project will really cost much more than they anticipated. The client becomes skeptical and discouraged," Stephen Gidus explains.

"This is an unfortunate waste of time and money. The client has paid for drawings and plans they can't use

because the project is actually over budget. So they have to pay more money for the project to be revised, or they are forced to begin the design process again with an entirely new concept."

This doesn't mean the architect has knowingly misled them. But Stephen maintains that homeowners should only get an estimate for construction costs from the remodeler. "The remodeler knows his business best," Stephen says.

PSG maintains that a project is most successful when clients secure their remodeler, architect and even interior designer at the beginning of the project so that all professionals can work with each other in developing a

PSG's Pre-Construction Services gave us a clear picture of what we were getting into. This is the best way to do it.

– Beth Lu

successful plan for the client.

PSG Construction developed their *Pre-Construction Services* because they believe the remodeler's input is critical to the success of a project. They also worked with too many frustrated clients over the course of their business, and wanted to address these recurring concerns.

The *Pre-Construction Services* include three steps: 1. Feasibility Study 2. Design Review and 3. Project Specifications.

Before the Architect is Hired, PSG Conducts a Feasibility Study**PHASE I**

When the client approaches PSG either before or when first securing an architect, PSG can perform a detailed *Feasibility Study*.

"The *Feasibility Study* gives our clients a real understanding of what their investment in the project will be," explains Stephen. "The client has tangible information for making an educated decision regarding their project."

The *Feasibility Study* includes:

- Meeting the client at the project site to perform the site evaluation
- Researching and documenting setbacks (for additions)
- Performing an overall review of goals and desired scope of work
- Evaluating the existing structure to determine how the new structure will be constructed to match existing conditions
- Evaluating existing AC, plumbing and electrical systems to determine necessary upgrades
- Formulating a product selection budget (windows, cabinets, plumbing, etc.)
- Discussing concerns the client may have about the remodeling process
- Analyzing information and establishing a budget

After the Architect is Hired, PSG Performs the Design Review**PHASE II**

At this stage of the project PSG prefers to either team up with the client's architect (if they have one) or introduce them to an architect or home designer they personally work with.

The *Design Review* includes:

- Meeting at the project site to discuss the scope of work
- Meeting with the design team and client
- Review of preliminary plans • Preparing a second budget based on preliminary plans

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Expansive Old World Kitchen Befits a Family of Eight

7,000 Square Foot Home Receives Multi-Task Kitchen Makeover



When Dr. Egerton and Anne van den Berg approached PSG Construction to renovate their kitchen, they brought along very specific goals. The family of seven – soon to be eight – needed more space to accommodate the whole family in the kitchen area, while allowing several tasks to take place at the same time.

Anne knew just what she wanted. As a former attorney, she set her career aside to devote full attention to her family. She wanted the space to be arranged so she could be close at hand to offer assistance and supervision to her children while they played games or completed homework.

Above: The kitchen before and during construction.

Above right: Three existing rooms were transformed into one multi-function kitchen to accommodate this busy family of seven – with a new addition on its way.

Right: The side-by-side Sub Zero® 36" refrigerator and 36" freezer accommodate the needs of the large family. Plaster ceilings and granite countertops build on the kitchen's European flavor.



PHOTO: EVERETT & SOULÉ



PHOTO: EVERETT & SOULÉ

"Wherever Mom is, that's where the children want to be," this active mother and wife explains. "So I wanted one big space that could be used simultaneously by several people. That's exactly what's happened [with our renovation]."

The client's goals also called for an old European French look that "felt lived in and looked as if it had been around for a long time," as Anne expresses it.

Existing Kitchen Moved to Temporary Location During Construction

The first task was to prepare a complete temporary kitchen for use during the construction period in order to keep the inconvenience of the project to a minimum.

"We were concerned about a family of this size being without a fully equipped kitchen for such a lengthy period of time," Stephen Gidus says. In one day's time, PSG dismantled the existing kitchen and re-assembled it in a nearby bedroom that was temporarily vacated. The sink was set up in a closet and temporary plumbing was run under the floor, which was situated on a crawl space. A 220 volt line for the appliances was also run under the flooring.

PSG also installed temporary insulated walls to close off the construction site from the rest of the house.

"We did not want the noise of the construction to disturb the children practicing their piano or playing on the computer," Paul Gidus points out. A temporary entrance for construction workers was also created to minimize the inconvenience to the family.

"The temporary kitchen made a tremendous difference," the client recalls. "It was definitely worth it. We experienced very little inconvenience."

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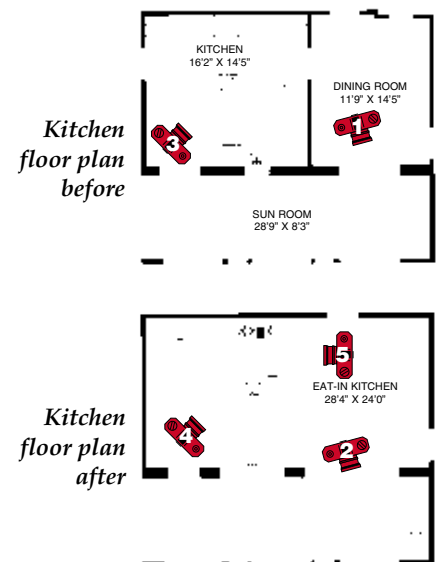


PHOTO: EVERETT & SOULÉ



Top: Formerly the sunroom, this area now provides space for additional activity in the kitchen. Sub Zero® refrigerator drawers are located to the left of the farmhouse sink and are concealed behind pine cabinetry. Andersen® French doors and transom give an optimal view of the pool, tennis court and lake.

Below: The former sunroom.



Talents of Artisans Used to Restore Home with Unusual Past

1920's Home is Restored by Duplicating Period Finishes and Methods

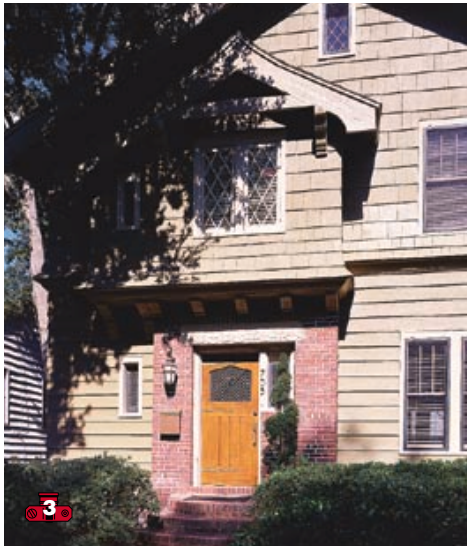


PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY

Built in 1927, this downtown Orlando home carries an interesting history, and has received a renovation with an equally unique story behind it.

Possessing a record of all past owners, the current homeowners, Duke & Colleen Woodson, learned that the original owner built railroads in the Florida Keys for business magnate Henry Flagler. Armed with the home's rich history and an appreciation for quality, the homeowners became committed to duplicating the workmanship and methods of the era in which the home was originally built.

"They stipulated that finishes be completed using the methods and materials of the period," Paul Gidus of PSG Construction explains. "This meant finishing the walls by applying plaster to wire lathe. We used mud set tile in the showers. We installed true divided putty glazed windows, and moldings and trims were replicated."

The Woodsons wanted quality "beneath the surface" and not just superficially.

"We appreciate the workmanship the original owners put into the house seventy-five years ago," Duke says. "We hope what we've done to the house will be appreciated seventy-five



PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY

Above left: The entire exterior of this shingle style house was sandblasted and painted. Windows were restored and new screens were built. Overhead utility lines were buried to enhance the exterior.

Above: What appears to be a modest residence from the front elevation is actually a dramatic four-level home as revealed from the rear.

Right: The exterior rear elevation before.



PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY



PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY

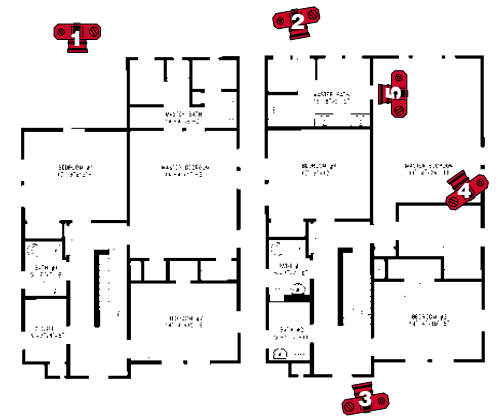


PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY

years from now. In the meantime, we sure will appreciate it!"

The homeowners worked with PSG Construction, residential designer Karen Kassik, President of Lucia Custom Home Designers Inc., and Leecy Wyatt of Franklin Interiors to meet their unique goals. While much attention was given to finish details, a major challenge was to architecturally "mimic the original house and era when we designed the new rooms," says Karen. The rooms were not originally positioned to take advantage of the lake situated at the edge of the property. In addition, the windows of that period were typically small in size. Duplicating these windows in the new rooms would only underplay the lake view. The challenge was met by "orienting the rooms towards the lake," explains Karen. "We also used a large quantity of smaller windows [to be architecturally correct] and placed them at eye level."

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Third level floor plan before

Third level floor plan after

Above: By incorporating a trio of smaller windows, the renovation reflects the true architectural elements of the period and at the same time imparts a full view of the lake in the master bedroom sitting area.

Below: The new master bathroom gracefully mingles period elements with contemporary luxury. The elegant claw foot tub is enhanced by oak flooring, granite counter tops, traditional period picture mould, and custom cabinets hand-built on-site by PSG's master carpenter.

Mini Estate Evolves On Four Acres

French Country Renovation Features Exciting Elements

What started out as a simple addition evolved into a complete renovation that totally changed the appearance of this modest ranch to reflect a charming French Country style. Located on four acres in Seminole County, the home was a typical 1980's ranch. Adding 1,160 sq. ft. turned the home into a mini estate with 3,000 sq. ft. of living space and extraordinary details.

PSG Construction worked with Bill Platts of Slocum Platts Architects Design Studio in completing the project, which includes a 200 sq. ft. dog house and pump house on the property. Newly-added space includes a family room, dining room, sunroom, covered porch, screened porch, master sitting room, walk-in closet and powder room. Two bathrooms, including the master bathroom were also expanded. A white fence with brick wall and columns was added to heighten the property's ambience.

"The homeowners weren't interested in an overpowering floor plan," explains architect Bill Platts. "They were happy with the size of the existing rooms, but needed more space. They also wanted to change the exterior character of the home."

Paul Gidus of PSG Construction explains that the areas they would use the most—areas for living and entertaining—were identified, and these were added to the existing home. The client's goals were accomplished without tell-tale evidence that the home was added on to, Bill points out.

Inside, there are plenty of exciting details that set the project apart. The master bathroom features a \$3,400 faucet imported from England. A concealed staircase in the master sitting room leads to a finished and air-conditioned space the homeowners use as a music room. The project is designed with PSG's signature built-in bookcases, Hurd® wood windows, custom Corian®



PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY

shower, solid brass door knobs and hinges, and decorative copper spires on the rooftop. The 200 sq. ft. air-conditioned dog house contains three kennels and an elevated walk-up tub.

"The homeowners have a very livable home in square footage, but a priority was to keep the space intimate. They also wanted to surround themselves with luxurious finishes," explains Paul.

As a result of vision and planning, this country home is brimming with lasting quality. [PSG](#)

SOURCES

Windows - *Garner Window*
Air Conditioning - *Standard Air*
Wood Floors - *Citrus Floors*
Lighting - *Lightstyle*
Roofing Materials - *Blackton Inc.*
Interior Trim & Doors - *Residential Building Supply*



PHOTO: EVERETT & SOULÉ



Above: Front elevation before.

Left: This 1980's ranch was converted to a French Country elevation characterized by handcrafted copper dormers, a concrete tile roof, Hurd® aluminum clad wood windows and decorative copper spires that also serve as lightening rods.

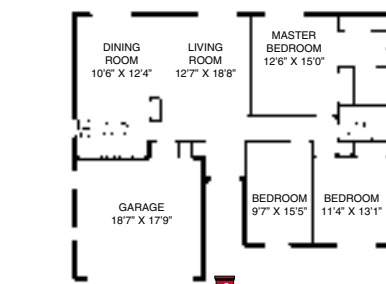
Bottom left: The family room was designed for optimal comfort and pleasure with PSG's signature built-in entertainment center surrounding the fireplace and strategically placed windows which encourage plenty of natural lighting.

Below: The 200 square foot dog house architecturally harmonizes with the main house.

Bottom: Canine members of the family don't object to bath time in the elevated walk-up tub featuring patterned tile insets and trim.



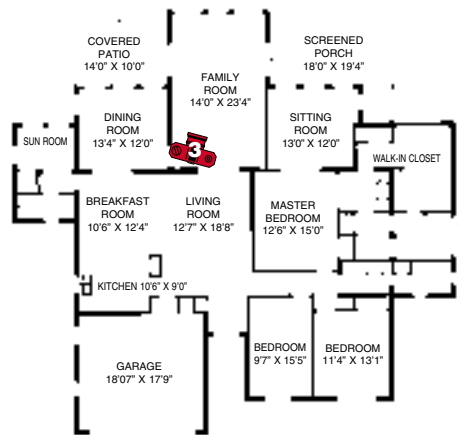
PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY



Floor plan before



PHOTO: EVERETT & SOULÉ



Floor plan after

Keeping a Watch on Busy Toddlers Influences Renovation

Opening Up Kitchen and Family Room Makes Space More Functional



PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY

Busy mom Kathy Rapprich wanted to keep a watchful eye on her energetic toddlers while working in the kitchen. But the original family room and kitchen were two disconnected rooms separated by a massive fireplace wall. PSG Construction, with the skilled assistance of interior designer Laurie Malmberg, removed the fireplace wall and realigned the opening between the kitchen and dining room to create a grand kitchen and family area. The kitchen work areas were purposely rotated to directly overlook the family area, giving Kathy a full view of her children's activities. Now the children always have their mom's attention, and no longer feel the need to drag toys into the kitchen.

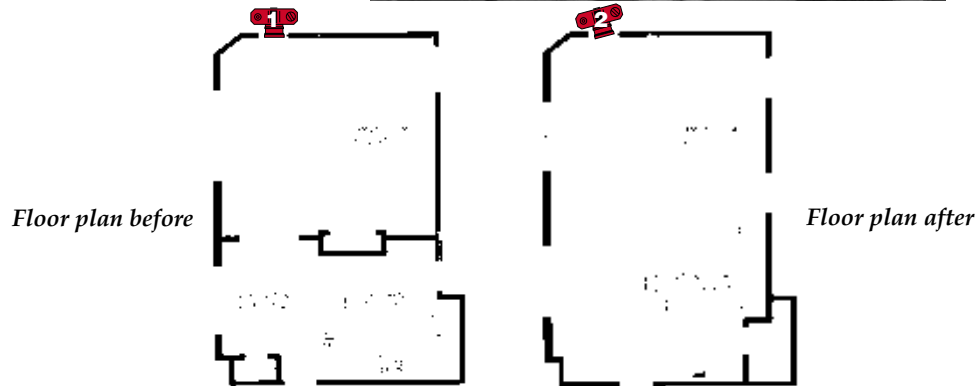
The old sliding glass doors were removed, the opening onto the porch

was relocated, and French doors were installed to create an improved view and access to the porch and pool.

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PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY



Two Story Addition Surrounded by Dramatic Lake View

Exercise and Game Rooms Situated to Appreciate View of Lake From All Angles



PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY

Working with residential designer Jim Ross of Ross Design Group, PSG Construction created this 1,800 square foot two-story addition which was designed to take advantage of the lake-front view. Desiring more space in their relatively new residence, the homeowners desired to add both an exercise room and game room. Shown here, the first floor exercise room boasts butt glaze windows that provide a panoramic view of the lake. Sliding glass doors offer convenient access to the adjacent screened porch.

On the second floor of the addition, the game room gets an equally superb view of the lake thanks to the graceful triple arched windows. The soaring ceiling is finished with tongue-and-groove bleached wood. Also part of the project, a bathroom and closet were added for an existing bedroom on the first floor to create a private suite. [PSG](#)

SOURCES

Interior Design - Carolyn Franklin
Interior Design, Inc.
Air Conditioning - Standard Air
Roofing Materials - Blackton Inc.
Interior Trim & Doors - Residential
Building Supply



PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY



PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY

PSG Construction is the Builder of Choice for New Custom Home Construction

Why would a company specializing in remodeling also be the ideal new home builder?

“A new home is incredibly easier to build for a remodeling specialist,” Paul Gidus explains. “The knowledge and expertise needed to renovate a home is much more complicated than for building a new home.”

When a client asked Stephen Gidus whether PSG could build a new home for him, Stephen lightheartedly replied, “We could do it blindfolded and with one hand tied behind our backs!”

Stephen was trying to make the point that remodeling is a specialized area of home construction that is like the difference between a general practitioner and a heart specialist. The heart specialist is capable of giving a general examination, but the general practitioner is not capable of performing heart surgery. Likewise, the remodeling specialist is capable of building a new home, but a new home builder is not necessarily capable of carrying out a remodeling project.

Clients thinking about building a new home should consider PSG Construction as the logical choice. Throughout the company’s history, they have completed a number of distinctive new homes boasting various styles.

Membership in Exclusive Organization Gives PSG Added Credibility

As members of the Master Custom Builders Council, an exclusive local

ANALYSIS RENAISSANCE	
Lower Level Living Area	4631 sq.ft.
Upper Level Living Area	1446 sq.ft.
Total Living Area	6077 sq.ft.
Garage Area	1604 sq.ft.
Lanai Area	1465 sq.ft.
2nd Level Balcony Area	673 sq.ft.
Entry Area	87 sq.ft.
Total Roofed Area	9906 sq.ft.

organization, PSG Construction must meet the strict code of standards and requirements put forth by the Council. They are on the cutting edge of technology and often use some of the same concepts and products for new homes as they do in remodeling projects.

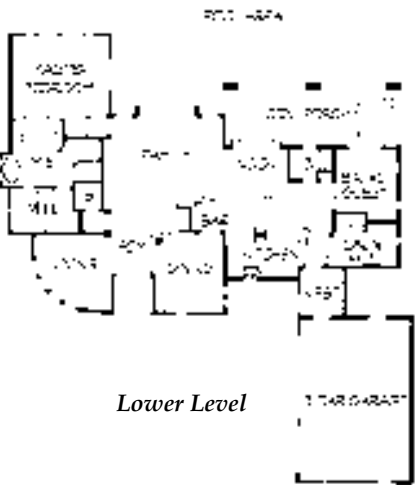
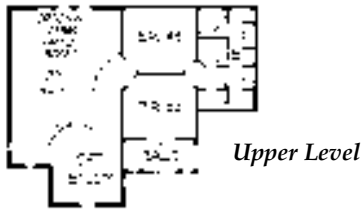
Conceptual Plans

Shown on these pages are conceptual plans created by Jim Lucia of Lucia Custom Home Designers Inc. and Jim Ross of Ross Design Group. More information can be obtained by contacting Gail at the PSG Construction offices at 628-9660. [PSG](#)

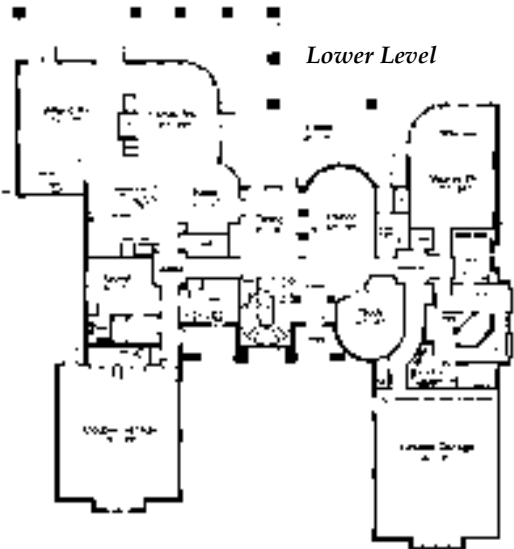
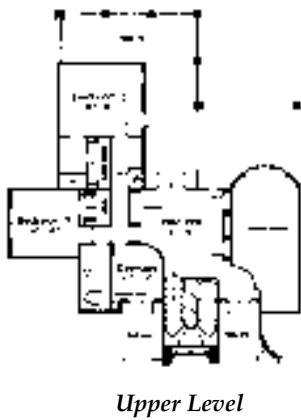
Unlike some generic Mediterranean influenced homes commonly built in Florida, the Renaissance Home by Ross Design Group is an authentic Italianate style. Jim Ross of Ross Design Group carefully considered the window views on the backside of the house for optimum enjoyment of a golf course or lakefront setting. Even the dining room placement in the floor plan is purposed for views far more spectacular than the front driveway. Designed for a family with children in mind, this house features a family room just for the kids and grown-up play in the billiard room.



Jim Lucia of Lucia Custom Home Designers Inc. set out to design a home apart from the expected new house design. His contribution, the Bonifacio, is anything but typical. The sculpted kitchen sheds its rectilinear boundaries with cabinets set at angles and chiseled in a stair-step fashion. Laundry centers are positioned on both the first and second floor modeled for convenience and extended family use. Unique to this home is the “anti-chamber”, a vestibule between the house and garage which allows for package and dry-cleaning deliveries while remaining sensitive to security needs.



ANALYSIS BONIFACIO	
Lower Level Living Area	2626 sq.ft.
Upper Level Living Area	967 sq.ft.
Total Living Area	3593 sq.ft.
Garage Area	698 sq.ft.
Covered Porch Area	390 sq.ft.
Entry Area	251 sq.ft.
Balcony Area	107 sq.ft.
Optional Upper Family Area	259 sq.ft.
Total Roofed Area	5098 sq.ft.



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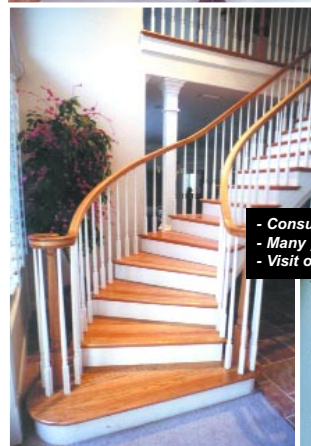


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Expansive Old World Kitchen Benefits a Family of Eight

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Creating One Extraordinary Space From Three

The existing kitchen was adjacent to a breakfast room and sunroom, all with various floor and ceiling heights. To deliver what the couple desired, PSG Construction teamed up with Joan Des Combes, CKD of Architectural Artworks Inc.

“We incorporated the three rooms into one large space by removing walls and relocating doors,” Joan explains. “The renovation increased wall space and improved traffic flow,” Joan points out.

Several task areas were designed to make the kitchen truly multi-functional. The kitchen now is comprised of a main work/prep area, dining space, an arts and crafts station placed at a lower height for the children, a work desk and a cleanup/seating area for adults.

PSG and Architectural Artworks created the Old World warmth the client wanted for the kitchen of their 7,000 square foot home by using weathered antique barn beams on the ceiling and doorway surrounds. The focal point of the kitchen is a custom limestone hearth designed by Joan. The distressed pine cabinetry is finished in a warm honey stain and deep red paint. Handmade glazed tiles used on the backsplash feature charming country and animal designs. Granite countertops and a deep farmhouse sink build on European practicality. A warming drawer holds prepared dishes for the large family while the remainder of the meal is being prepared. An undercounter refrigerator is positioned beneath the children’s arts and crafts station for easy accessibility. To accommodate the large family, the kitchen is also equipped with state-of-the-art appliances including two dishwashers, two ovens, a 48” gas cook top and Sub-Zero® 36” refrigerator and 36” freezer.

The newly renovated kitchen purposefully provides a magnificent view of the swimming pool, tennis court and lake located at the rear of the property.



PHOTO: EVERETT & SOULÉ



Above: Sub-Zero® refrigerator drawer puts snacks and drinks within easy reach.

Below: The temporary kitchen.

“I love cooking in the kitchen,” Anne says. “Several of the children can be helping me at the same time. Helping them with their homework is easy now. This is much more comfortable for me. PSG Construction accomplished what we intended.” [PSG](#)

SOURCES

Windows - *Manning Building Supplies*
Appliances - *Sub-Zero*
Appliances - *Southeast Steel*
Air Conditioning - *Standard Air*
Wood Floors - *Citrus Floors*
Lighting - *Lightstyle*
Interior Trim & Doors - *Residential Building Supply*

Talents of Artisans Used to Restore Home with Unusual Past

continued from page 7

Renovation to the four-level home with walk-out basement included gutting the existing master bathroom to expand the master bedroom, adding a new master bathroom on top of an existing flat exterior roof, renovating three additional bathrooms, refinishing flooring, repainting walls, aligning new exterior walls with existing walls, sandblasting and repainting the exterior, repairing exterior windows and screens, and re-roofing the house. Overhead utility lines were also buried to enhance the exterior.

Thanks to the teamed efforts of client, home designer, interior designer, and remodeler, this renovation pays tribute to a glorious past and promising future. [PSG](#)

SOURCES

Windows - *Garner Window*
Interior Design - *Carolyn Franklin Interior Design, Inc.*
Air Conditioning - *Standard Air*
Wood Floors - *Citrus Floors*
Roofing Materials - *Blackton Inc.*
Interior Trim & Doors - *Residential Building Supply*

Keeping a Watch on Busy Toddlers Influences Renovation

continued from page 10

Storage, pantry and office space were also added in the kitchen. Kathy and husband Frank opted to invest in remodeling their kitchen and family room rather than move from what they consider a “gem” of a neighborhood with great schools and a convenient location. [PSG](#)

SOURCES

Appliances - *Southeast Steel*
Wood Floors - *Citrus Floors*
Lighting - *Lightstyle*
Interior Trim & Doors - *Residential Building Supply*

Retaining PSG Construction in Early Stages of Planning Can Save Thousands of Dollars

continued from page 3

- Preparing a second budget based on preliminary plans
- Meetings (when necessary) with key subcontractors to address technical questions and assist architect in development stage
- Compilation of *Product Selection Manual*
- Meeting (when necessary) with engineer for structural considerations

“At this point, the final conceptual drawings should be complete, a revised budget has been established and the client has possession of the *Product Selection Manual*,” Stephen says.

The *Product Selection Manual* is a comprehensive outline of all of the products that the client and interior designer will need to select. A listing of PSG’s preferred suppliers and their showroom locations is also included. Clients use this valuable book to select products for their project – from cabinetry and plumbing fixtures to flooring and counter surfaces.

“The *Product Selection Manual* was most helpful in giving us an idea of what we had to accomplish for the project,” say clients Joe and Margaret Simonds. “We couldn’t have done this project without PSG’s planning.”

After Final Plans are Finished, PSG Completes the Project Specifications

PHASE III

“This is the most exciting stage for our clients,” Stephen explains. “The architectural plans are 95% complete and we are ready to meet all the key subcontractors and suppliers at the project site. We start at 7 or 8 a.m. at the client’s house and schedule the subcontractors and suppliers in 1/2 hour increments. We introduce our team to the client, review the scope of work, analyze the client’s goals again and make necessary modifications.”

The *Project Specification* stage includes:

- Meeting with client at project site to determine additional needs
- Consulting with all key subcontractors and suppliers to confirm budgeting
- Making necessary modifications to plans due to subcontractor and supplier input
- Documenting owner’s product selections
- Providing written description, specification and outline of each portion of the project
- Value engineering – search for additional potential cost-saving ideas
- Formulating final budget

“So much critical work takes place before construction even begins,” Stephen points out. “When the client invests in these *Pre-Construction Services*, they are eliminating the assumptions that might be made, things left undone, things not discussed, wasted money and mistakes made during the construction stage.” *Pre-Construction Services* allow the project to be completely thought through so that the client gets the best possible investment for their money.

Maximizing the Potential of the Investment, Avoiding Unforeseen Disappointments

“[If we hadn’t used PSG’s *Pre-Construction Services*] we would have ended up compromising on things later and would have been really disappointed because we would have run out of money,” says client Kathy Rapprich. She and her husband, Frank, originally wanted to enclose their patio to gain more space. But with the help of PSG’s *Pre-Construction Services*, they were able to come up with an alternative plan that allowed them to keep their patio and gain the space they needed in a less expensive way. “[If we had done it the way we originally planned it], I wouldn’t have gotten the cabinets, wood floors, or granite countertops I wanted. It would have been

too expensive,” Kathy says.

“But with the [*Pre-Construction Services*], we were able to come up with a different way of getting the space we needed without adding on to the house. I still got the cabinets, flooring and countertops I wanted, and we didn’t need to enclose the patio. I’m glad we didn’t enclose it now, because I enjoy the patio! If we hadn’t made the decisions up front [with the *Pre-Construction Services*], I wouldn’t have gotten what I really wanted.”

“Our philosophy is to build it twice,” says Stephen. “We build it first on paper, then in the field. This gives us a more precise picture.” It doesn’t cost the client any extra to correct a mistake on paper.

“Our *Pre-Construction Services* have been overwhelmingly successful,” Stephen reports. “Our clients have a greater level of comfort, experience far less stress during the project, and know what their investment is going to be.” Stephen sums up the value of these unique services by saying, “When a client is investing thousands of dollars in a project, our *Pre-Construction Services* become a small but sound investment in itself.” [PSG](#)

PAUL & STEPHEN GIDUS NEWS

PSG Donates Building Expertise for The Renaissance Home



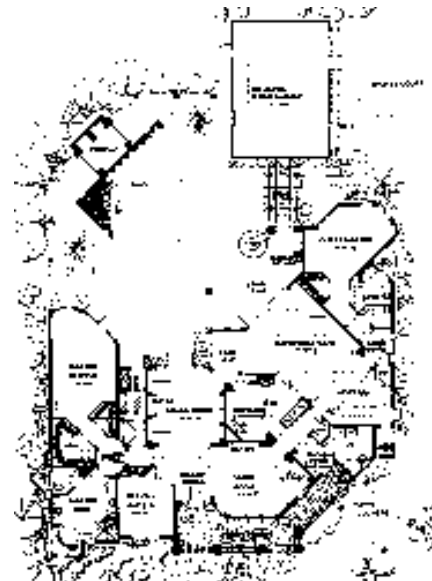
As part of a team of eight builders, PSG Construction is donating professional expertise and staff to build *The Renaissance Home* this year to benefit **The Home Builders Association of Mid-Florida** and *Restore Orlando*, an inner city redevelopment project in Orlando.

Described as “a showcase of the best homebuilding talent in Central Florida,” by the Mid-Florida HBA, *The Renaissance Home* will feature the tal-

ents of some of the industry’s finest professionals, including the architectural firm **The Evans Group**. Scheduled to be built in Winter Park, the home is to be a “state of the art custom home featuring the best ideas of the most talented team in Orlando, from design to construction,” according to *The Renaissance Home* Committee Co-Chairs **Larry Fleming** and **Wendy Cummins**.

Design and planning stages for *The Renaissance Home* began in July 1999.

Completion date is scheduled for October of 2000. [PSG](#)



First level floor plan



Second level floor plan

PSG Owners are 2 Out of 5 Central Florida Remodelers With Valuable CGR Certification



PSG Construction wanted to do more for their clients. They wanted their clients’ projects to be ultimately unique in quality, design and workmanship. For those reasons, Paul and Stephen Gidus recently received certification as a Certified Graduate Remodeler™. There are only five CGRs in Central Florida, including Paul and Stephen.

“Becoming a CGR gives us a professional edge and an expanded vision of the industry,” Stephen Gidus explains. “This means our clients get the finest services available for their investment.”

Certification as a CGR indicates:

- PSG has met NAHB (National Association of Home Builders) prescribed standards of business practice
- PSG has a proven track record of successfully completing projects
- PSG has completed relevant educational requirements
- PSG pledges to uphold the CGR Code of Ethics
- PSG will be re-certified every three years to maintain CGR designation by attending educational seminars, trade shows and programs

“CGR certification means we can give our clients something better—better quality, better design, better workmanship. This is peace of mind for our clients and for their investments,” Paul Gidus says. [PSG](#)

PAUL & STEPHEN GIDUS NEWS

Central Florida Suppliers Donate to Needy in Mexico

For the second year in a row, PSG Construction partner Paul Gidus spent part of his vacation this past summer in Mexico constructing rudimentary houses for needy Mexican natives. When Paul saw the scope of work that the non-profit organization *Project Mexico* takes on and the joy the new homeowners express, he decided to solicit donations of building materials from some of PSG’s suppliers.

Paul’s requests were met with enthusiasm. **Blackton Inc.** donated roofing materials, **Residential Building Supply** contributed lumber and doors, and **Smyth Lumber** supplied lumber. All materials will be used for building more houses in Mexico.

The houses Paul builds on his trips to Tijuana are a far cry from those his company builds and remodels in Central Florida. They measure 11’x 22’—the size of an average American family room. The uninsulated houses consist of two rooms, concrete floor, flat roof, and used windows and door. There is no plumbing or bathroom.

“I keep going back to Mexico because it helps put my whole life in perspective. When I see that these Mexicans can fit all their possessions in one tiny room, it helps me realize how unimportant material things are,” Paul says. “These people are not saving for a car or furniture. They are worried

about how to get their next meal.”

Project Mexico is a non-profit organization founded by an Orthodox Christian couple who also operate an orphanage for Mexican boys. More information on *Project Mexico* can be obtained by contacting Paul at PSG Construction. [PSG](#)



PHOTO: PSG CONSTRUCTION

PSG “Builds” a Tree for the Festival of Trees



PHOTO: MICHAEL LOWRY PHOTOGRAPHY

When sponsors and designers are invited to decorate a Christmas tree for the Festival of Trees, decorate is what they do, however PSG Construction prefers to go about things in a unique way. When asked to be a sponsor, PSG set out to do what they do best with their tree – build it!

With the theme “Merry Construction,” the tree stood 8 feet tall with a 6 foot platform that featured a train traveling the perimeter. The tree was designed to appeal to children, with shelves as “branches” decorated with lights and toys.

“Christmas is such a wonderful holiday for children,” Stephen Gidus says. “We wanted the tree to reflect a child’s greatest fantasy. So we decorated it with toys.”

“We asked **Roland Des Combes of Architectural Artworks Inc.** to help us in designing the tree,” Paul Gidus recalls. PSG carpenters constructed the tree and artist **Robin Lumpkin** provided her services for faux finishing the tree. **Colonial Photo and Hobby Shop** donated the train and accessories.

Sponsored by **The Council of 101**, which serves the Orlando Museum of Art, the Festival of Trees is an event which raises significant funds for the Orlando Museum of Art through the auctioning of the trees to organizations and individuals.

“We received a great deal of enjoyment from this project,” says Stephen Gidus. “At the same time, we were able to serve a community we are quite proud to be a part of.” [PSG](#)



To Find the Best Builders, Just Look in the Kitchen

PSG Construction has built a reputation on transforming houses into homes. You see, renovations take specialized skills and knowledge. Sensitivity and reliability are the critical elements that have won PSG praise from their clients. Today's families spend more time than ever in their kitchens, which has made kitchen remodeling such a popular project. That's why PSG uses Sub-Zero refrigerators, Dacor cooking products and Asko dishwashers; they supply the performance, reliability and beauty PSG demands for their homeowners.

Sub-Zero Distributors is proud to supply the kitchen appliances to PSG Construction.

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