

# WATCH

# BRICK



1a



1b

**S**elf-supported  
lentils and masonry  
arches offer both  
structural solidity  
and classic beauty  
(1b).



1c

## Introduction: It All Starts With A Dream

Legendary filmmaker George Lucas once said, "Dreams are extremely important. You can't do it unless first you can imagine it." Dreams are where all success begins. But you don't have to visit the cinema to see a dream in action. A simple stroll through a favorite community can reveal a dream home that's the result of the hopes, desires, and imaginations of the people who live inside. These showstoppers reflect the impeccable craftsmanship and innovative design that only the highest quality construction can provide.

Brick is often the preferred material for dream homes of every style and purpose. That's because homeowners know its legendary durability and lasting beauty will ensure their dreams stand the test of time. Its versatility gives architects and builders the creative flexibility to turn homeowners' dreams into elegant, functional living spaces that will be enjoyed for years to come.

The homes featured in these pages have more in common than quality brick construction. They began with a collective vision of architects, builders, masons, and homeowners who saw an opportunity to create a lasting statement. Brick by brick, these homes were built using both classic design and innovative masonry techniques. And they all began with a dream.



"BRICK WILL ALWAYS HAVE A SIGNIFICANT PLACE IN ARCHITECTURE."  
GREGORY PALMER, AIA  
HARRISON DESIGN ASSOCIATES

*"Brick is a material that's well understood because it lends an air of permanency."*

## THE ART OF THE HOME

When *Southern Accents* magazine approached Harrison Design Associates in Atlanta to build this home in the Buckhead community as its 2000 Atlanta Showhouse, the design team knew it was a dream come true.

"We were given free reign to allow aesthetics – not cost – to drive the building of this home," says project architect Gregory Palmer, AIA. "We focused on using true, honest materials like brick. It truly was built for the art of the house, which made it a real dream project for us."



2a



2b

Aesthetics led Palmer to use an innovative brick finishing system that adds a unique sculptural look to the home. The result is an unexpected twist on a classic design.



2c



2d



2e

**N**ubby brick walls in Flemish Bond authenticate the home's French Norman design theme (2a).

The Georgian front entry offers an eclectic twist to the European design (2a).



DON RYAN  
SIMONINI BUILDERS

*“Brick is flat-out more indestructible than any other building product. It holds up perfectly throughout the entire building process.”*

### EXPANSIVE YET INTIMATE

The owners of this home wanted the best in modern design techniques while maintaining an estate feel on its six-acre lot in Waxhaw, NC. By staying true to classical design techniques and subtle masonry details, the home has an expansive, timeless quality that doesn't overpower visitors.

“Architectural integrity was very important to us,” says Don Ryan of Simonini Builders in Charlotte. “This home has all the modern conveniences, but we didn't compromise the timeless design to get there.”

To break down the mass of this home, contemporary and classical design elements were used side by side. The coarse face of oversized tumble brick lends an aged look, while rustic masonry joints are achieved by wiping excess mortar with a gloved hand rather than using a traditional grapevine joint. Topped by tall chimneys with ornate masonry arches, this home's judicious use of detail makes it a timeless beauty.

**O**ver 10,000 square feet of brick and cobblestone pavers in a fishscale pattern greets visitors (3a).





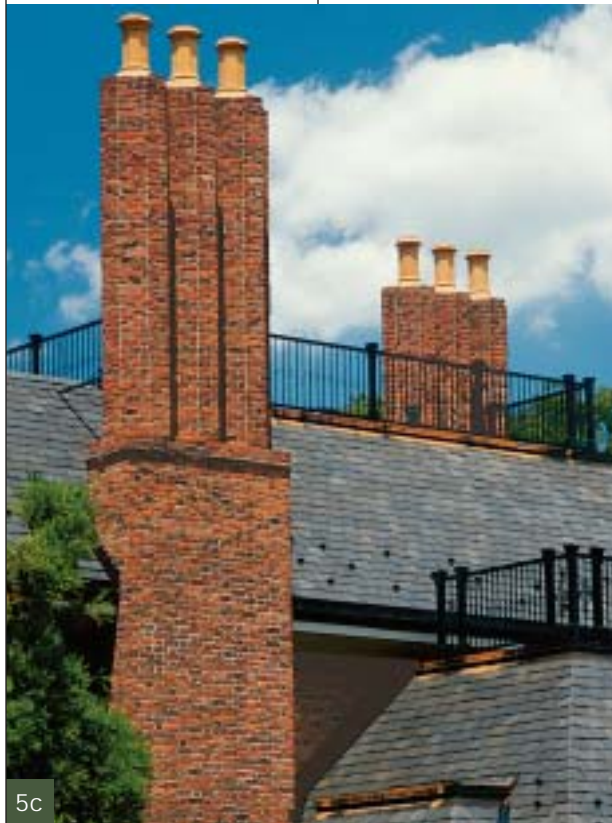
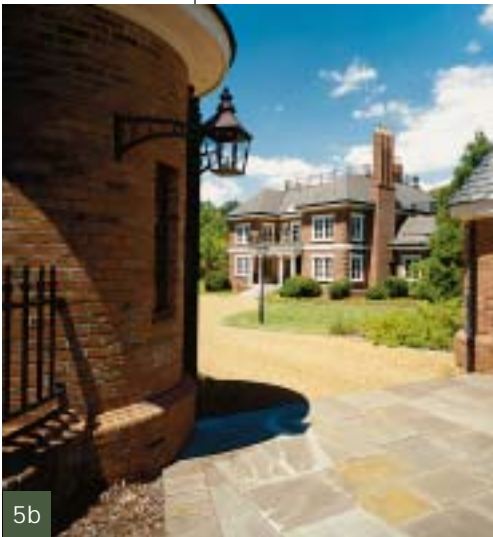
JOHN JOSEPH LINN, AIA  
JOHN JOSEPH LINN  
ARCHITECTURE

*“Brick has a huge advantage because its modularity makes it more refined and precise.”*

#### A UNIFIED VISION

When it comes to designing dream homes like this one in North Carolina, architect John Linn of Greensboro insists that a shared vision between architect and homeowner lie at the heart of the project from start to finish.

“There must be a unity of thought,” he says. “There must be one vision, one story. And only the architect can make sure everyone on the team is working toward that vision.” Color and contrast are the defining elements of this home. The brick supplier modified its



manufacturing process to achieve the special toned-down reddish-orange shade the homeowner wanted. The custom brick, now called Tryon Oversized, has since become a favorite among its customers.

**N**umerous brick details and limestone accents, achieved with special shapes, scales the home to fit the surrounding neighborhood (5a-d).