



FINISHING TOUCHES A stimulating mix of textures adds an element of energy to the kitchen, with Greek key, herringbone and antiqued mirror finishes all coming together in symphony.

Soaring heights & sumptuous hues

UNVEILING AN AUTHENTIC MAY RIVER ESTATE

STORY BY PAULA MAGRINI + PHOTOGRAPHY BY J. SAVAGE GIBSON

From Bermuda to the Bluff, a global corporate couple now calls River Road Home.

Waterfront property at Palmetto Bluff begs builders, architects and interior designers to step outside the box. It's not just another beach destination bathed in sunset vistas, pastel palettes and tropical touches. When Rob and Donna Kuzloski discovered Bluffton's pristine May River neighborhood, they imagined a gracious family retreat that embraces the spirit of Lowcountry vernacular on a number of levels, from its meandering footprint to an interior landscape that's as multi-faceted as the surrounding coastal habitat.

"Every room in the house has a water view," Donna explained, "yet each room also has its own character, whether it's the drama of the great room with its lofty ceilings and reclaimed wood trusses or the serenity of our master suite where we moved walls to add a light and airy yoga nook."

Donna and Rob depended on their builder, Element Construction, to bring to life the floorplans that straddled two generous home sites. "Knowing the expectations of a couple who have lived and traveled all over the world, we definitely pushed the envelope with this home," said Andrea Eldred, co-owner of Element Construction

Eldred and co-owner Brandon Edwards collaborated closely with the project's architect and interior designer to achieve a remarkable level of custom detail throughout the near 10,000 square-foot estate. "Building on dual lots was a major commitment," Edwards said, "but the elaborate specifications of the home's interior and exterior design were the true test of endurance. It will always be a memorable project," he added.

No strangers to Palmetto Bluff's trending River Road enclave, Court Atkins Group steered the Kuzloskis' architectural design. Their mission was to leverage majestic water views on the rear side of the double-sized home site while infusing plenty of Lowcountry aesthetic, from asymmetrical exterior gables to abundant porch space.

"We have worked on a number of combined-lot projects in Palmetto Bluff. It is a great opportunity when it comes along, but it also adds a little extra pressure to do something extraordinary for our owners" said President William Court. "Fortunately, we had great clients who were willing to think through each detail and take the creative ride with us."

The result is an expansive layout that blends intentionally modern details with both timeless and reclaimed Lowcountry elements.



SMALL WONDERS Tones and textures combine in ingenious ways to lend comfort and hominess to the home's smaller spaces. In the year ahead the Kuzloskis look forward to welcoming their first young family guests when their three grandchildren visit Palmetto Bluff for the first time and break in the bunk room.

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- DONNA KUZLOSKI

tures a mixture of wood, metal and stone,” she pointed out.

One of McRorie’s favorite “defined spaces” is the front entry staircase wall where a series of individual black textured wood tiles are mounted with brass nail accents, creating visual drama and a lasting impression.

“The tension of dark and light inspires a more subdued, stately aesthetic that resonates with an authentic river community,” McRorie shared. “It also gives definition and intimacy to smaller contexts within a grander scheme.”

The Kuzloskis have embraced McRorie’s impactful contrasts and thoughtful palette choices throughout their home. “We have the best of both worlds, whether entertaining indoors or outside,” Donna notes. “The views – and experiences – from any point of view are spectacular.” LL



THE HOME TEAM

- Builder:** Element Construction
- Tile:** Savannah Surfaces
- Cabinetry:** Palmetto Cabinet Studio
- Hood & mantel:** Francois & Co.
- Wood flooring:** Ziel’s Antique Flooring
- Beams:** Timberstone
- Hardware:** Bird Decorative
- Plumbing fixtures:** Cregger
- Interior Design:** KS McRorie Design



COMPARE AND CONTRAST The smoky blues of the billiard room and the steely grays of the tile accents on the fireplace expand the color palette throughout the house.

Five ideas for your home

MINOR ENHANCEMENTS & UPGRADES THAT MAKE A MAJOR DIFFERENCE.

Secrets to steal from our featured home:

Five bright ideas from KS McRorie Interior Design.

1. COFFEE IN BED
Who says the coffee bar belongs in the kitchen? Many of us rush through our morning routine craving caffeine, but it's out of reach ... unless the coffee maker, cups and mini-café supplies are steps from the master suite!

2. BACK KITCHEN CACHET
Less glorified by its back burner location, the back kitchen actually plays a critical role in flawless entertaining, especially when it offers a secondary wet bar and wine feature.

3. INTIMACY ELEVATED
You want the morning light, but not the morning audience (even if that amounts to a few squirrels, sparrows and other wildlife). These transom-style windows ensure your bath space is brilliant yet discreet.

4. MASTER MONTAGE
Even though a modern-transitional approach prevails in this sumptuous master suite, there's still opportunity for a hint of traditional through a mix of darker wood tones, i.e., four poster bed and walnut mantle.

5. JACK'S GETAWAY
It's more than a laundry room, it's chic storage gallery, convenient folding space, a polished organizational headquarters and, of course, a comforting retreat for pets like the Kuzloskis' Jack, who just wants a little privacy.



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