

AS SEEN IN
Architectural Digest

EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN | SOUTH CAROLINA

HISTORY BY DESIGN

Family heritage inspires Carolyn Pearsall-Kurgan's modern take on Southern living.



Simply Southern at Home founder Carolyn Pearsall-Kurgan grew up steeped in the details of building homes.

"My father was a custom homebuilder, so I grew up on building sites," Pearsall-Kurgan says. "I joke that I was a daddy's girl playing brickmason, but I was watching craftsmen at work, taking in all the details. It's where I learned how to work with builders."

At Twin Chimneys Farm, Pearsall-Kurgan's clients wanted to build an heirloom homeplace that would maintain its appeal for generations. Building on the site of the farm's original 1820 farmhouse, Pearsall-Kurgan sought to pay homage to that history while avoiding trendy tropes, ultimately settling on a craftsman design with prairie-style windows to maximize views of the property's 260 acres.

Earth tones, stone surfaces, and intentional lighting complement the artisan

warmth of the new home. Pearsall-Kurgan designed porch columns from the original farmhouse's floor joist while antique heart pine and ceilings were reclaimed and repurposed in a nod to the site's past. The clients also added a 150-year-old mantelpiece from another family property, and pieces of heirloom pottery and ironwork were balanced with modern decor elements to complete the eclectic design.

"People from the South have a lot of history," Pearsall-Kurgan explains. "Everybody has family pieces, and most want to integrate those pieces into even the most modern home. That's where I come in, working with the build team on the finer points to design homes that reflect their owners' personalities. It's getting those details right that makes a true Southern-style home."

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: The craftsman-style front porch at Twin Chimneys Farm features natural stone, wrought iron balustrades, and a twin-columned entry fabricated from the floor joist of the original 1820 farmhouse. Eclectic modern decor elements complement the striking two-story, stone-clad chimney. Heart pine flooring reclaimed from the original farmhouse provides a warm foundation to the kitchen's custom island and light fixtures. Designer Carolyn Pearsall-Kurgan. Photography by Anna Garrison Photography.