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SF is Homes

Revamped contemporary in Atherton

'Compartmentalized'
home gets new
open floor plan



COVER STORY *By Jordan Guinn*



Photography by Scott DuBose

Atherton estate gets new life, fulfills potential

Lynn Fisher won't balk when challenged to venture outside her comfort zone. The principal of Ogawa Fisher Architects came into the renovation of Atherton's 10 Mount Vernon Lane as the project was in progress. Her task: Bring cohesion to pre-selected finishes while simultaneously revamping the floor plan to craft a brighter, sleeker appearance with better flow.

"We typically meet our clients before the project begins and hear their

The Atherton home at 10 Mount Vernon Lane received a full-scale remodel in 2013 and offers more than 7,000 square feet of living space.

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Photography by Scott DuBose

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priorities on finishes and styles. Then we infuse our expertise onto every single detail, working with them to get the style they want," said Fisher, who collaborated with Hiromi Ogawa, the co-principal of their jointly owned architecture firm. "In this case, the owners had a strong vision that we helped execute. They were the drivers."

A major factor behind the remodel of the home built in 2000 was that the floor plan needed an update.

"It was very of its era," Fisher said. "It was contemporary, but not thoughtfully designed. It was compartmentalized. It was clunky. And the back of the home was very closed in."

The time had come for a hard reset.

"The homeowner clearly saw potential. He wanted to bring transparency to the outside, as well as a more modern language than what was originally there," Fisher said.

Relocating the staircases became one of the most significant projects of the renovation.

"The staircases were right in your face as soon as you walked in the home. It created an identity crisis for the room as to where you should go," Fisher said. "We wanted to highlight the great room and realize its potential, so we rebuilt and repositioned the staircases so

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Lynn Fisher, who collaborated with Hiromi Ogawa, the co-principal of their jointly owned architecture firm

it doesn't upset the view."

Now someone standing in the foyer can look through the great room to the serene pool and backyard.

Glass panes supported by stainless steel banisters border the ascending steps. The same espresso-tinged hickory lining the floors throughout the home serve as treads for the floating staircases.

Fisher leaned on her experience as a LEED-accredited architect to incorporate green features like infrastructure for living rooftops and solar panels.

Her contributions transformed untapped potential into a stylish oasis of indoor/outdoor living with high-end finishes.

The six-bedroom offers more than 7,200 square-feet of living space on roughly an acre peppered with mature oak trees. The backyard showcases an Ipe deck

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Top: The yard has a vanishing-edge pool with an inlaid spa. **Above left:** The home features landings that look over the voluminous living room that opens to the backyard. **Above right:** The front yard of the Atherton home has an outdoor seating area.

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Photography by Scott DuBose

Details:

Address: 10 Mount Vernon Lane, Atherton

Price: \$8.45 million

Features: Six-bedroom Atherton home fully rebuilt in 2013 features a home theater with cinema screen and 4K projection system. The redesign transformed the interior to a brighter, airier and more open space. Designer appliances dominate both the chef's kitchen and fitness room, and environmentally friendly designs include infrastructure for solar panels and living rooftops. Several public rooms open to a an lpe deck flanking a vanishing-edge pool with spa.

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connected to a vanishing edge pool with spa, while a grasscrete terrace highlights the welcoming front yard.

Decadent inclusions and designer finishes are the norm rather than the exception here. Heated bathroom floors, rift-sawn walnut kitchen cabinets, Thassos marble, Lutron lighting, Dornbracht fixtures and a laundry room with dual sets of Miele washers and dryers are a mere smattering of the luxury offerings.

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Above: A casual dining area adjacent to the open kitchen enjoys backyard views through curved windows. **Left:** Mystery White marble imported from Namibia adorns the master bathroom. **Below:** The master suite is on the north side of the home and offers electronic window shades, a semi-circular balcony and wardrobe space in the master bathroom.



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Photography by Scott DuBose

Above: The library occupies an alcove off the family room and features shelving on three sides. **Below:** Relocating the staircases was one of the most significant projects of the renovation. **Bottom:** Double doors open to a stylish theater with state-of-the-art speakers and video components.

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Marble counters, a professional-grade Wolf range, Miele espresso center, a wine chiller, two refrigerators and hidden cabinet panels adorn the stylish chef's kitchen.

Another curved wall of windows (this time in the family room) overlooks the backyard and a sliding glass door opens to the pool. The family room also leads to side yards via glass doors on opposite sides of the room.

A library with custom shelving and courtyard access stands adjacent to the family room.

The home manages to cater to both fitness freaks and couch potatoes with the inclusion of both a fitness center and theater.

The lower-level gym offers a fully mirrored wall, as well as a plethora of name-brand appliances in the attached refreshment center. A 4K projection system, acoustic panels, cinema screen and surround sound create a home theater that recreates the real thing, minus when you are price-gouged on popcorn.

The home's six bedrooms all have en-suite bathrooms. Bedrooms include a mixture of deck access, a south-facing private terrace and a wet bar.

But the master suite remains the spot to end your day, despite the resort-quality inclusions of the remaining suites.

Two bedrooms share the suite's Jack and Jill bathroom, which is far from a cramped space for a couple to share. Mystery White marble from Namibia brightens a master bathroom decked out with a steam shower, freestanding tub and suspended mirrors hanging above a floating dual vanity.

Fisher said it doesn't matter at what phase she enters a job; the responsibilities and goals remain the same.

"The seller should take control of the process, we are there to guide them. It is their home. Our job is to make it perfect for them," Fisher said.



