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urban uniqueness in downtown Raleigh

REPORT BY REBECCA R. NEWSOME, MIRM

Think ivy-covered warehouse, circa 1913 — exposed brick walls encompassing 3,720 square feet, with rough-sawn wooden pillars accenting rafters of the same in a vaulted 16' ceiling. Think prime Downtown Raleigh location — two blocks of Moore Square. Think architectural verve — diagonal walls, earthy colors, diverse textures, epicurean kitchen, spa-style baths, and skylight cupola. Think urban uniqueness — find yourself within the seductive grip of 318 E. Davie Street.

"This property is such a surprise," says Rick Dean, Citygate Real Estate Services broker. "Although its exterior is enticing, its interior is absolutely fascinating. The lines, the colors, the textures and the seemingly endless details appeal to every sense."

Citygate co-listing broker Terry Pattillo agrees. "This is a very unique, grand property with a scale perfect for entertaining, yet it radiates a comfortable, homey feeling. I'm convinced

the next owner will be just as pleased as the current owner has been. This property is definitely a 'must-see.'"

318 E. Davie was originally converted from a storage warehouse to living space by the late J.C. Raulston, professor of horticultural science at N.C. State University and founder of the Beryl Road arboretum now named in his memory.

"Dr. Raulston bought the property in 1987 and immediately began its transformation, under the guidance of renowned architect Norma Burns," says Rick. "The design received great critical acclaim at the time. I understand Dr. Raulston enjoyed living here for about eight years, with many of his friends and colleagues considering it their 'home away from home.' When the current owner bought the property in 2005, he began a multi-year program of reconstruction, utilizing Burns' general plan while brightening and modernizing the space to give it an inviting,



The kitchen has an enormous island topped with honed granite, complementing polished granite in other areas.

warm appeal. He rebuilt the interior from ground up, treating the brick walls as an integral part of the design. He aptly called it his 'warehome.' It's an exceptional, intimate space that's ready for a romantic dinner for two or a gathering of 75."

Slate tile flooring greets guests at 318 E. Davie, along with one of two intriguing diagonal walls, measuring more than 15 feet at peak height and sloping down to 3 feet. The foyer area exposes a little more of the house with each step as it culminates into a great room in the truest sense. The great room comprises impressively spacious dining and living areas with gorgeous heart-of-pine flooring and a raised gourmet kitchen and breakfast area floored with cork.

The kitchen has an enormous island topped with honed granite, complementing polished granite in other areas. Geometric wine racks and maple and glass-front cabinetry harmonize with wine coolers and stainless steel appliances. "Company always winds

up in the kitchen," says Rick. "This home makes it easy to be in the kitchen and not miss anything going on in the living and dining areas."

A woodstove stands on the eastern end of the great room, flanked by two sets of double French doors bringing in natural light and giving way to outdoor living space. In combination with natural lighting, various forms of computerized pendant and track lighting cast luminescence in all areas, accenting the original beams and brick walls. A gas fireplace is centered in the built-in bookcases adjacent to the dining room, with stairs to the right leading up to a loft retreat, currently in use as a music room. Adorning the ceiling of the loft is a fabulous 12-foot skylight cupola surrounded by transom windows at its base.

The south side of the home houses an office, a master bedroom with a huge walk-in closet, and an amazing master bath including an oval-shaped shower/bath enclosure, complete with 14 showerhead sprayers, Jacuzzi tub,

and steam sauna. Well-placed shelving, towel-warmers, an angular cabinet accommodating ultra-cool double sinks with waterfall faucets, radiant-heat tile, and a water closet conclude this area. Beyond this incredible bath is a functional, aesthetically-pleasing laundry area.

Another divine spa bath adjoins the guest bedroom on the north end of the home, along with a media room and large storage areas. Outdoor living space includes an enclosed patio for grilling, an open side porch, and a garden patio backing to one of the home's ivy-covered walls.

"Priced at \$795,000, this property offers tremendous value," summarizes Rick. "It's simply a one-of-a-kind, spectacular home."

For more information on 318 E. Davie or to schedule a viewing, visit www.318EDavie.com or contact Rick Dean, 919-522-2901 or Terry Pattillo, 919-995-6672. An open house is planned for May 21 and 22, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. and May 26 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.



The master bath includes an oval-shaped shower/bath enclosure with 14 showerhead sprayers, Jacuzzi tub and steam sauna. Shelving, towel-warmers, an angular cabinet accommodating ultra-cool double sinks with waterfall faucets, radiant-heat tile and a water closet complement the room.

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