



ABOVE: A transom adds architectural definition and old-fashioned charm.

LEFT: Heart pine floors tie rooms together.

OPPOSITE PAGE: High ceilings and two types of tile add to this bath's appeal.

Working with Mobile architect Pete J. Vallas, a member of the American Institute of Architects, the Radcliffs signed off on a 4,000-square-foot, vintage-style home design that would be unique in many ways. For one, it would have a basement—a rarity in Mobile's dense and expansive clay soil (which leaves below-ground spaces prone to leak if not constructed properly). The house also was to be built on a steep, sloping lot, narrow enough to pose problems. "It meant that once the house went up, we couldn't get a truck in back," Broadway says. "We'd have to carry everything by hand or with a small tractor."

Other distinctive characteristics included a crescent-shaped dormer at the front of the house, and reclaimed pine flooring, sometimes difficult to find in large matching quantities. The Radcliffs also wanted new pine paneling with an aged look in the laundry