



# Buckhead in Bloom showcases historic homes, fresh gardens

By Kelly Brooks

Neighbor Newspapers Staff Writer

When Christine Eisner, her husband, Dean, and son Matthew, then 2, moved back to Atlanta from London 15 years ago, they wanted to choose a home where they could both establish roots and evolve with as a family.

Now, when she looks out the front window of her 1929 Georgian revival home on Andrews Drive in Buckhead, Ms. Eisner sees a cherry blossom tree that corroborates her family's choice.

When their daughter Sarah was born 11 years ago, the family of four received a warm welcome as they returned home from the hospital.

"Petals were just coming down like confetti," Ms. Eisner said. "It was like a ticker-tape parade."

The Eisner's home is one of six on display for the Atlanta Preservation Center's presentation of Buckhead in Bloom, which features home and garden tours of new and historic houses on Habersham, Cherokee, and Rivers roads and Andrews Drive.

The tour area encompasses Peachtree Heights Park, which was designed by the New York architecture firm of Carrere and Hastings, designers of the New York Public Library, and developed from 1911 through the late 1920s.

According to center Executive Director Boyd Coons, the organization's purpose is to protect and educate about Atlanta's buildings and historic landscapes that contribute to the city's character.



Muzel Chen/Staff

Above, Christine Eisner with her mother Annette Leuthold in the kitchen area of her residence in Atlanta last week. Below right, Ms. Eisner reads e-mail with her cat Missy in the living room. Below left, Ms. Eisner in front of her house.

"This neighborhood is one of those things where if it goes, Atlanta will no longer be as distinct as it is now," Coons, also a Buckhead resident, said.

The entire neighborhood,

Coons said, has been put on the international list of Endangered World Treasure Landscapes by the Cultural Landscape Foundation.

Five of the houses in Peachtree Heights Park were

built in the 1920s and represent Colonial, Georgian, Tudor and Mediterranean Revival styles of the period.

Several of the structures have been updated, but as with the Eisner's home, which

features an addition by Atlanta architect Henri Jova, the historic footprint has stayed the same.

"It's a matter of bringing it forward into time, but keeping with its past," Ms. Eisner

## BUCKHEAD IN BLOOM

**When:** Lecture — 8 p.m. April 13; Tour — noon to 5 p.m. April 15

**Where:** Lecture — Cathedral of St. Philip, 2744 Peachtree Road NW; Tour — Peachtree Heights Park, Buckhead

**Cost:** \$30 for APC members, \$40 for non-members

**Information:** (404) 688-3353 or visit [www.preserveatlanta.com](http://www.preserveatlanta.com)

said of her house. "It felt right on day one. When we first set foot in the house it felt like home."

And that notion of preservation is precisely what Coons hopes the event will convey.

"One of things were interested in showing is you can maintain integrity of property while making it livable so you don't have to demolish a building and demolish the landscape around it," he said.

In conjunction with the tour, Susan Barnard, author of "Buckhead: A Place for All Time," will give a lecture on the history of Buckhead, beginning with the Native Americans who lived in the area.

Her talk will be April 13 at 8 p.m. in the Gould Room at the Cathedral of St. Philip.



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