

Celebration architect pays \$1.38M for plantation-style estate home

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APR 26, 2019 | 2:12 PM



This five-bedroom estate home on Celebration's Arbor Circle was designed to resemble an old Southern plantation.

It was purchased by a local architect who appreciated the builder's attention to detail. (Tony Davids Homes)

A southern plantation style home in Celebration sold twice in just a few months, to people living on the same street.

Chase Bank put the home on Arbor Circle on the market late last year for \$1.18 million. Cristina Leombruno lived on the street already and bought the house from the bank with the intention of fixing it up and living in it.

"She was receiving nonstop calls and letters about it," said Celebration realtor Tony Davids, of [**Tony Davids Homes**](#). Soon, those inquiries turned into an offer of \$1.380 million that she couldn't refuse from Floyd and Elizabeth McCollum, who also already lived on Arbor Circle.

McCollum is an architect and the home has architectural value. James Strickland designed the home and his firm, [**Historical Concepts**](#), focuses on building modern homes with a historical feel. "You would walk in and think you were in Charleston or Savannah," Davids said.

The home has multiple French entry doors in front, three stories, five bedrooms, six bathrooms and wrap-around porches and balconies like old southern plantations. "This house was only built in 1997 so it has no real historical significance, but it is like rebuilding a house from the 18th century," Davids told **GrowthSpotter**.

Arbor Circle is just a short walk from Downtown Celebration, so it is a desirable location. "This will soon be a \$2 million plus home as soon as [the new owners] bring it up," Davids said, adding it mainly needs deferred maintenance work like outdoor paint and trim refinishing. In 2007, the same property sold for \$2.65 million.

The quality of the workmanship in the house is top-notch with long-plank wooden floors, solid doors, copper sinks, and high-end finishes. It also has a few surprises buyers seemed to like, like hidden access to the staircase leading to the third floor.

"You'd push on the wall, and it would click open and reveal stairs," Davids said. "It looked like a trimmed paneled wall and people were always in awe, they would say 'Oh my God.'"

The third floor is more than a thousand square feet of open space. "It is the size of most houses on the first floor," Davids said.

The home also has a detached garage apartment with covered access and a large and deep pool.

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