

Lake Mizell estate brings the charm of New Orleans to Winter Park

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By Tiffani Sherman



The reclaimed Chicago brick driveway and natural gas lanterns were inspired by New Orleans and Charleston architecture. (Harvey Smith/Handout)

A non-Florida-type home with a great location just sold for \$3.65 million.

The home on Genius Drive in Winter Park is on just over three-quarters of an acre of land on Lake Mizell.

Built in 2000 by Carlos Posada, the house has a traditional feel, based on southern architecture.

“[The sellers] traveled to New Orleans with Carlos and his wife for a few days and studied New Orleans architecture so there are a lot of cool architectural features throughout the whole house. It’s pretty authentic,” said John Pinel, of Premier Sotheby’s International Realty, who represented the sellers.

Pamela Stewart of Fannie Hillman + Associates represented the buyers.

According to public records, the sellers were Gary and Cindy Kalser and the buyers are Eric and Julie Hinson.

Pinel told **GrowthSpotter** even though building this house was a passion project for the Kalsers, they are moving on to other projects. The Hinsons are moving into the Orlando area.

Southern touches on the house include natural gas lanterns outside, reclaimed Chicago brick on the driveway and pool deck, and large picture windows.

“It has a big balcony on the second floor which is accessed by windows. So instead of French doors out to the balcony, you actually lift up a window and climb through the window to get to the balcony. That’s another authentic feature of Charleston and New Orleans architecture,” Pinel explained.

The main home is about 4,300 square feet and a media room or guest quarters with a separate entrance over the three-car garage has an additional 950 square feet.

The main bedroom is on the first floor and has direct access to the outdoor areas. The additional three bedrooms are on the second level.

Outside, there is a large pool and boat dock.

“The dock has a boat lift and a storage closet, which is nice,” Pinel said. “The pool area is beautiful because it is the Chicago brick and there are oak trees so it is semi-covered. You had some shade and some sunlight. It’s a large back yard and it is high and dry with lots of room for pets or kids to run around.”

Pinel said the architectural style is what attracted the buyers and the others who liked it.

“It’s pretty much timeless, so 50 years from now, the architectural style won’t look like all the other stuff being built today. Not many people are doing the more traditional style, which is what this is.”

The home’s location in Windsong, one of Winter Park’s newer neighborhoods, is also a bit unique.

“It’s actually inside the entrance to Windsong, but is not part of the Windsong Association, so that’s kind of interesting,” Pinel explained. “It does not have the HOA or the HOA restrictions.”

In this hot market where homes are often snapped up within days, this one was on the market for a few months.

“This one took a little longer, but it had a little bit more of a traditional floor plan so it wasn’t the wide open kitchen to family room, so that can be a little bit of a challenge,” Pinel said. “Once we actually got a contract, we had multiple buyers who had expressed interest prior but never made offers call and say they were that were disappointed. It happens all the time.”