Home Run
THE VALLEY'S HOT REAL ESTATE SCENE

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Erik Tinkham's first luxury spec home hits the market.

By Nina Bocche Trafik
Photography by Eric Klop

At 58, builder and developer Erik Tinkham is new to the luxury home market. But his newly completed, 7,400-square-foot spec home in Paradise Valley—listed at close to $4 million—has hit it out of the ballpark.

"This is Erik's first foray into the luxury building process," says Phoenix architect Jim Bliecher, who designed the house and admits he was a real worry when first approached by Tinkham, due to his lack of high-end projects. "His commitment to the project, attention to detail and delivering the product was outstanding. He really did a great job with this."

The home—a rambling Santa Barbara-influenced design that angles around a pool and cabana—is the summation of Tinkham's career so far. The SoCal native started out doing mortgage loans, then went to real estate sales. He worked managing rehabs for a real estate company, realized he liked the building process and went on to become a licensed general contractor. When doing renovations and additions became a little tedious, he began branching out into new-home construction. "This," says Tinkham, "is the finest new house I've done."

Tinkham found the 1-acre lot in the Paradise Valley foothills, separated from the landmark McCall Manor House by a steep wash, dense with mesquites and palo verde, and a steep hillside. Bliecher came up with the home's indoor-outdoor design, opening it up to both front and rear patios. The split floor plan spills off a central great room, formal dining room and kitchen, which also includes a breakfast area. One wing includes the master suite and a bathroom that could be used as a home office. On the opposite side, three en suite bedrooms and a media room make up another wing, connected to a cabana guesthouse, which could be used for everything from an art studio to a meditation space.
"We picked up on the home’s architecture and gave the interior a light, bright look."

—STACY SCHARF, INTERIOR DESIGNER

In elevation, Blockberger used elements such as thick, plastered walls, staggered masonry, two-piece clay tile roofing, wood beams and deeply recessed windows to evoke elements of Santa Barbara style. The architect also made sure that the house had "hot-button items" that luxury home buyers seek, such as a motor court, a four-car garage, a formal dining room, a separate media room, a deep garage between the garage and kitchen, master closets, and a laundry room large enough to accommodate dual washers and dryers.

Inside, Tinker and Blockberger worked with Scottsdale interior designers Stacy Scharf and Kacie Liley of K&L Interiors, who selected finishes, cabinetry, millwork and architectural design pieces to complete the home’s vision. "We picked up on the home’s architecture and gave the interior a light, bright look," says Scharf. "We also brought in some traditional and Spanish design elements.

The designers chose a palette of creams and dove gray, accented by darker wood finishes. They underscored the interior with chiseled Travertine flooring in the public spaces and used a grayed oak in other rooms. To link the outdoors—which made use of antique brick paving—with the interior, the design team added brick detailing in fireplaces, the entryway floor and the dramatic arched ceiling in the dining room.

In the kitchen, traditional/transitional custom cabinetry, plus quartz and walnut countertops on two islands, were designed for serious cooking and entertaining. Nearby, a bar offers plenty of indoor seating and opens to the patio as well. In the sun-splashed master bath, the designers went for a luxe spa appeal, with a freestanding soaking tub, a completely tiled wall-in shower and a seated vanity.
"We deliberately chose neutrals for the backgrounds," says Lilley, "so that potential buyers can add their own accent colors through furniture and art. And, while the finishes are luxurious, they are all user-friendly."

Outdoors, Greenville developed a landscape that encourages entertaining. The house, set far back from the street, afforded the opportunity to develop a large brick patio area in the front—defined by planter beds and low walls—that's accessible from the dining and great rooms via bi-fold glass doors. The same glass doors open up the house to the backyard, where an outdoor kitchen, dining and living areas are shaded by deep overhangs. A pool with spa and fountains cools the space, and there's just enough grass for kids, dogs and special events.

Completed in eight months, Tinker's house awaits a buyer. But he's not resting on his development laurels. Along with his same design team, he's building the house next door, this time in an angular, contemporary design. Soon, it too will be on the market.
DESIGN DETAILS

RESIDENCE
Single-family home

LOCATION
6115 N. 38th Place, Paradise Valley

PRICE
63,997 million

LISTING
Kris McLaughlin, North&Co.
kris@northandco.com,
602.714.7000, northandco.com

ARCHITECTURE
Jim Blochberger,
Blochberger Design
blochbergerdesign.com

BUILDER
Erik Tinker, Tinker Development
tinkerdevelopment.com

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
Greey Pickett
greeypickett.com

INTERIOR DESIGN
Stacy Scharf and Kacie Lilley,
K&Q Interiors
kandqinteriors.com

FURNITURE STAGING
Revamp Professional Home Stages
getrevamped.com

POOL
Dolphin Pools
dolphinpools.us

VENDORS

FERGUSON
Plumbing fixtures
ferguson.com

HINKLEY’S LIGHTING FACTORY
Light fixtures
hinkleylighting.com

SIERRA PACIFIC WINDOWS
Windows and glass doors
sierrapacificwindows.com

SUB-ZERO AND WOLF
Kitchen appliances
subzero-wolf.com

U-LINE
Outdoor appliances
u-line.com

The formal dining room opens to the front patio. Its arched brick ceiling reflects the patio materials.