



## From Small to **WOW** in Dilworth



Today, Sean and Jackie Jones love their beautiful, two-story home in historic Dilworth. But when they bought the house almost 10 years ago, many living areas, including their kitchen, needed updating. The couple knew that as soon as they could afford it, their home would undergo a major renovation.

Jackie explains that the kitchen, which was last updated in the 50s or 60s, was small, outdated and dark. “We lived with the old kitchen, trying to be patient, for five years,” she says. “We were cramped, but we waited until we had the right plans and the money to do the job right.”

Don Duffy Architecture provided those plans, which, since the home was built in the 1930s, had to be approved by Charlotte’s Historic Commission. The couple met with several contractors before choosing Duane Johns of Advanced Renovations.

“Advanced Renovations has worked on several homes in our neighborhood,” says Jackie. “They have the right expertise and received glowing recommendations from neighbors who had used them. We really clicked with Duane and liked his vision.”

Advanced Renovations is owned by Duane Johns and Roger Ketchum. The company’s high quality workmanship and attention to detail have earned it many awards over the years, particularly in the area of historic renovations.

Once the Jones’ plans for the renovation were approved, work began in their kitchen. The room was gutted and bumped out to create more space for family and friends to relax.

The extra space enabled Jackie to add a large island that is actually a piece of furniture. “We wanted this big island to be different, more like a table for our family.”

The Jones took a different approach on their countertops as well, using unpolished granite to achieve the look of natural slate.



“We like the chalky finish, but slate was too porous,” Jackie explains. “We got the same look by not polishing the granite.”

The Jones’ renovation included the kitchen, butler’s pantry, powder room and a porch added onto the rear entry of their home. Jackie says Advanced Renovations gave them a seamless remodel, inside and out.

“The greatest compliment we receive is that people don’t know these spaces weren’t here before,” she says. “The space flows very well.”

Now the family spends more time together in the kitchen. “It has completely changed the way we enjoy the house,” says Jackie. “The kitchen is definitely the new gathering place.”

Sean and Jackie recently hired Advanced Renovations to update their basement and upstairs. “We’re so comfortable with Duane and we trust him to make the right decisions,” says Jackie. “We know his crew will create these new spaces to look as if they were always part of this house – that’s what they do so well.”◆

Visit Advanced Renovations at 3914 Miriam Drive in Charlotte. Call the office at 704-799-3999 or visit them online at [www.advancedrenovations.com](http://www.advancedrenovations.com).