

Loretta Props Up Her Feet And Relaxes



... SITTING ROOM—A small sitting room or "den" opens up onto the full deck and patio of Loretta Owens' re-decorated home on Crescent Hill Rd., a family project which gave the older house a new personality and charm.

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Staff Writer

Loretta Chaney Owens' comfortable re-decorated home on Crescent Hill Rd. was a husband-wife do-it-yourself project.

Like many couples, Bill and Loretta Owens wanted to recreate their own personality in their home. Four years ago, after house-hunting for an older home to remodel, the Owens purchased the former parsonage of First Baptist Church.

"Bill knocked out walls, built a deck around a crepe myrtle tree at the back of the house, fenced in the back yard, enlarged the kitchen-dining area and gave a completely new look to our house", said Loretta, who refers modestly to her own contribution to the interior decorating job as "giving the charm of the farm to a house in the middle of the city."

Some months ago, Bill and Loretta separated and Peggy continues to live in their home with her two Pekinese pets, Sir Sydney and Misty Morning, and is owner and manager of Peggy's Restaurant on N. Piedmont Ave.

"Peggy's" has become a family operation in that nearly all of the six sisters have worked at one time or another for the business.

"We've always had a close-knit family", said Loretta, one of 11 children of the late Rev. and Mrs. R.L. Chaney. The other Chaney brothers and sisters are: Edith Millwood, Sherry Short, Dot Phillips, Lucille Gladden, Peggy Childers and Bill Childers.

Jack Chaney, all of Kings Mountain, John Chaney of Cherryville and Robert Chaney of Stanley.

Most of her sisters have contributed "something" to Loretta's home and she calls on her brother-in-law, Jim Childers, a city commissioner, for assistance in yard work, planting of shrubs, and gardening.

At this time of the year the fenced-in back yard and patio of the Owens home is the coolest spot in town for relaxing after a day's work and a perfect spot for the family to get-together.

Recalling the many hours of hard work in remodeling the house, Loretta noted that "this was a good house but every room was painted all the same color-white. We wanted to give the house some color and personality. And they did."

"We also wanted to use everything we had accumulated over the years, not store them away", said Loretta, who admits that she spent many hours after working in the kitchen at Peggy's Restaurant painting cabinet doors and walls, installing paneling which looks like wallpaper, and combining some of her own accent pieces to give each room a distinctive new look.

Entering the house from the sunporch, a feature is a small sitting room with sliding doors opening onto the screened-in porch. The large living room is comfortably furnished in brown plaid couch and brown and gold accessories with gold carpet. Colonial-designed paneling, which looks like wallpaper, is used in the

hall, where gold carpet is also used. Bill Owens hid the air-conditioner unit in the hall by building a cabinet over it and enhancing the corner area with pictures.

The living-dining area was enlarged by knocking out partitions. A conversation piece is the brick paneling around the stove area (which resembles real brick), and the yellow and brown motif achieved in wallpaper and paneling. The kitchen floor is tiled and the dining room is brown-carpeted with brown drapes and white sheers further enhancing the theme. Loretta has painted numerous "hoda" decorative pieces to blend in with the color schemes in the different rooms. An "etc" is over the wall phone in the kitchen, two brooms and a clock are eye-catching, the cabinets are all brown-stained with yellow trim and brown and yellow sinks further carry out the decorative idea. "Praying Hands"

are used over the refrigerator and yellow trim is used around the doors. High-back chairs enhance the long dining table. Loretta estimated that it required about eight hours alone to trim the cabinets in the kitchen.

Because Mrs. Owens is a busy homemaker and careerwoman, she selected floor and wall coverings which were easy-to-clean and require very little upkeep. That's why she and her husband chose paneling in most of the rooms.

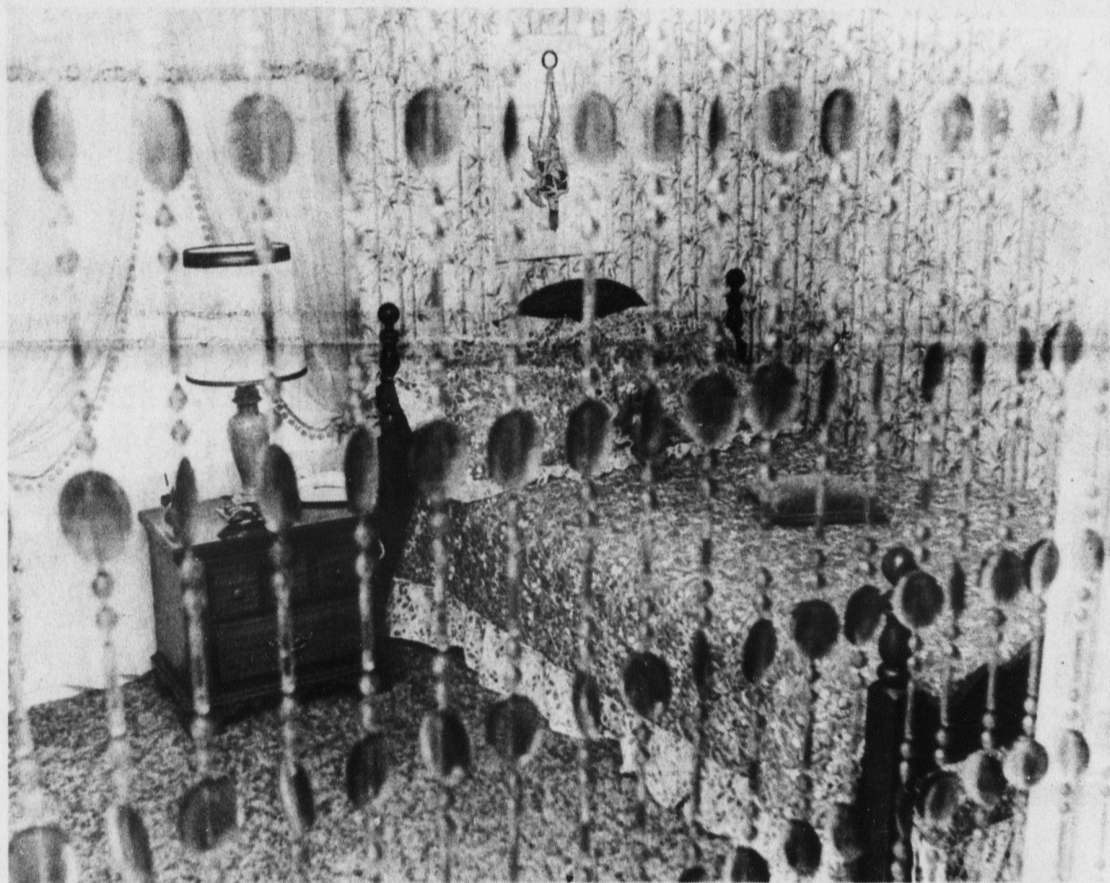
The "blue" bedroom is accented by blue-striped wallpaper. Loretta painted "love" and butterflies to enhance the blue curtains, blue coverlet and blue and beige-toned carpet. Paintings by Mr. Owens are used for accent.

At the back of the house Loretta's favorite place for relaxing is a mint green and white den which adjoins the master bedroom which is also

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... MASTER BEDROOM—Mint beading separates the master bedroom from an adjoining den-sitting area at the back of the house. The mint and white color theme is achieved in decorative details. Mrs. Owens has used

color throughout her house, combining paint, wallpaper, paneling, and other creative touches to give the house a distinctive personality.



... DINING ROOM IS COMFORTABLE—Loretta Owens stands in the doorway of her dining room-kitchen which is decorated in tones of brown, yellow and beige with

accent paneling, wallpaper, and stained cabinets reflecting the many hours of hard work the Owens couple spent in refurbishing their house.



... BLUE BEDROOM—The blue bedroom or guest room at the Owens home on Crescent Hill Road combines a blue decor with wallpaper and paintings done by Bill Owens and other family keepsakes.



... PANELING ACCENTS KITCHEN—Paneling, which resembles brick, features the kitchen of Loretta Owens' home which is designed economically for convenience and for very little maintenance. Loretta decorated in brown and yellow. Her husband knocked out a partition and created a kitchen-dining area which has all the charm of country living in the heart of the city.