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# ALABAMA

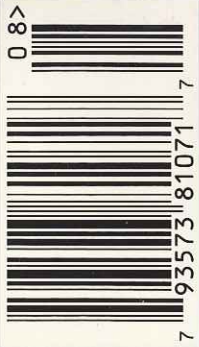
A TASTE OF  
SUMMER

BEST OF BAMA  
AWARDS

*Master*  
OF  
MUSIC



\$4.95



JOEY AND AMY DOBBS ENJOY THE NATURAL SETTING FROM ALL AREAS OF THEIR PROPERTY. THIS INCLUDES FOUR PORCHES AS WELL AS AMAZING VIEWS FROM INSIDE THEIR LOWCOUNTRY-STYLE HOUSE.

# Bayou



# u Bungalow

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Joey and Amy Dobbs spent years planning their dream home. They found their ideal location on Roberts Bayou in Josephine, and worked hard to get it just right. Now, they enjoy numerous conversation spots and easy access to nature, wildlife, and the water.

The house is designed in the “Lowcountry” style that has always appealed to the couple, and they worked with Birmingham architecture firm Dungan Nequette to get it. Jeff Dungan described this South Carolina/Georgia-area style as having “low slung, one-story rooflines on simple cottages, many times with porches and deep overhangs to protect from the elements and the sun.” The concept was to create a compound of rooflines to resemble a village and “unify his far-flung house,” Dungan says.

Except for the frame, the whole house is made from cypress, including the trim and







AMY DESIGNED THE KITCHEN TO BE A LARGE GATHERING AREA. A CENTER ISLAND SEATS THEIR WHOLE FAMILY. "IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU'RE GIVING AWAY GOLD BULLION IN THE OTHER ROOM, PEOPLE ARE GOING TO BE IN THE KITCHEN," JOEY SAYS.

the floor that the Dobbsses installed themselves. A number of repurposed doors are used throughout the house, and it features a tin roof of galvanized aluminum and many windows, all made to last.

These windows give the house a lot of natural light and provide the views of the bayou the couple wanted. This open feel is further accented by open-joint tongue-and-groove ceilings. Seven live oaks shade the house and help keep it cool.

Joey describes the home as a family gathering place that is always open to family and friends. The Dobbsses are known to have 12 to 25 people for an afternoon lunch or dinner, and enjoy introducing guests to the local ecology and surroundings. A wall of pictures in the game/gallery room chronicles their history on the bayou.

Joey and Amy designed the interior of the house with Elizabeth Meyer, the first designer they encountered who understood what they wanted. Not too masculine or too beachy, Joey says, it is perfectly livable. The decor incorporates several white pine pieces made by Joey's father, as well as other pieces of reclaimed wood.

Amy designed the kitchen to be a large living/gathering area. A center island seats the whole family. "It doesn't matter if you're giving away gold bullion in the other room, people are going to be in the kitchen," Joey says. The mahogany cabinets were created by a local boat builder.







Even though the inside is just how the couple likes it, they spend a lot of time outside. With four porches and a dock, they are able to pick the best spot based on the sun or the wind. Some porches are better in the morning and some in the evening, and they are used mostly for conversation. The Dobbsses see a lot of sunsets and full moons from these areas and listen to the sounds of nature.

Joey and Amy love spending time in their yard and gardens. They grow fresh vegetables and keep the flowers looking nice for the enjoyment of boat passers-by. An outdoor seating area next to the water boasts a pioneer-style fireplace.

Being on the water was a must for Joey and Amy. After years of sailing and sport fishing, they now use their bay boat to take afternoon cruises and watch the sun set, check the osprey nests, glimpse the dolphins feeding and playing in the bayou, and more.

Dungan says the house suits the Dobbsses' love of sharing life with family and friends: "That house just says 'please come and sit while I make you a drink and maybe some shrimp if you behave yourself.'"

