

for the Parade Dream Home. The vision was simple, he says. “I wanted to get to that older type of home, and that involved creating intimate outdoor living spaces as much as the intimate indoor spaces. Things like the terrace, the arbor, the double-sided fireplace in the screened porch. On the other side it was the motor court and getting the garage pushed off the street. It kind of gave me an option for another place to give kids to safely play.

“And if you look at the landscape, I worked with the landscaper to make sure we had boulevard trees, which doesn’t happen much anymore nowadays. So, we’re trying to get the neighborhood those large canopy streets back again.”

“Looking at Carl’s old plans from the 1930s and ’40s, studying streetscapes and old blueprints, everything was mixed together to come up with a house that has the strength, detail and bulky elements of the last hundred years in a new house,” Jones says.

“People walk in there and know it’s on the Parade of Homes and know it’s a new home, but still ask me how long the house has been there,” Hansen says.

People are surprised to hear that there are new lots still available in Edina. From the original 600 acres the elder Hansen purchased 60 years ago with the intention of developing a timeless neighborhood, the final phases of Parkwood Knolls are in full swing. The last 36 lots are available and, with the company averaging four builds a year, it will be close to a decade before the area is filled out. With Parkwood Knolls, the sole development that the company owns, they also do outside projects and build on client-owned lots.

“It’s the last tract of undeveloped land in Edina to be developed, besides infill and things like that. So, it’s a



Study

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pretty big step for us because for the first time in our company’s history we don’t have raw, undeveloped land,” Hansen says.

He’s already looking to position Carl M. Hansen Companies post Parkwood Knolls. “We’ve obviously been an Edina-centric company for the last 80 years or so, so we would like to stay in the area and be considered one of the top choices to do replacement teardown/rebuilds of the original homes. Not only did we build those first houses, but what better choice of a company to do the replacements?” ■