

Boca RATON

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rescued from a tear-down across the street, a pair of wrought-iron palms flanking a wall. There is bamboo and bark cloth, a Craftsman-era table made of twisted paper. Family pictures are mixed with shell necklaces; a baby grand piano faces a Blackamoor planter sprouting a bromeliad.

"There are truly very few things in this house that are new," Kim says. "I like to rummage around in antique stores. We have things that have come from my family, from Scottie's mother and grandmother, things that we've picked up in our travels here and there, artwork has come from different places, wedding gifts."

The effect is one of comfort and wit—

a style that invites comment but is as subtle as it is enduring.

There is the four-poster in the bedroom that they bought after sleeping in one in a South Carolina bed-and-breakfast; the little table inherited from an uncle; prints on the wall that once belonged to Kim's parents in their Boston apartment in the '30s. Shell necklaces made by Milo Pinder on Great Guana Key, where the Tiernans are building a vacation house, festoon a dressing table.

In short, it is a house that tells a story about the Tiernans, their four children and their two beagles. It's the approach Kim embodies in her decorating business, the idea of furnishing a home "to

create different environments, all an expression of the people who live there."

To Scott, the family's house is about "a feeling of calm. Of love, happiness, respect." It is the sum of who they are.

As Kim says, "I like to have things around me that give me pleasure. So many things remind me of places we've been, experiences we've had. There's hardly a thing here I couldn't tell a story about." ♦

Kim found the reproduction bark-cloth fabric for the drapes and the furniture from the Full Swing line of fabric in Newport, Rhode Island; the lamp in the corner is from Woodstock, Vermont and the planter is a Blackamoor figurehead. The Tischler windows open to a tropical patio and pool area.