

2635 Fourth Ave. N



In 2012, Mitch Harrison lived in a similar home on the same lot. But that house burned down — torched Sept. 30, 2012,

Harrison, a 51-year-old medical software consultant who moved to St. Petersburg from Alabama in 2010, was shopping at the mall when he got the phone call about the blaze. By the time Harrison pulled up, flames had fully engulfed the tan, 1930 Craftsman bungalow.

The house was torn down a day after Christmas. Harrison began rebuilding this summer.

The inside layout and footprint of the home are similar to the old one. The biggest difference is an added wraparound porch.

Inside, fixtures and furniture were designed to match the era of the old home. Three side tables and a few paintings Harrison salvaged from the fire fill the living room. Not far away, an art piece that features a cross and the word "peace" — made from salvaged iron from the old house — hangs in the hallway.

Harrison moved in a couple of weeks ago in November 2012. He said he is honored to be on the BungalowFest tour.

"This is my home ... but it's actually the neighborhood's too. We went through this together," Harrison said. "But it feels like I'm home. I'm home."

Inside, this new Craftsman style bungalow resembles Mitch's previous home, but outside, it more fully reflects the architectural character of Historic Kenwood.

A wrap-around front porch and spacious back porch provide friendly, comfortable outdoor living space. Craftsman features include the asymmetrical entrance, double gables, and wide eaves.

The open living/dining/kitchen/family room is separated from three bedrooms, small office, two and a half baths, and laundry room. The sound system has speakers and controls in every room.

Interior Craftsman features include a tile fireplace, paneled doors, oak flooring, classical moldings, and even period doorknobs.

Mitch blended antiques and reproductions with contemporary furniture. Two paintings – "The Beggar" over the fireplace painted by his father, and another of a praying woman who reminds him of his mother – are treasures he kept from his previous home, along with some of his grandmother's china and glassware.