## HOME & DESIGN

LUXURY HOMES - FINE INTERIOR DESIGN & FURNISHINGS



## NSO DECORATORS' SHOW HOUSE

Whitehaven

TEXT Barbara Karth, Chevy Chase, MD

They did it again. The Women's Committee for the National Symphony Orchestra found an exceptional residence to showcase some of the best in interior design from the Washington area. This issue of HOME & DESIGN Magazine presents just a taste of the interesting and innovative designs with more rooms for the eye to feast upon in subsequent issues.

On Whitehaven Street, this mansion, most recently, housed many of the Impressionist and Post Impressionists paintings of Paul Mellon. With these art treasures now secure at the National Gallery of Art, the house was recently sold to Lea and Wayne Berman, who graciously loaned it to the Women's Committee for the Year 2000 Show House.

True to large urban homes of the period, much of the first level was partitioned to accommodate the servants' quarters with the central space devoted to the vestibule and foyer. Midway up the staircase, a broad landing opens to the back terrace and the faint fragrance of boxwood wafts in. Just across the back wall are the grounds of the British Embassy.

Up the steps to the Grand Hall... Designer Barbara Hawthorn of Barbara

RIGHT: Barbara Hawthorn designed the Grand Hall to provide a smooth transition between the public entrance hall below, and the private, more intimate family floor above. Since the Hall sets the stage for entry into the formal entertaining spaces, it must be splendid—yet functional for everyday family life. Photography by Ross Chapple.



