



The Classical American House

Introduction by Phillip James Dodd • Edited by Gina Tsarouhas

images
Publishing

La Tonteria

Palm Beach, Florida



La Tonteria is a landmark Georgian Revival home designed in 1935 by John L. Volk that commands an entire block at the north end of the island of Palm Beach.

The original plan of the residence was an “L” shape, but it had suffered from many renovations and had lost its original character and detail.

A pool cabana that had been added in the 1980s was removed to make way for a new addition that changed the plan to a “U,” creating a courtyard between the wings. A new second story was also added to the west of the entry portico to balance the main façade.

Georgian architectural details were added to the entry foyer, main stair and living room to reinforce the original style of the home. The elegant oval stair was reversed to improve the flow to the library and a metal railing with gold swag detail and ram’s heads was added. On the second floor, rooms were reconfigured so that the master bedroom was centered on the original east-facing balcony pediment. The master suite was expanded in both directions for his and her bathrooms and closets. The original sleeping porch spanning the second floor above the loggia was restored.

House 27,000 ft² (2508 m²) Site 57,000 ft² (5295 m²) Completion 2009

Interior designer Katherine Shenaman Interiors Landscape architect Nievera Williams Design

Photography Aerial Photography; Andy Frame; Steven Leeks; Jeffery W. Smith







Previous pages The main entry façade.
 Above The foyer elevation on axis with the entry door.
 Left An octagon coffered-plaster ceiling and leaded glass elliptical transom in the entry vestibule.



These pages The main stair railing with a stylized Ionic balustrade that's adorned with ram's heads and ropes with tassels.



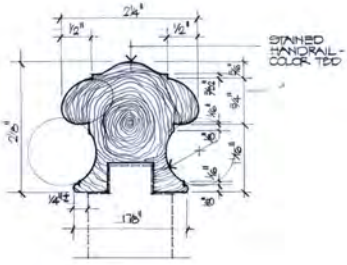




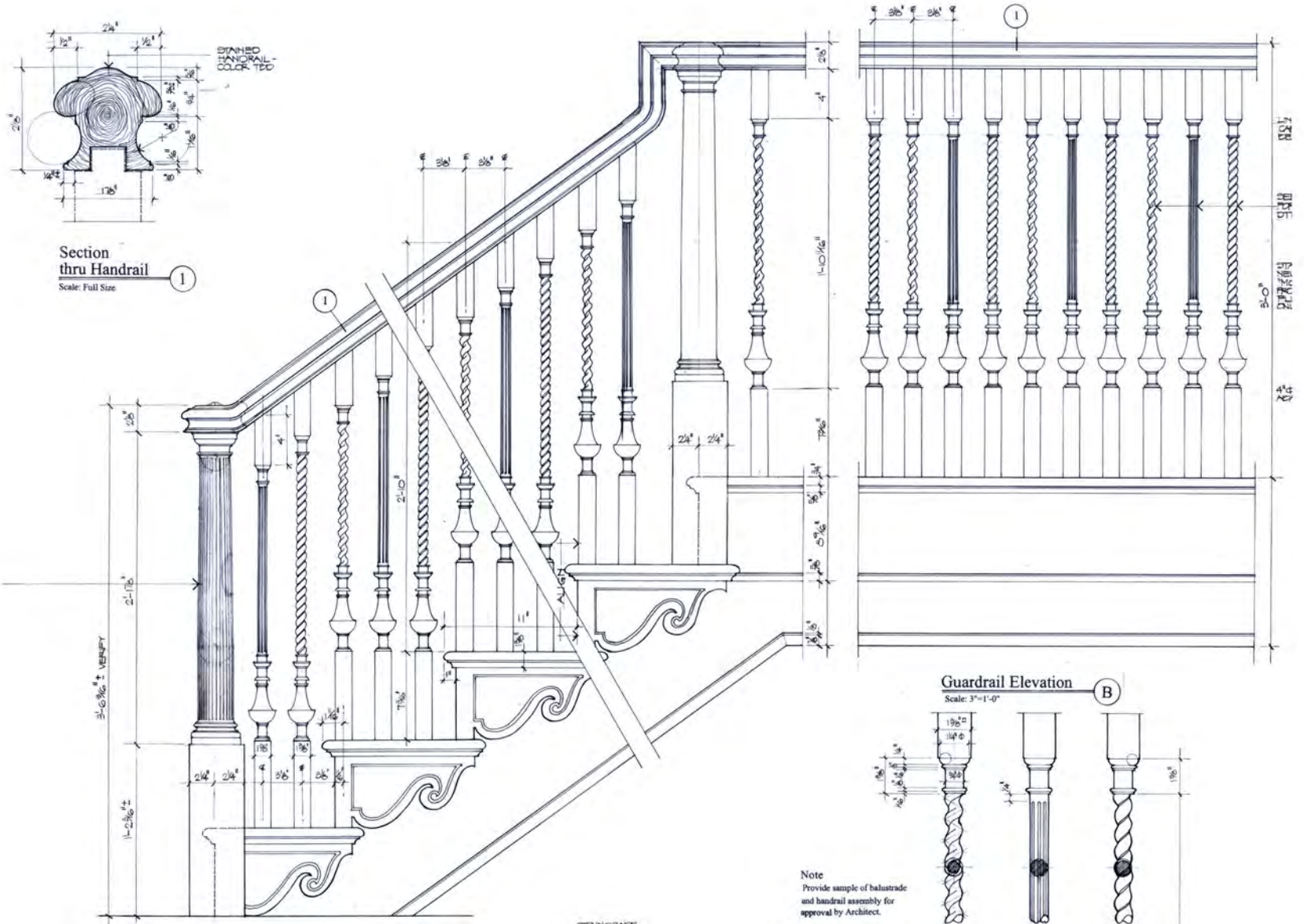
Opposite (top) The dining room's walls are 17th-century Chinoiserie panels depicting the seasons, with a pagoda-style panel over the door that conceals air conditioning in the dining room. (bottom) The library features an antique French-oak paneling with shell motif. Above The living room features French doors to the terrace, new paneling and an antique mantel.

Following pages The family stair railing features three different pickets in an alternating design.



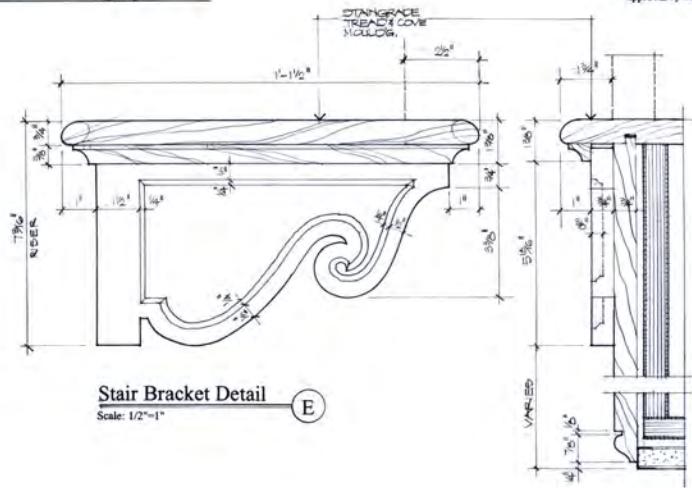


Section thru Handrail
Scale: Full Size



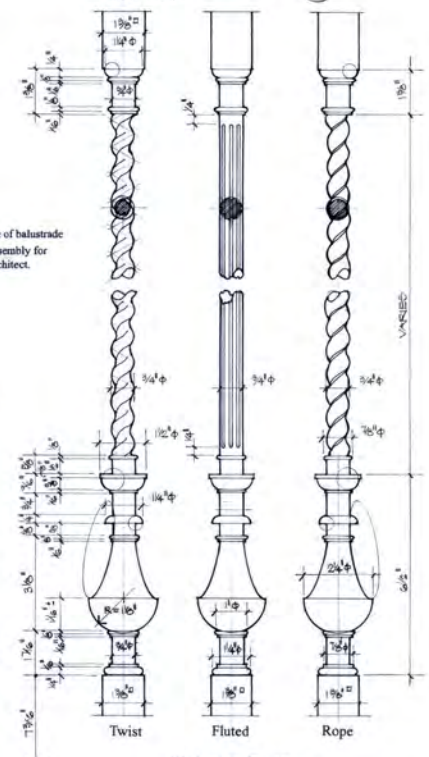
Guardrail Elevation
Scale: 3'-1'-0"

Elevation of Stair
Scale: 3'-1'-0"



Stair Bracket Detail
Scale: 1/2"-1"

Note
Provide sample of balustrade
and handrail assembly for
approval by Architect.



Baluster Types
Scale: 1/2"-1"

Section
Scale: 1/2"-1"



Above The exterior façade overlooking the oceanside.
Opposite The courtyard and loggia beyond as seen from the swimming pool.





This richly photographed compilation volume from IMAGES reveals an enticing glimpse into the exquisite architectural works of preeminent and masterful classicists. While remaining loyal to traditional classical design, each architect provides a unique insight into their interpretations of the theory of classical design in their works, displaying remarkable versatility and adaptability within the fundamental classical language of architecture. This book highlights the collaboration between the architects' applications of intricate detailing, the use of fine material, and exceptional craftsmanship, and how, all the while, they are creating a refined and seamless fusion with the surrounding landscape and environment.



ISBN 978-1864706826

59500



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