

Caribbean Flair

Robert Barnes, A.I.A., Architect

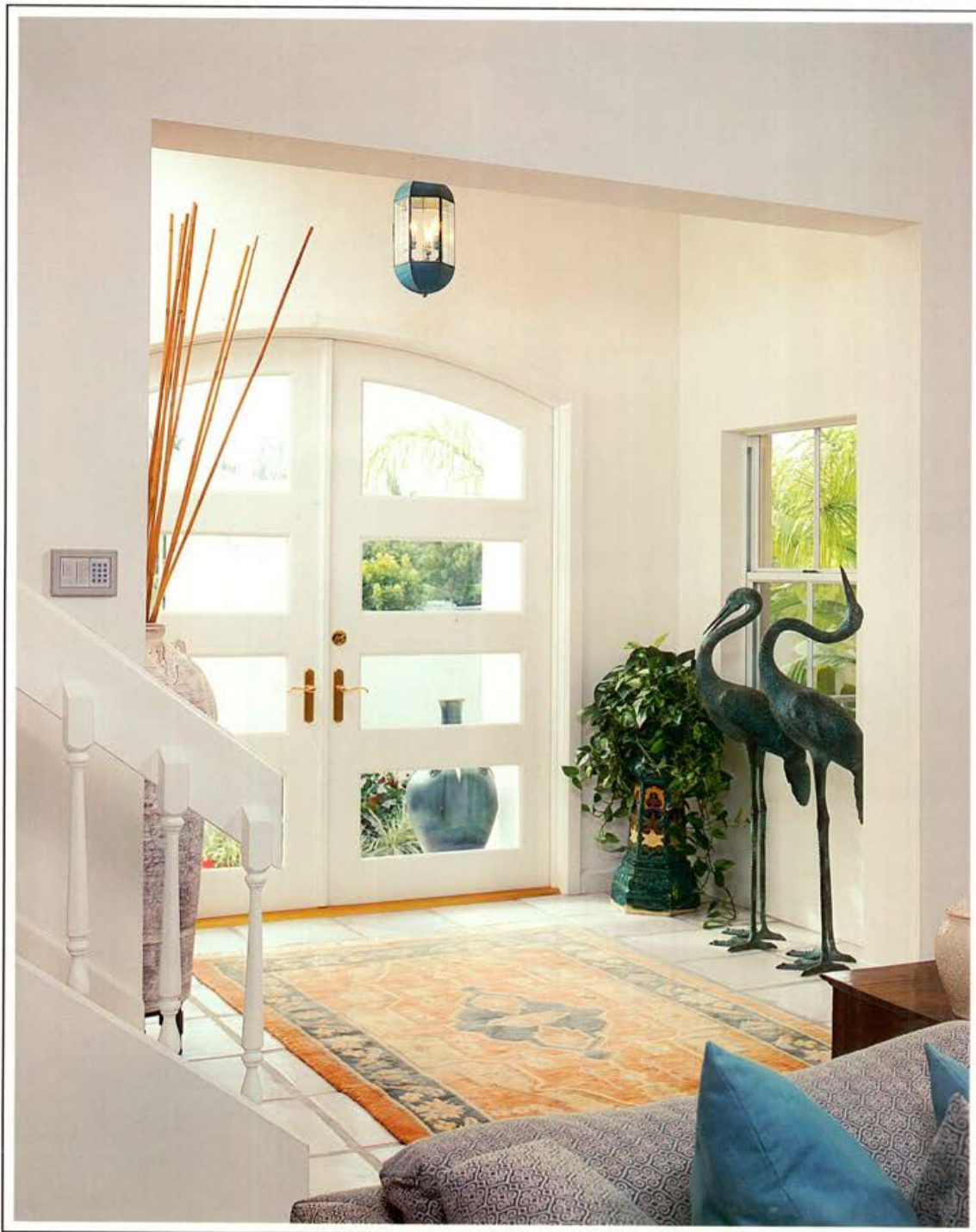
Coastal Construction Co., General Contractor
Smith Hammock Landscape, Landscape Architecture
Oscar Thompson, Photography



Architectural elements reflect those found predominantly in the Caribbean with strong influence of European colonial style.

In "Casa Entenmann," architect Robert Barnes, A.I.A., created a stately, curving Southwestern-style residence for his clients on their tropical, oceanfront site. Here, the diversity of his talent is apparent as he takes a completely different approach in designing this home for a similarly-oriented site. At the time of its conception, there were no specific owners for the house. The plan was to design a luxury residence which would take full advantage of its picturesque location and the subtropical climate. Both private and open spaces were to afford maximum views of the water and capitalize on the abundance of fresh breezes. Ultimately, the intention of this plan was to provide a rich, tropical backdrop into which a couple or family could incorporate their personal lifestyles. With these requisites in mind, Robert creatively designed this delightful, Caribbean-style home. Although it would be built as a setting for as-yet-unknown owners, Robert designed the house with the highest

quality standards throughout. To ensure that construction would reflect only quality-oriented materials and workmanship, he teamed up with general contractor Coastal Construction Company. Previous work with the contractor proved that expertise and quality are key words in the Coastal organization, and its commitment to quality is unsurpassed. Many of the architectural elements reflect those found predominantly in the Caribbean and are strongly influenced by the European colonial style so prevalent there. The soft pink and white exterior of the house is surrounded by a loose and colorful variety of native landscaping, immediately establishing a tropical island-like ambiance. Flood regulations require elevated living spaces, so the driveway gradually ascends to a walled privacy garden which separates the driveway from the house. A brick walkway leads through an archway with a white wrought iron gate past the garden to the front doorway. Repeating the arch effect of the



The cranes in the foyer introduce the use of verdigris which accents the tropical feel throughout the house.

privacy wall are the double entry doors with clean, classic lines. A two-story-high great room unfolds at the foyer, and it is from here that all rooms of the house radiate. Sunlight and views flood the room through sliding glass doors and clerestory windows. The outdoor pool-patio area is located directly beyond and when the sliding glass doors are open, it becomes an exciting outdoor extension of the great room. The exterior and interior flow together, creating a natural transition from the front yard through the house to the back of the property. An outdoor trellised arbor, swimming pool and spa, and a gazebo with garden space work together with

the interior space of the great room and other living areas with balconies and verandas to create visual unity between interior and exterior spaces. From the great room, one continues through to the kitchen, dining room or guest bedroom suites, or ascends a stairway leading to the upstairs master bedroom suite. In all, four bedroom suites were incorporated – three downstairs and the master suite upstairs. Each guest suite was designed for individual privacy and affords picturesque views of the landscape and water. Upstairs, the master suite provides a more secluded retreat. Breathtaking views are witnessed in all directions, particularly

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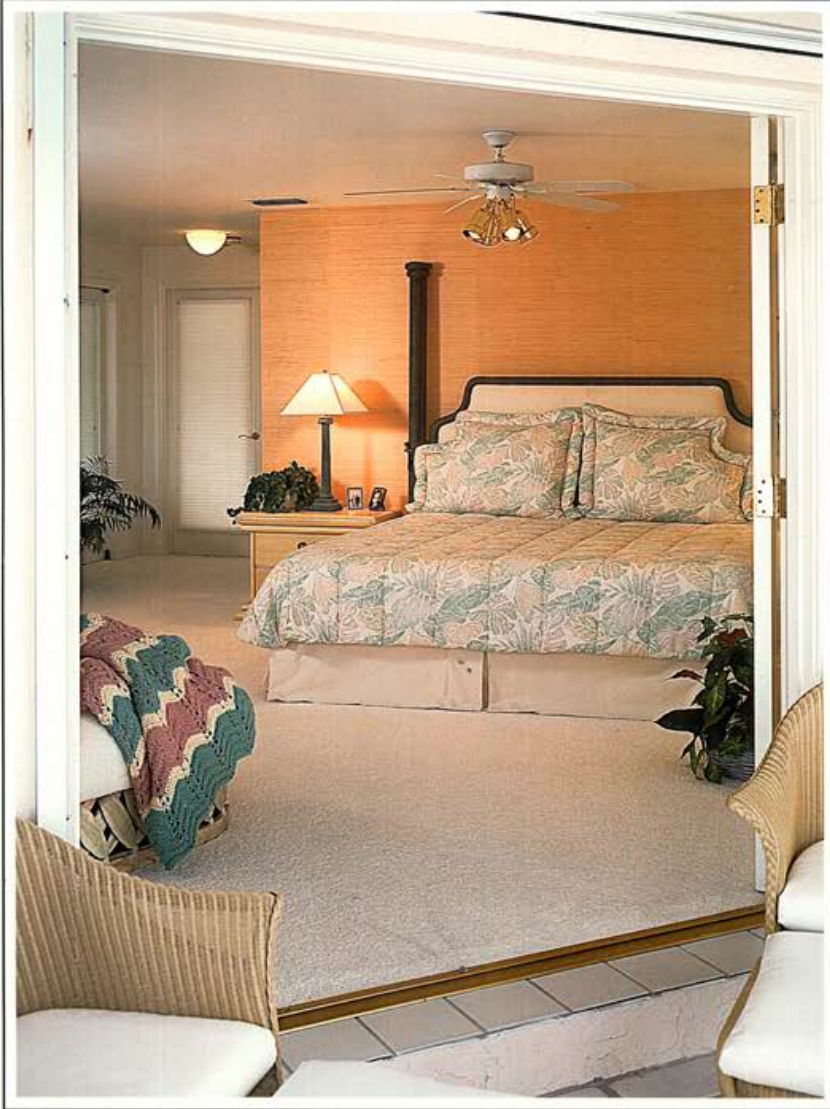




The fireplace is incorporated into a custom, built-in mahogany wall unit with display and storage space.

from the bedroom balcony which, from its vantage point high above, incorporates the sweeping vista of mangroves, native wildlife and water. It is difficult to imagine anyone who could not experience the exhilaration of this year-round, indoor-outdoor environment, designed to be comfortably enjoyed by family and guests ... and this is precisely what the present owners of the house felt when they first saw it. They had come from the Northeast and had lived in a beautiful, historic residence of tradi-

tional, Mediterranean-style architecture. To feel comfortable with such a drastic change of location and climate, they needed a cheerful, sunny home in which they would feel extremely happy. They wanted open spaces and total access to the outdoors. They enjoy a relaxed lifestyle and wanted to share it with their family members and friends. Before the home was purchased, interior coordinator Susan Buschmann had established an overall theme with white floors, cabinetry and walls



Opening to an enclosed balcony, the master bedroom retains a tropical feel with verdigris lamp and iron bed with light, leaf-pattern fabric.

setting the background for accents of color. This clean, white look is typically tropical with scatterings of verdigris, and becomes classic with added touches of mahogany. It also proved felicitous for the new owners: two of their children are professional artists and this white background is the perfect setting for their works. Son Charles Wildbank's artwork is the focal point of the great room. Based in New York, Mr. Wildbank works in all media but specializes in floral photo realism. He custom-designed and painted in acrylic three canvas panels – one 5' x 10' center panel and two 5' x 5' end panels – which together depict orchids in lush, green foliage. They bring a vibrancy to the entire room and blend so perfectly with the breezy tropical feel that it almost seems as though the room had been designed especially for the art. The fireplace is incorporated into a custom-designed, built-in mahogany wall unit. White mahogany cabinets with natural trim flank the fireplace and house the sound system and television set. Glass shelves above the mantel connect the cabinets and provide display space. The arched top is reminiscent of the privacy wall entry and the front doorway. The soft peach and teal colors of the Tibetan Oriental rug are used as accents throughout the area. The

Revealing a vast panorama of outdoor scenery, the guest bedroom provides a magnificent setting for visitors.





The outdoor patio includes a trellised arbor and gazebo overlooking the pool and spa. An imported metal fish sculpture adds a zestful flair.

kitchen is separate from but open to the great room. This plan allows interaction between the two rooms and is particularly convenient when entertaining. All-white cabinetry and countertops are in keeping with the crisp, clean look of the house. A sliding glass doorway opens to bring in the joyful outdoor scene while refreshing breezes circulate. The open, cheerful atmosphere makes this convivial spot a favorite for the owners and their family and guests. With its flowing transition from the house, the outdoor patio expanse actually becomes an extended living area for the owners. A trellised arbor runs alongside the patio and leads to a garden gazebo. Attached to the arbor and gazebo is a screen enclosure which angles high above the swimming pool and spa, and connects to the house. A spacious deck surrounds the inviting, free-form pool and spa, and provides ample space for outdoor seating.

Some seating groups and a wet bar are shaded under a covered overhang extending from the house. Perfectly suited for indoor-outdoor entertaining, the patio also is enjoyed by the owners when they are alone. The owners easily have blended their personal touches and lifestyles into this colonial Caribbean-style home. They appreciate the paradise-like setting in which it is located and enjoy it to its fullest extent. Recently, the home received a prestigious award for "overall product" in the Florida Achievement in Marketing Excellence (FAME) competition. FAME recognizes outstanding interior design and development. Architect Robert Barnes and general contractor Coastal Construction Company have much of which to be proud. But the biggest winners of all are the owners who will be able to savor the best prize – the enjoyment of this Caribbean-style, waterfront home – forever.