

BUILDING BRIEFS

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Petra Selected To Restore Waterfront Estate To Its Original Splendor

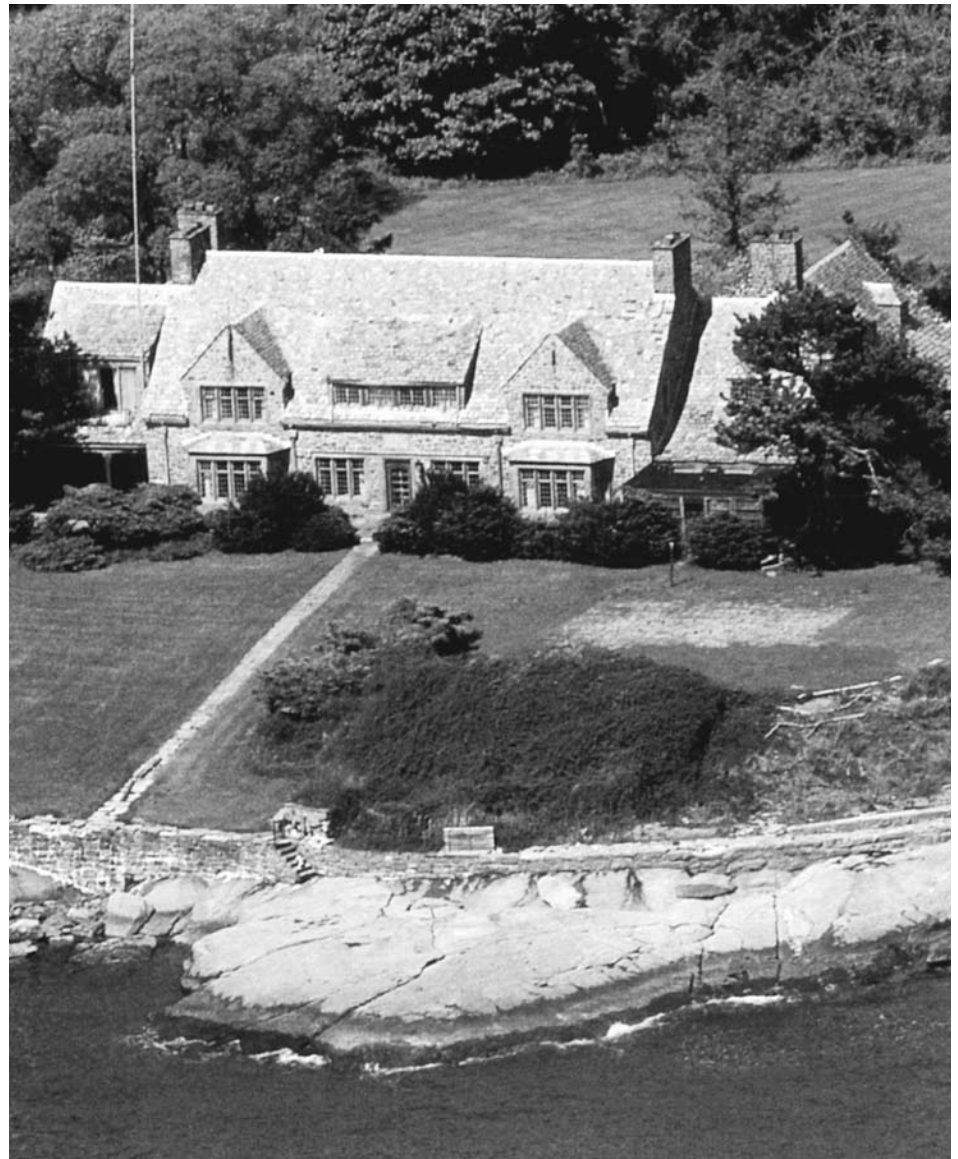
The 1920's were exciting times. Business was good, the country was growing, and Americans were in a celebrative mood.

It was during this time that a very special estate was constructed on the waterfront in Guilford, Connecticut. Set on almost five acres of property with breathtaking views, this 10,000+ square foot home was a sight to behold.

Many years have passed since the 1920's and time takes its toll, even on a beautifully crafted structure. Finishes weather, a slate roof reaches the end of its useful life, and mechanical and electrical systems require replacement, just to name a few of time's ravages.

When this unique home was recently purchased, its new owners took great care in selecting the team which would return it to its original splendor. After due consideration, they selected Petra Construction Corporation as their general contractor, and Lyme Design as their architect.

The property is located on a private peninsula facing Long Island Sound. An expanse of rolling lawn, accented by dramatic rock outcroppings, sweeps down to over a thousand feet of water frontage. The magnificently proportioned Tudor-style mansion was actually constructed of rock quarried



Quarry House, Guilford, Connecticut, currently under renovation

Continued on back page

Continued from front page

directly from the property! Hence its name, "Quarry House."

High ceilings, nine fireplaces, leaded glass windows, oak flooring and custom oak trim are among the numerous features that provide distinctive charm and character throughout this fine 16 room manor. Although the home invites grand scale living, shoulder high carved stone fireplaces in the living room, dining room and library lend a particular warmth. Completing the estate is a one-bedroom Carriage House with a three-car garage.

The new owners are committed to maintaining the home's beautiful and unique characteristics, while adding features in keeping with current standards of comfort and convenience. The plans for the project, prepared by Nelson Denny of Lyme Design, include a 2,300 square foot addition to house a complete new kitchen and pantry, an additional bedroom, and another garage.

Restoration of the original structure has presented some special challenges, such as matching the existing cast nickel silver lever sets used on the doors, reproducing the original designs moulded into the plaster, replacing over 120 windows in a style to match those manufactured in the 1920's, but with insulating glass, and duplicating the ornately profiled sandstone window jambs. Petra's Project Manager, Tim O'Dell, has been painstakingly researching all of these

items, and many more, to assure that the finished product will meet the owners' high standards.

In addition, all of the period mouldings and other millwork items need to be replicated to match those of the original structure. Petra's complete custom millwork shop is up to the challenge. Shop Foreman Charlie Grova and his crew have many years of experience in duplicating such items as wainscoting, custom doors, cabinetry and the myriad of other items required.

Orchestrating the work of all of the carpenters, masons, roofers, plumbers, electricians and others on site is Petra Construction Corporation's General

Superintendent, Mike Panico. Much of the work is being done with Petra's own crews, due to the detailed nature of the construction and the aggressive project schedule.

When the work is complete, the home's new owners will have an estate which is not only strikingly elegant, but is constructed with the high quality required to meet the demands of an oceanfront environment. This estate will truly be "one of a kind."

If you have an upcoming project which will require the ultimate in attention to detail, please call Guido Petra, President or Terry Wooding, Vice President at (203) 865-6043 and let us put the Petra Team to work for you.



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