

# THE HOME EDITION

Big Sur Carmel Carmel Valley Monterey Pacific Grove Pebble Beach

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# AS SEEN IN THE HOME EDITION



## ADOBE AWARENESS: The Spirit Of The Time

*"Because there is so much interesting history in the home that has been derived from different sources, there really was no need to introduce something else." — Mary Ann Schicketanz, AIA*

Neighbored by grand houses of the late 1920s, the adobe resides in a part of old Monterey where it is framed by giant cypress trees that enhance its sense of scale and shelter it from public view. From outside or within there is a seamless continuity of

design that belies the knowledge that this home has been preserved and expanded by intelligent and sensitive renovation.

Preservation and remodeling: two words that commonly cause misconception and are rarely compatible with modernistic thinking. Yet this adobe, owned by restaurateurs Pierre and Marietta Bain and architecturally renovated by partners Mary Ann Schicketanz and Rob Carver of Diamonite Design, defies stereotyping.

Nothing is apparent in the design flow from room



to room or floor to floor that suggests the Bains' home underwent a major tear down and rebuild, but it did. During a nine-month period an existing 1970s ranch style add-on was replaced with an authentic recreation of the original structural style of the home. The challenge to the eye is to find where the original work ends and the new begins.

The pattern of the home was dictated by the owner's lifestyle and their mutual work. The spacious kitchen and informal dining area is the centerpiece not because they own a restaurant but because that's where their children do their homework. The result is an understated kitchen with little architectural emphasis on the actual cooking area. Instead of using cabinets in the kitchen and adjacent garden room that protrude into the living space, combed redwood doors concealing recessed shelving were installed. The effect is a clean, unencumbered look.

The adobe's original elements such as wood floors, tiles, wrought ironwork, tall doors and steel-

framed windows and patio doors were carried through in the new, two thousand-square-foot addition. To match the originals, Schicketanz and Carver successfully sought out the Southern California manufacturer who fabricated the home's steel-framed windows and patio doors back in 1928. The firm was still in business.

The entire theme of the home — from the Persian rugs dictating color to the precise design of the new space — culminates in the master bedroom-bath suite on the second floor.

In contrast with the first floor interiors, the master bedroom is incredibly rich and voluptuous in decor and design. Following the Mediterranean mixtures of French, Italian, Spanish and Arabic, the suite's romantic color palette is copper, teal and rose-clay.

Today the forty five hundred-square-foot home with three bedrooms and four baths plus an informal dining area to complement the smaller but formal dining space, is a preservation remodel in complete respect for the integrity of the 1928 original architecture while providing viable, up-to-date living comfort.

The message: If a home has an architecturally sound design, and in particular reflects a significant local period, retain what's there — let it be the motivation for renewal and restoration. ♦

(DESIGN TEAM SEE PAGE 64)