

winner Historical Home Renovation

ROBERT A. CARDELLO ARCHITECTS, LLC

Well-built



The buyers of this 1898 home on a choice parcel of Greenwich shore saw a potential swan; though long-neglected, the structure was graciously proportioned and beautifully sited. When they approached Robert Cardello about restoring the house, it was, in fact, the architect's second occasion to engage in its revival.

"In the early years of my practice, I had drawn renovation plans for previous owners, but then the clients backed out and sold the house. When the new owners contacted me, the house became a project I could revisit with another decade of experience and a broader perspective about improving it," says Cardello.

The five-acre parcel allowed for a large addition; Cardello also reconfigured the rear elevation to expand the sweeping water views. Reworking the interiors, he created a grand hall and main staircase that complement

the house's gracious scale.

Because the owners were intent on achieving a historically correct renovation, Cardello's team reused original millwork and then hand-built new millwork to match it. New siding, windows, roofing, and architectural details also replicate the original materials.

The project incorporated beautiful hardwoods into the fabric of the house and grounds: a marble topped, solid walnut center island in the newly enlarged kitchen; a new library fitted with cherry cabinetry and millwork; and a mahogany trellis, inspired by the Arts & Crafts architectural team of Greene and Greene, that screens an outdoor terrace from the adjoining property.

"I appreciated the opportunity to build and expand on the strengths of the house," says Cardello. "Everyone who worked on it is proud of the result." -JO

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With its seaside elevation fully open to the grand views provided by the 1898 property (opposite), architect Robert Cardello enhanced the home's large spaces with elegant details. He transformed such features as the main staircase (left) and wraparound porch (top) with reclaimed and handmade millwork.

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