

## **RESIDENCES • ART DECO • OLD ENGLISH • HISTORIC • TRAVELER'S HAVEN • HOME-OFFICE**





## **AN OLD ENGLISH LIBRARY**



## **Photos by Everett & Soule**

Renovation of a physician's private residence in Winston Salem, North Carolina, included redoing a library that would double as a home office and conference area for entertaining colleagues. The objective was to create an "old English" room in feeling, one that appeared to have been in place for years, taken out of a house in England.

The house was originally built in 1948. The current owner purchased it in 1991, and Leo Dowell of Design International redesigned and enhanced the entire interior of the 20 room, 6,000 square foot home. It is a French influence brick home.

Goodman Millwork Company of Salisbury, North Carolina, an AWI member custom architectural woodworker, provided the woodwork for the library and other areas, including custom rail for the stairway in the foyer. Their work included floor-to-ceiling paneling, a mantel, and cabinets in the library, and a vanity cabinet for the adjoining bath; mahogany rail, special fittings, carved brackets, specially carved rail end caps, radius rail, oak treads, poplar skirt boards (including radius), and risers for the foyer stairway; and special poplar mouldings for the lower level of the foyer.

The library features solid mahogany with mitered inset panels on the walls, French limestone floors, custom builtin cabinetry, and leaded glass windows to establish an old world feeling of permanence. The original fireplace was incorporated into the design since the old brick blended with the motif. Moulding, as well as a hand painted



1 1/4"

The library features solid mahogany with mitered inset panels on the walls.

Fluted pilasters and hand-carved capitals of solid mahogany provided the atmos-phere desired by the owners.





border, was added to the ceiling to make it more spectacular and appear higher.

An interesting feature of the library is the use of hidden doors. On a trip to England, the client saw hidden doors in a house he was visiting. This effect was accomplished by putting the paneling on the flush mahogany doors as well as the walls, incorporating the doors into the panel work.

For the woodworker, the most challenging aspect of the woodwork was the interpretation of the design so as not to lose what was intended by the designer. To achieve the vision of the cabinetry looking like furniture, the designer used fluted pilasters and hand carved capitals, all of solid mahogany. Carving of the capitals in mahogany to eliminate any possible flaws in the finishing process took a great deal of time and effort.

Both the woodworker and the architect laud each other's performance on the job. The designer said, "Goodman provided shop drawings, on-time delivery, and outstanding quality and workmanship. As a matter of fact, they also provided mahogany handrail and special fitting and hand carved ends and brackets for the stairs from the foyer to the lower floors. I wanted a large handrail to match the proportions of the house. I contacted 14 other companies, but none of them could help. It was a blessing when Goodman said, 'No problem!'"





Hidden doors incorporate paneling.

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Woodworker:	Goodman Millwork Company	Salisbury, North Carolina
Design Firm:	Leo Dowell, Design International	Winston Salem, North Carolina



