

# DESIGN SOLUTIONS

Journal of the Architectural Woodwork Institute

Private Residence  
Financial Firm  
Restaurant  
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Executive Suite



**AWI**

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# EXTRAORDINARY WOODWORK MAKES AN EXTRAORDINARY HOME.





◀ **THE GREAT ROOM**, looking into the library, is magnificently clad in Honduras Mahogany paneling and ceiling.



**T**his elegant, wood-infused home in rural Pennsylvania began as a project for the owner's retirement. Although it took six years to complete, the owner says he found great pleasure in building it, and specifically the role played by the custom wood-working, the rich choice of woods and the entire design/build team.

Approximately 7,500 square feet, design for this single family residence began in August 2001 with construction beginning in 2002 and completion in 2008.

The entire interior, designed by Helena Van Vliet, AIA of Kimberton, Pennsylvania, is awash in magnificent, hand-crafted architectural woodwork. The woodwork was fabricated and finished by Ivan C. Dutterer, Inc., an AWI member firm headquartered in Hanover, Pennsylvania.

Design considerations, she says, were “creating a design which connects the new building to its spectacular site, celebrates the beautiful views in various directions, and reflects the client’s wish for the absolute highest quality of workmanship in all areas.”

#### EVERYTHING WOOD

For the main house, the wood-working firm fabricated raised paneled doors, doors with beveled glass and window trim, all of Honduras

Mahogany. In the East Tower, they provided radius wall paneling and trim, handrail, paneled doors, window jambs, a front entry feature, crown mouldings and concealed radius doors, all of Honduras Mahogany.

The kitchen table is made of Bubinga while the banquette seating and radius ceiling panel are Mahogany. The laundry room contains Honduras Mahogany wall paneling and soffit, cabinets and countertops. Mahogany is carried through on the cabinets, bench seating and sink base in the mud room.

Although the beautiful wood flooring is Walnut, everything else in the Great Room is fabricated of Mahogany. That includes wall and soffit paneling, fluted octagonal columns, built-in cabinets and countertops. Paneling in the elevator is also Mahogany, as are the raised panel doors, built-in cabinets and trim in the exercise room.

Wood paneling, soffits with return grilles and crown mouldings highlight



▼ **WOOD PANELING**, soffits with return grilles and crown mouldings highlight the second floor hallway.









**AT A GLANCE:****AWI MANUFACTURING MEMBER: Ivan C. Dutterer, Inc.**LOCATION: **Hanover, Pennsylvania**FOUNDED: **1959**SPECIALTY: **Quality handcrafted custom architectural woodwork for America's most beautiful homes**

*"Our craftsmen produce a complete package of custom interior and exterior wood products, including complex cabinets, entertainment centers, straight and curved mouldings, doors, windows, shutters, entries, paneling, wine cellars, stairs, pergolas, fine furniture, and any other premium or monumental woodwork desired by our customers."*

**– Dave Sanders, Project Manager**

the second floor hallway.

Cherry was the wood of choice for dressing room and study. The Ivan Dutterer team produced built-in closet storage cabinets, wall paneling, built-in desk cabinets, countertops, cornice, trim and raised paneled doors for this area.

An elegant curved stairway, leading to the bottom level, is made of Walnut.





The handrail, skirt board and trim are of Honduras Mahogany. There is also a raised panel door at the tool room in the garage which is accented with Mahogany door trim, window trim and base.

### MONUMENTAL TEAMWORK

According to Dave Sanders of Ivan Dutterer, the woodworking firm provided assistance with the interior design of the woodwork. “Anticipating the expectations of the architect and the homeowner, putting them on paper, and then turning them into a finished product was often a challenge,” he notes.

The most interesting work we did with Dutterer “were the living room paneled ceiling, the disappearing interior window into the second floor study/dressing room area, and the disappearing door to basement stairs,” says Van Vliet. “In both cases the openings are complexly invisible when closed and appear to be part of the continuing fixed paneling. The sliding mechanism for the interior window was very complex and required a great deal of care and ingenuity to design and then install.”

Similarly, she continues, “the basement door mechanism and paneling detailing were difficult and required a lot of ‘back and forth’ communication and close cooperation with the contractor.”

The homeowner says his requirement for first class material was met in every way, but especially with the woodwork and the woods selected. “I wanted a library atmosphere with a rich finished look and sheetrock was to be avoided when possible,” he notes. “I wanted extra thick doors, obvious figuring and several varieties of wood. Most decisions on the wood to be used and where those woods would be located

► ELEGANT, FLUTED OCTAGONAL MAHOGANY COLUMNS adorn first and second floors.



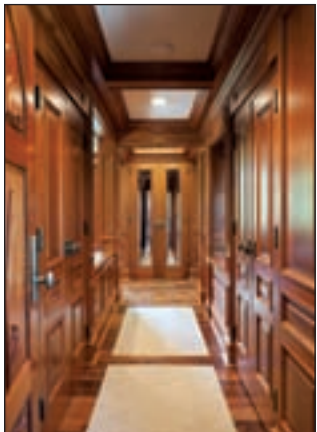








Private Residence








was a joint effort among the architect, builder, woodworking firm and me.”

He goes on to say, “there are many features I found exciting in concept and now enjoyable in reality. Among those features, the paneling in the Great Room, the banisters for the stairway, and the figuring in the wood are among my favorites, but my bedroom and den are spectacular.”

“The working relationship with Ivan Dutterer and Dave Sanders in particular could not have been better,” adds Van Vliet. “His very friendly and professional manner was very reassuring during the resolution of complicated problems. He had an anything-can-and-will-be-done attitude at all times and was always available for meetings and phone consultations. Nothing was too odd or complicated for him.” 

Project:	<b>Private Residence</b>	Pennsylvania
Woodworker:	<b>Ivan C. Dutterer, Inc.</b>	Hanover, PA
Architect:	<b>Helena Van Vliet, AIA</b>	Kimberton, PA
General Contractor:	<b>Bigelow Builders</b>	Parkerford, PA
Photographer:	<b>Tom Crane</b>	Bryn Mawr, PA