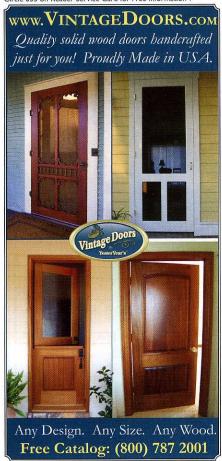


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## **Cooper on New Classic Homes**



As a longtime contributor, Dan Cooper has informed and entertained *Old-House Interiors* readers on subjects as wideranging as touching up French polish, the Egyptian Revival, and the hilarious adventures of Butchy. Now he's written the text for *New Classic American Houses: The Architecture of Albert*,

Righter & Tittmann. A monograph of the residential work of three masters of modern traditional architecture, the book is lavishly illustrated with 200 photographs, plus plans, drawings, and watercolors. Designs reference Greek Revival, Shir

ings, and watercolors. Designs reference Greek Revival, Shingle Style, cottage, and camp homes, and a foreword by Robert A. M. Stern praises the architects for their "sense of whimsy and fearlessness." Vendome Press, 2009; \$50



## **OPEN HOUSE**

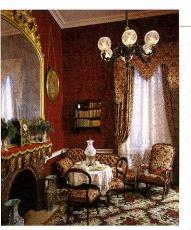
The 1818 Robert Mills-designed

## White House of the Confederacy provides an unparal-

leled glimpse into mid-19th-century middle-class family life, as well as the governmental business of the American South.

Built for John Brockenbrough, president of the Bank of Virginia, on fashionable Shockoe Hill in Richmond's Court End neighborhood, the neoclassical columned and stuccoed building was originally two stories with a slate roof. In the 1820s, Brockenbrough remodeled the front door and entrance hall, and replaced the rectangular staircase with a circular one.

Wealthy Richmond flour manufacturer Lewis Crenshaw purchased the Greek Revival house in 1857 and added a third



LEFT: The Rococo Revival library. BELOW, FROM LEFT: The grand spiral staircase, added in the 1820s; the rear portico of the Greek Revival dwelling; the bedroom where Davis slept.

floor. When the Civil War broke out a few years later, he sold it to the city, which in turn leased it to the Confederate States of America.

From 1861 to 1865, the house served as the official residence of Jefferson Davis, the Confederacy's first and only President. He maintained a home office on the second floor 50 years before the West Wing was added to the White House in Washington, D.C. Today, the Richmond house museum boasts the Rococo Revival interior installed by Davis's wife. 1201 E. Clay Street, Richmond, VA, (804) 649-1861, **moc.org** 

-REGINA COLE





