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DESIGN NEW YORK CITY

CHIC CLASSICISM

Stewards and champions of classical architecture, Anne Fairfax and Richard Sammons view tradition through a modern lens.

Understanding the history of a place and its architecture, without being bound to it, has stood as a cornerstone of the award-winning work architects Anne Fairfax and Richard Sammons have achieved over their 30 years in business. It is an ethos perhaps expected from two classically trained architects with an academic eye, but their delightful, newly built iterations of traditional forms and stunning updates to historic properties have become a testament to its value.

“Architecture enunciates an era’s culture and identity,” says Fairfax. “Getting the historic details right while designing for the modern world is as essential to preserving the past as it is to ensuring traditional architecture endures.”

From Mediterranean revival and Anglo-Caribbean houses in Palm Beach and South Florida to Georgian estates and picture-perfect shingled cottages across the eastern seaboard,

Fairfax and Sammons’ new designs and updates to existing historic properties impart a sense of quiet luxury, rooted in an exacting attention to classical elements of proportion, purity of form, and exceptional details.

“Historic houses often require reversing anachronistic additions that have occurred over time as well as solutions for contemporary living,” Sammons says. “New builds offer the advantage of ground-up considerations for modern life, and the challenge of ensuring they feel as if they’ve always been there.”

The duo’s acumen for achieving innovation and timelessness has earned them accolades from international academics and industry luminaries alike, as well as praise from a host of high-profile clients. “They are known for their chic classicism,” and, “Their level of detail is the highest of any architects I’ve seen,” are some of the comments on their work.

