

IN THE DETAILS

*The Difference Between
Good and Great*

BACK IN 1991, James Remez, a native New Yorker, and David Palmer, who hails from California, were both working on the same commercial construction job in Palm Beach. The two men found they shared a business philosophy and decided to merge their independent construction companies. Today, that same philosophy is at the heart of Livingston Builders, Inc.: integrity, quality, trustworthiness, and thoroughness.

Remez, who established a yacht-support business while in college, was inspired at an early age by the great homes of the North Shore of Long Island, and began building sophisticated residences. Palmer, the youngest general contractor in Florida, was already working with major commercial clients like Citibank before he was thirty. Both young entrepreneurs never forgot their roots as teenage construction laborers, and today they are known for their accessibility and responsiveness to all participants in a project—large and small. Their combined experiences allow for a bank of knowledge in any discipline, including land use, zoning, architectural review, and complex and challenging structural elements and conditions.

"Jim and David make a terrific partnership," says client Rand Araskog. "Their honesty and thoroughness are qualities where they excel. Their estimates are always quite accurate and their attention to work on the project is hourly." Their twenty-year-old company has completed over four hundred detailed and intricate projects, making them a favorite in the design world's most elite circles, including among Brian McCarthy, Christina Murphy, and Scott Snyder. But it is their successful merger of their ideals that creates the "Livingston Lifestyle." ♦

Clockwise from top: a beautifully executed dining room looks out to the Breakers; a hidden television behind a faux bookshelf; classical moldings add architectural integrity; precision woodworking is shown in this drawer; elegant details stand out in this circular entry.

