

# THE BUILDER'S JOURNAL<sup>®</sup>

Greater Houston Edition



Stonehenge Classic Homes Inc.  
Creating the Jewels of Houston's West University



This open sitting room reveals the creative use of marble front and hardwood-topped staircase adorned with custom ironwork. Photo by Joe Gayle.

## Stonehenge Classic Homes Inc. Distinctive Homes in Houston's Finest Neighborhoods

Focusing on high-end custom homes in Houston's inner loop market as well as the Memorial Villages, Stonehenge Classic homes has built a reputation for creative style and timeless quality. With over 16 years of building experience, owner and president David W. Crow has extensive knowledge and is committed to the needs of Houston's Inner loop communities.

Building custom homes as well as

speculative homes in these markets, the main business has grown to be almost completely new construction. However, Crow does take on a few major renovations as well. "I used to do a lot of remodeling early in my career and love to combine old and new to make a unique finished product for my clients. "I enjoy being challenged creatively." As an example, Crow cites taking a 1,400 square foot

home in West University, and finished it as a 3,500 square foot French Country custom home that has drawn acclaim from nearby residents." In April 2006, this will be featured in the PTO Festival of West University Homes benefiting area schools.

Bringing an unusually involved creative hand to each home construction, Crow tells, "I encourage my clients to involve me in their vision of the



Wooden beams, barreled stone ceiling, and custom made furniture-style cabinets garnish this Stonehenge Classic showcase kitchen. Photo by Joe Gayle.

finished construct. Many of my clients have a difficult time visualizing the finished product. I let them know I am there to help when needed. Sometimes I will sketch ideas for cabinets or tile patterns right on the walls, and create as we walk through their dream home. I add that aspect to the design process for our custom clients.”

When asked to tell what features are standard in a Stonehenge Classic Home, Crow states, “The standards in our homes mainly concern raising the bar on quality issues, many of which are in the hidden areas of the home (foundation, framing, bracing, wiring, etc.). We set our standards high in these areas even though they are eventually covered up by the finish work. The finish work is as equally

important though, but what good is that if the inner workings are of sub-par quality.”

“Even though I build speculative homes, I feel like I’m building custom homes for a buyer I haven’t met yet. I have done so many custom homes and have had the opportunity to work with some of the top decorators and designers. I try to incorporate many custom features I have done in the past into my spec houses so that they have the details that people expect at that price.”

“A lot of the popular styles right now are in the French Country tradition. We work on all kinds of styles, but that is definitely the most popular. Currently we are working on developing a Country French home, a Spanish-colonial home, and an Old

English Estate Home. All of these homes will be in the 1.7+ million range, and will be very unique homes.”

The Country French home that David spoke of is a Rice Residential Design in one of the most desired locations in Afton Oaks featuring historic oak trees in front with an expansive back yard. This one is in planning and can be customized. “I’ll work closely with designers and architects in designing the house, and am always involved at the design phase.” Expect five bedrooms, four and a half baths in 6,000 square feet with a three-car attached garage.

Crow is currently finalizing the development of the 6,000 square foot Spanish Colonial with five bedrooms and six baths. Available for customizing, this 2006 Stonehenge Showcase

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This spacious living room reveals the unique coffered ceiling with cove-lighting. The groin ceiling above the wet bar adds a nice touch next to the unique placement of a temperature controlled wine cellar beneath the staircase. Photo by Joe Gayle.

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home is set to become an award winner in the coming season. With a floor plan for the discerning entertainer, this Robert Dame-designed home is slated for an October completion. When speaking of latest trends of interiors, Crow says, "I've enjoyed bringing stone and brick inside homes. We introduced groin ceilings in stone, wine rooms with brick walled interiors, and brick barrel vault entryways and ceilings."

On a recent tour of Stonehenge homes, we toured a fabulous stucco home with cast stone accents and barrel-vault entry at \$1.2 million. This Country French home was Stonehenge Classic Homes' 2005 Showcase entry. It featured a truly unique barrel-rolled beamed ceiling with natural stone, a climate-controlled wine room and a companion-

wet bar with a groin ceiling. Stonehenge thought of everything when designing the gourmet kitchen with Sub-Zero refrigerator installed and custom furniture-style cabinetry. I asked where they bought the decorative, seemingly antique hutch that was nestled between the kitchen and breakfast room. "Everybody thinks we bought that at an antique store, but we worked with the carpenters on making an original piece for the house and it turned out beautifully." To no surprise, the home went on to win awards for Best Floor plan, Best Kitchen, and Best Interior Design.

Stonehenge Classic Homes has assembled a team of professionals to make sure the best possible product is available for their clients. With his investment partner, Jeff Burke, Crow is proud of the homes they

create. "Jeff and I work together on creating speculative homes. He has a vision and ideas that compliment my own and we work well together to bring very unique homes to the market." Crow currently resides in West University Place with his wife, realtor Debbie Crow, and their three young children.

No one would ever use the word "standard" to describe any of Stonehenge Classic's homes or their timeless quality. However, features like custom furniture-style cabinetry, large homes pre-wired for state of the art entertainment systems, summer kitchens, wine rooms, and creative ceiling treatments speak to the modern timeless quality that Houston has come to expect from sixteen years of David Crow and Stonehenge Classic Homes.

**TBJ**