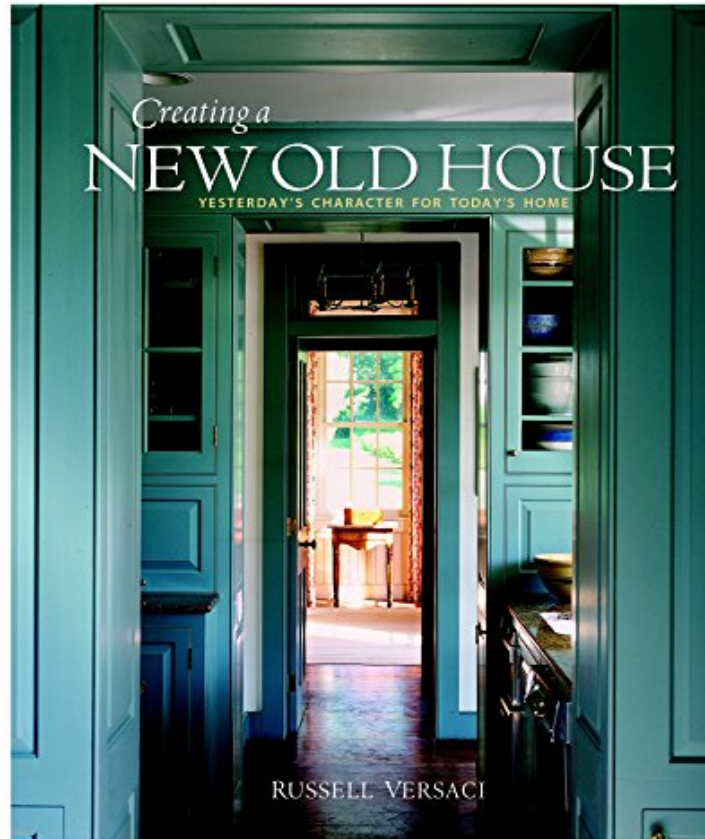


[Free and download] Creating a New Old House: Yesterday's Character for Today's Home (American Institute Architects)

## Creating a New Old House: Yesterday's Character for Today's Home (American Institute Architects)

*Russell Versaci*

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#48902 in Books Versaci, Russell/ Kvalsvik, Erik (PHT) 2007-01-01 Original language: English PDF # 1  
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**Russell Versaci : Creating a New Old House: Yesterday's Character for Today's Home (American Institute Architects)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Creating a New Old House: Yesterday's Character for Today's Home (American Institute Architects):

17 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Four words describe the method of this book By Brisguy The four words are "Spend lots of money". I suppose it should be assumed that if you want to build a new house that looks old, you have to spend more money than for a comparable 'new' new house. But I doubt any of these houses could be built for less than \$1 million and several, much more. More to the point, I suspect the cost per sq.ft is probably triple what a typical modern house would cost. Still, it is nice to see what can be done when money is no object and the goal is to build a home that takes its architectural cues from the past. The pictures are well done and impressive in many cases. I was surprised how many of the houses are not really new houses at all but were restorations. I would have preferred

more of the former since to me, the initial challenge is to choose a floorplan and style that feels old and I would like to see how that is done. Another disappointment was how the kitchens were dealt with since that is the area of the house that has changed the most over the years. In most cases, the functionality of the kitchen was secondary to keeping the room historically accurate. Since many of the periods they were reproducing were before the turn of the 20th century, that leaves a lot of conveniences behind and seems impractical if you are going to actually live in the house. The book does provide general guidance in the form of the 'pillars of traditional design'. However, most people will not be in a position to follow more than half of them and unless you want to create a museum piece, you probably don't need to. Perhaps there is a book out there for middle class folks who like older style homes and want to either restore or build a new one, but this is not it.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. It's okay, I didn't really find the interior decorating ...

By John Arnold It's okay, I didn't really find the interior decorating to be all that stunning, or even traditional-looking in many places.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I was a bit disappointed in this book

By Customer I was a bit disappointed in this book. The houses were a bit too modern for my tastes. I thought there would be more "Colonial" and Early American homes in it.

Here is the best of both worlds: New houses with old world sensibilities. In *Creating a New Old House*, architect Russell Versaci shows you that it is possible to design and create a new house that looks and feels like it has always been there. Versaci explores how architects, builders, and craftsmen are reinterpreting the traditional American house. Through photographs and engaging text, discussions of history and craftsmanship, and sidelong glances at the workings of real old houses, Versaci explains how traditional houses go together and what gives them their unique design appeal. Features 17 new, old-style houses -- from colonials to farmhouses -- from all over the country Versaci identifies Eight Pillars of Traditional Design that create a solid foundation for combining authentic, traditional design with livability to create homes that feel old yet work for the demands of modern family living.

"People love old houses. Versaci explains why, and shows what it takes to create such enduring quality in home design today" --Philip Morris, former Senior Architecture Editor, *Southern Accents*

"Versaci presents a masterful survey of the best in new, historically inspired homes...and shares the techniques that architects use to achieve historical resonance and emotional impact." --Clem Labine, Editorial Director, *Traditional Building*

"The quality of the architecture presented in this book is excellent." --Andres Duany, architect, founder of New Urbanism, Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company

About the Author Russell Versaci has been practicing traditional architecture for two decades. His firm, Russell Versaci Architecture, is noted for creating thoughtful, carefully executed designs for period-style homes that reflect a mastery of history. His first book, *"Creating a New Old House,"* promotes the author's "Pillars of Traditional Design," a set of principles for creating authentic traditional architecture. Versaci's designs have been featured in national magazines, including *"Traditional Home,"* *Southern Accents,* *House Beautiful,* and *"Southern Living,"* as well as on *Good Morning, America.*