

# A PERSONAL YET CLASSIC FRENCH INSPIRED CHATEAU

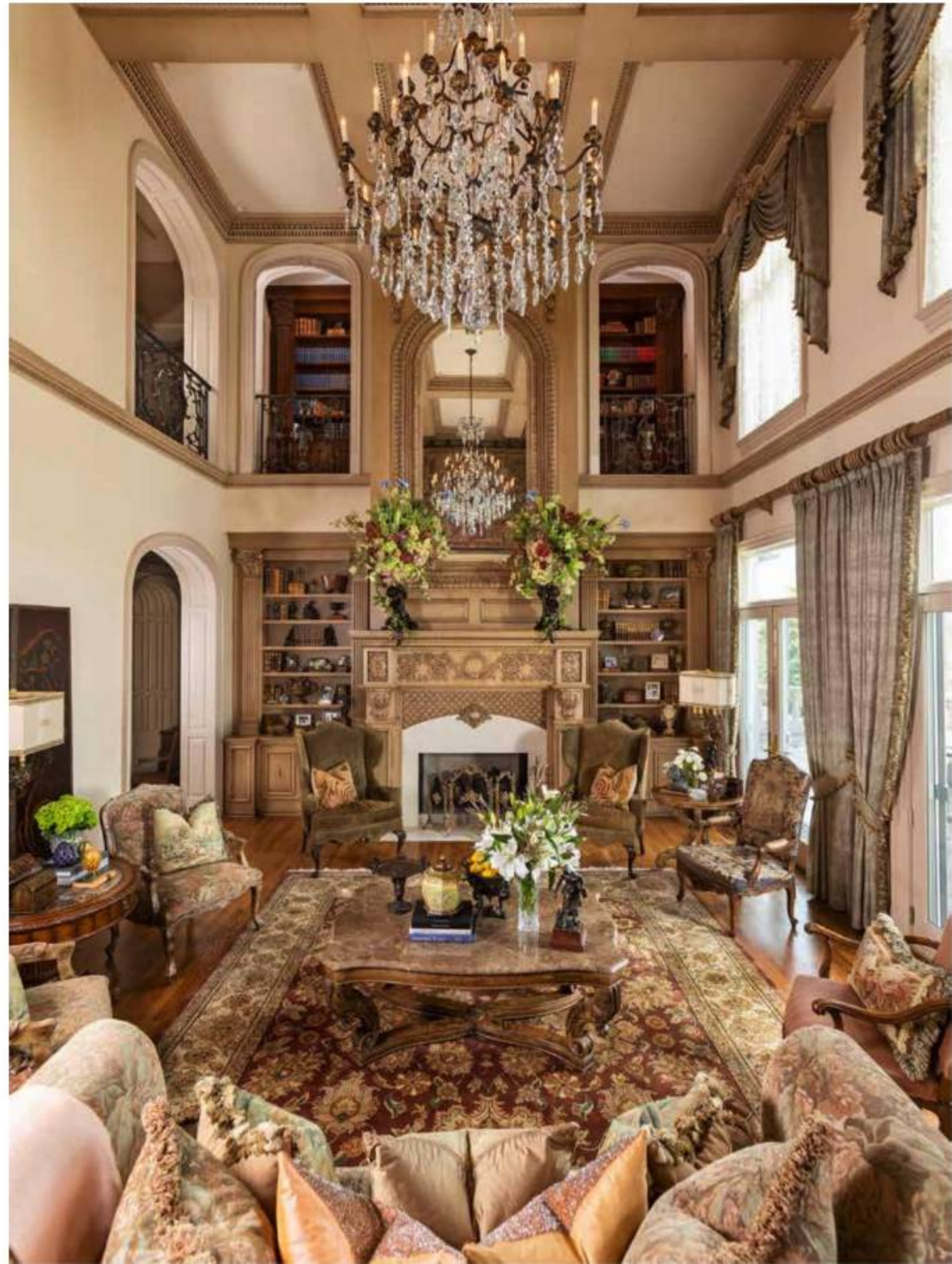
FLEEMAN CHATEAU – GODDARD DESIGN GROUP













**“The use of warm neutrals, French green and shades of blush ensure that the colour palette is timeless and provides a dignified finish which flows throughout the interior of the property.”**

Overlooking a lush valley in Rogers, Arkansas, this chateau home situated in 300 acres is a dream home inspired by extensive travels of Paris and the countryside of France. Loving the Loire Valley, the clients purchased the site and began planning their French-inspired compound enlisting the expertise of local, award winning designers, Goddard Design Group.

The brief given by the client was for Goddard Design Group to create a residence that would withstand the test of time and include high quality design and craftsmanship. The owner of the property has four children and many grandchildren and so the home was to be elegant but comfortable and liveable for family get-togethers as well as having the ability to manage large gatherings and social events. The French-inspired compound was a dream home for the client and would include architectural elements and fixtures which had been collected over the years and given as gifts on wedding anniversaries and other memorable occasions. The clients had entrusted Goddard Design Group to design the space and fulfil their vision.

Large custom-made iron gates lead to a quarter of a mile long driveway made of hand-cut granite cobblestone, the perfect entrance to the quintessentially French Chateau made of hand-cut limestone. This property exudes opulence with an interior that is perfectly elegant, but not ostentatious. The gardens that surround the home are formal and transition to natural Ozark flora over the 300 acres and the property is elegantly placed on the edge of a bluff overlooking a large pastoral valley. Describing how the design integrates with the location, Goddard Design Group stated “timeless perfection that transports you to another time or place is the design scheme for this estate.

Antique statuary and grand elements punctuate the house's landscape and create a true European feel”.

The use of warm neutrals, French green and shades of blush ensure that the colour palette is timeless and provides a dignified finish which flows throughout the interior of the property. A custom apricot coloured silk was created to upholster the formal living room and dining room which are two spaces situated opposite each other in the home. Chris Goddard, Principal Designer for Goddard Design Group chose these as his favourite rooms in the house and explained that he upholstered one room with the front of the fabric and the other one with the backside of the fabric to create a warm and inviting transition to both rooms with a subtle contrast.

In keeping with the brief from the client, the designers commissioned artisans to produce custom furnishings, bronze railings and plaster mouldings to an exquisite end. As this was to be used as a family home there were several personal touches added to reflect the clients' personalities. These included love birds and morning glories added into the plaster mouldings to represent the couple's love. There were also antique bricks from one of the couple's favourite places used to construct the exposed brick wall in the kitchen, and large Flemish tapestry featuring an image of the home was commissioned for the great room. The delicate use of craftsmanship to a high end quality has meant this property can be a warm and personal home.

The interior of the property is expertly decorated with French antiques and furnishings along with a large collection of Barbizon School oil paintings. In order to acquire the perfect fabrics, period furniture, and architectural pieces for

the expansive home, Chris Goddard, Principal Designer at Goddard Design Group travelled extensively to furnish the property with the finest products. On reflection, Chris Goddard reminisced that “the best part of the project was the personal time spent with the client travelling all over to find unique pieces and collections for the home.” He continued by saying “I am truly honoured that she entrusted me to design this space and fulfil the vision that she and her late husband created.

When asked about any challenges faced along the way, Chris Goddard explained there were two major challenges; sadly, he explained “the first was the loss of one of the clients who was the design architect of the home.” Unfortunately, when he passed away during the construction process, the building of the property slowed as his wife took a much needed break. Later, she took the decision to finish the Chateau in her loving husband's memory and placed her continued faith in Goddard Design Group's expertise to complete the dream home the couple had envisioned.

As the design brief given by the client was to include high quality design and craftsmanship, the second challenge the design team encountered was “locating skilled craftsman who were capable of executing complicated, detailed work which had to be done by hand.” This was overcome beautifully to create this opulent home including the use of art created by a trompe l'oeil master used previously by Gianni Versace.

The property was completed in 10 years and truly pays homage to the couple's vision and love. The client and Goddard Design Group continue to update the chateau's interior to maintain the classic and timeless design.



**GODDARD DESIGN GROUP**  
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL INTERIOR DESIGN

4403 S. THOMPSON STREET SUITE 2  
SPRINGDALE, ARKANSAS 72764  
+1.479 . 521 . 2592

[WWW.GODDARDDESIGNGROUP.COM](http://WWW.GODDARDDESIGNGROUP.COM)