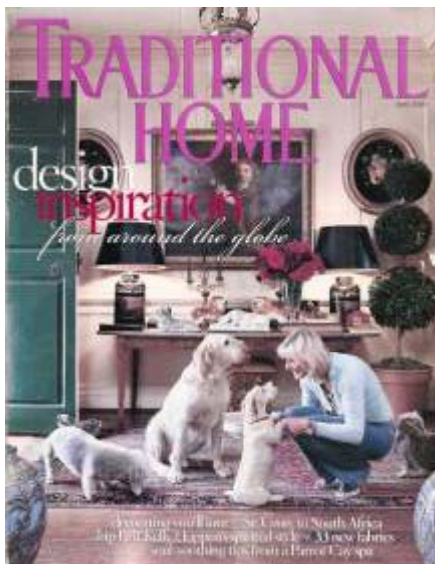




# Galerías Arther

Antigüedades - Mueble Fino Mexicano - Decoración  
Antiques - Fine Mexican Furniture - Decor



...fect not efficiently—without having to venture into the open-air courtyard. But in good weather—which is most of the time—the courtyard serves as the hacienda's main artery. Many of the doors leading between rooms, in fact, are swollen shut from moisture and inertia, not having seen service in years.

The courtyard not only is vital for *señalado* traffic, these but is the focal point of every room. Through wide doorways, rooms open up to its sensory delights: the lush air that flows from its carved *arcos* (volcanic) stone fountains; the fragrance and color of its jasmine, apple, and fig blossoms; roses, lanterns, oranges, and bougainvillea; and the weathered shorn of its unglazed *terra-cotta* floors (called *base pinto*) that have hosted generations of Hernandez family footfalls.

The downstairs includes the chapel, several bedrooms and baths, the formal dining room and parlor, and a main kitchen as well as an "outdoor" kitchen. The outdoor kitchen, one of the hacienda's loveliest and most colorful rooms, features a grill at one end and for making *orees* (grilled beef) and a domed oven at the opposite end for baking *pollitos* (little corn cakes). The sink is made of glazed tiles decorated in the traditional

Talavera style. (Talavera—Mexico's mystical—on glazed pottery made from the clay of Puebla.) A tiled relief above the doorway also displays the dove, ornate pattern of old Talavera platters.

The main bracketed with a wrought-iron stair rail lead from the entry to the upstairs gallery—a museum of fine antiques and art that serves as a gathering place for the three second-floor en suite bedrooms and baths adjacent to it. Along one wall of the staircase is a grand the mural. "It is an allegory an anniversary of my great-great-grandfather, José Antonio Hernández Garrón, who lived from 1785 to 1855," notes Alfonso. A pair of antique stained-glass French doors create a light cover at the top of the staircase, displaying objects d'art in lovely color. Many of the antiques are heirlooms. But many more are the result of 35 years of collecting by Alicia and Alfonso, who own a fine antique gallery in Guadalajara, where the couple live full-time in a palatial antique house. (The hacienda is about a two-hour drive away, as rough roads under construction.)

"My father responsible for how the hacienda looks today—for its decorating," says Ignacio. A painter in his free time, Alfonso compares rooms the way he does canvases, paying

Revista "Traditional Home",  
Reportaje del rescate de  
Hacienda del Siglo XVIII.

E.U.A. Abril 2005.

