

Concept Boards

Wisembaker Wells Roberts (J.T. Roberts) House Bed and Breakfast Renovation

The concept design boards (mood boards) that you are viewing are part of the process that I have created to represent key conceptual elements that will help to guide the process of developing finalized proposed design solutions. These mood boards allow me to articulate visually the color palettes, materials, textures, patterns, and other elements mixed with schematic drawings to represent a direction the design could take. It allows for clients to provide initial responses and feedback of what is liked or not liked before an in-depth exploration of the design solution. Meaning that this step of the process allows me to provide a design direction showing possible material selections such as tile, woods, fabrics, etc. without the specific location of said materials being realized. It is a method of starting conversation so that a basic “I like the direction this is going”, “I am not sure I like this for myself”, or “I like some of these things but I am not sure I like others” responses can take place without the commitment of detailed drawings, construction documents, specifications, etc. which saves time and money.

These specific concept boards are in reflection of the oldest house in Valdosta, the Wisembaker-Wells-Roberts (J.T. Roberts) house being renovated into a bed and breakfast. The Valdosta Heritage Foundation (VHF), current owners, requests a refreshed contemporary place that respects the house’s rich past, where individuals can relax, and enjoy a stay in the beautiful Fairview National Historic District. The concept boards you see here reflect an approach of acknowledging the house’s historic and cultural importance, developing welcoming and relaxing palettes, embracing comfort and convenience, and exploring the future of the house’s function, all while providing the occupant a feeling of a connection to a rich heritage that can entice one to explore the gardens, venture into downtown Valdosta, or relax on the many porches while enjoying the southern breezes and sweet tea. My approach was simple, to make the spaces welcoming, relaxing, and to allow for one to enjoy the many wonderful aspects of this historic home and its surrounding communities.

Tommy J. Crane:

Born in Mississippi, went to The University of Southern Mississippi for his undergraduate BS degree in Interior Design. He practiced in Jackson, MS for about 6 years. During this time, he was asked to teach as an adjunct instructor for a private institution and eventually was teaching as a full time practitioner educator. This sparked his interest and passion for teaching interior design. He returned to education to earn his MFA in Interior Design at the Florida State University. From there, he worked at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. In 2012, Tommy was hired here at Valdosta State where he has provided practical and theoretical design concepts to our students for around 11 years. He has recently been awarded the promotion of full professor here in the Department of Art & Design.

Tommy is a licensed interior designer in the state of Georgia and Florida, and has earned his National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) and his Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional Interior Design + Construction (LEED AP ID+C) credentials. He is an active member of the Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC), and American Society of Interior Designers (ASID). He also serves as a site visitor for the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA). Locally, he is also a board member of the Valdosta Heritage Foundation and he is a commissioner on the Valdosta Historic Preservation Commission.