

Mountain Mansion Unexpected Sight In the High Desert

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hung in a cathedral in Mexico City, according to Renee Mathews of Camco Realty, listing agent for the home.

The huge wall-mounted light fixtures that flank the front doors at one time lit some London street, she said.

A mixed influence of European and Mexican architecture and decoration from the villa's builder has been slightly shifted to a stronger European, particularly Italian, ambience by the current owners. Mathews said much of the furniture had been purchased or made specifically for the home.

Stone columns stand as sentinels to frame the openings to the formal living and dining rooms from the entry hall. To the left is the living room with a beamed ceiling punctuated by six Italian chandeliers. A carved pine fireplace at the northern end of the room came from a mansion in southern Ireland. Four sets of French doors open onto patios — two to the open patio on the west of the house leading to a swimming pool, two to the covered "breakfast patio" with access to a tennis court and the kitchen and a stunning view of the Sandia Mountains.

To the right of the entry hall is the formal dining room that will accommodate a 12-foot table. The blown glass light fixtures were made in Italy.

Behind the dining room and entry hall are the kitchen and sunken family room. Originally, there was a sewing room/housekeeper's suite next to the family room. The Pleasants have removed the wall and opened up the space to provide a game room off the family room. With the installation of an oak door with beveled glass inserts, leading to a terrace to the south, the remodeled area lightens up the rooms. Another change made from the original home was replacing a wood-burning stove in the family room with a fireplace surrounded by marble. New off-white tiles brighten the kitchen.

A hallway from the kitchen leads to a powder room, laundry room, library and back hallway entry from the garage.

The library originally served as a control room for the observatory, but with no telescope to control, it had fallen into disuse.

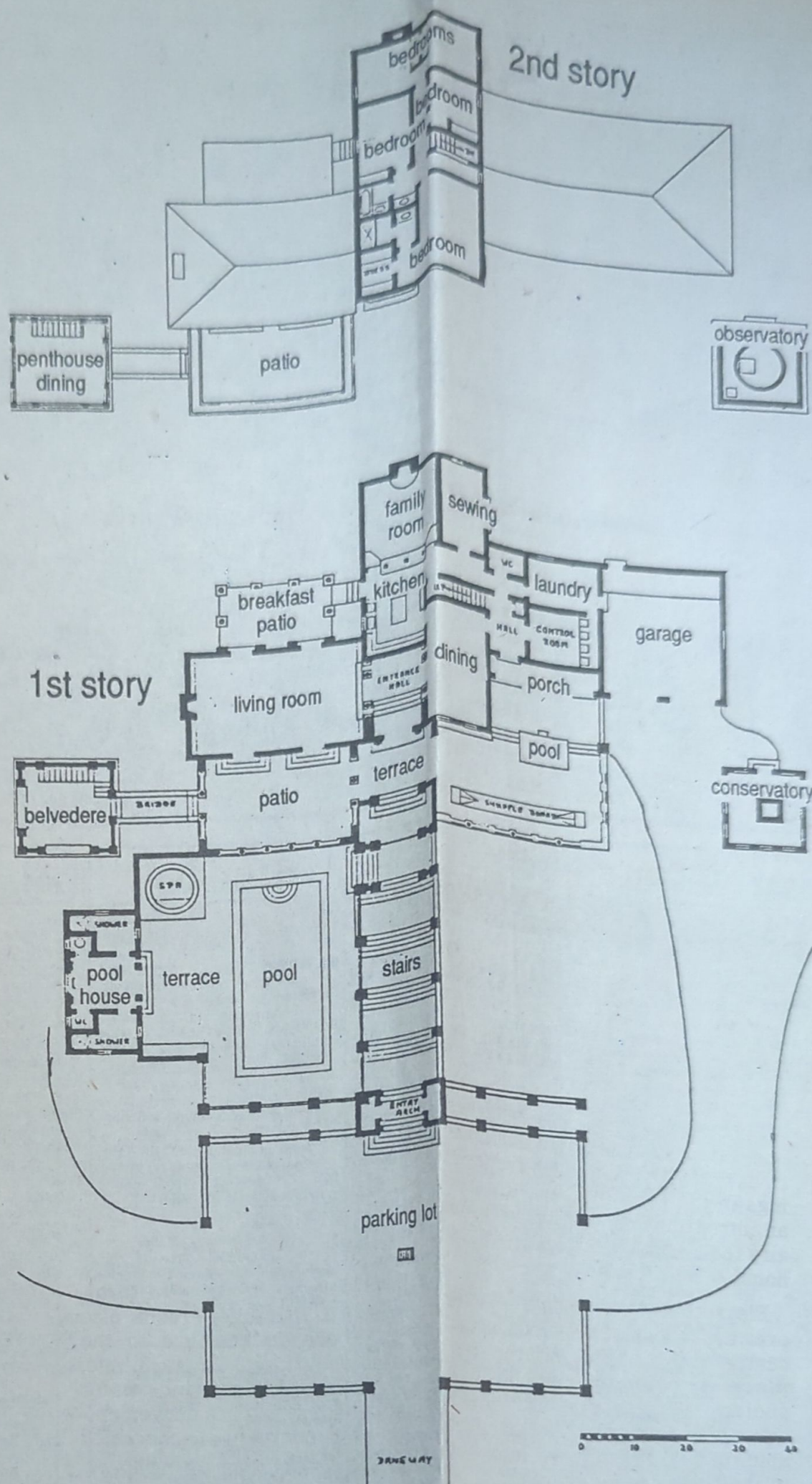
From the back hallway, stairs lead to the second floor with its master bedroom and bath plus three other bedrooms.

The floors on the main level are oak parquet in a Monticello pattern and Saltillo tile. The upstairs flooring is pegged oak planking.

Among the unique features of Hadrian West are its four outbuildings: a conservatory/observatory at the south end of the front portico; the tower house, with a 360-degree view of the surrounding terrain from its upper level, at the north end of the front portico; an Italian renaissance pool house adjoining the swimming pool terrace; and an Italian Renaissance horse stable. A tennis court has been added between the stable and tower house.

If you're looking for privacy the villa offers a secluded escape from its location in the Tierra Monte subdivision, the farthest north development on the western slopes of the Sandias accessible off Tramway Road. If its views you want, spectacular sights of the mountains, the city, the central Rio Grande Valley and vistas farther west are at the doorstep.

The Hadrian West complex is on 4.8 acres and is priced at \$975,000.



The floor plans above show the house as originally designed with three of its four outbuildings. On the first floor, what was the sewing room off the family room has been changed to a game room and opened to the family room, providing more light to that entire section of the home. What shows as the control room that originally was linked to the observatory and its telescope has become a small library. Upstairs there are four bedrooms and two bathrooms. The configuration of the upstairs has been altered to enlarge the master bath. In front of the house is the pool, spa and pool house off the terrace. Behind the pool house is the tower building with its glass-enclosed penthouse. On the opposite side of the front terrace is a built-in tile shuffleboard game and the conservatory/observatory.