



**Round Up**  
Rotundas bring the vertical drama to these homes. **M5**

# MANSION

HOMES | MARKETS | PEOPLE | REDOS | SALES

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Friday, May 13, 2022 | **M1**

**\$17 Million**  
An enormous Gilded Age mansion lists in Boston. **M14**



**RENOVATIONS**  
**\$2.6 million**

## In Sicily, A Home For the Ages

It took decades of work for one family to bring their inherited 15th-century palace into the 21st century



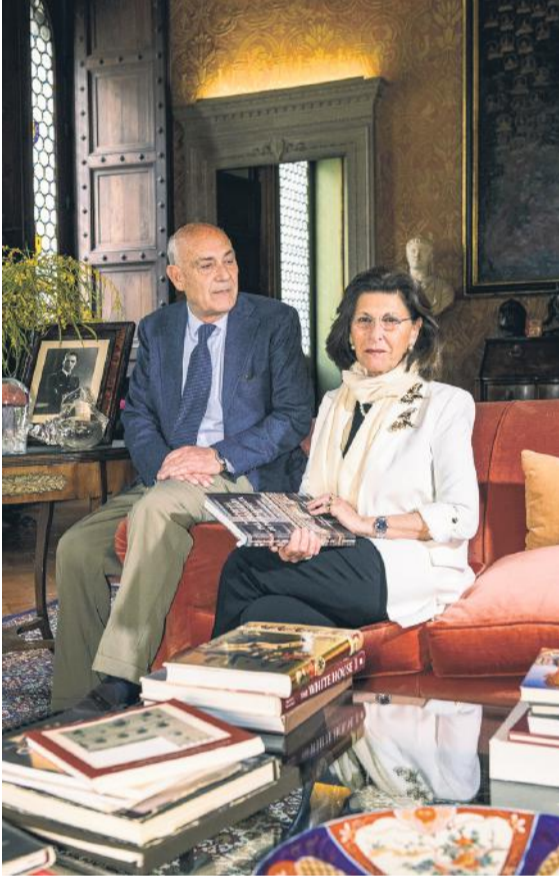
The family hand-washed 2,500 chandelier crystals.



Top left, a view of the city from the palace tower; the ballroom, above, and grand salon, below; the red salon, left; and the library, bottom. The palace has always been in private hands.



A family tree decorates the main salon.



Princess Signoretta Allietta Licata di Baucina and her husband, Prince Biagio Licata di Baucina, each have ancestral ties to the palace.

By J.S. MARCUS

**W**hen it comes to looking after her ancestral Palermo palace, Sicilian princess

Signoretta Allietta Licata di Baucina has a decidedly hands-on approach.

Back in 1996, when her ballroom's immense 18th-century Venetian chandelier needed touching up, she and her husband, banker Biagio Licata di Baucina, and their two children dipped each of its 2,500 pieces of handblown Murano glass in water-and-alcohol baths. And during the pandemic, when she took advantage of the downtime to clean and restore her palace's medieval facade, she put on a mask, picked up a trowel and joined a team of local artisans in applying new layers of plaster.

The work on the facade relied on newfangled lasers and old-fashioned elbow grease. It was finished earlier this year, capping off a three-decade, \$2.6 million endeavor to revive and maintain the palace, which has been in continuous private ownership since it was built in the 15th century.

The princess has made it her *Please turn to page M12*

**PALACE**  
**23,000 SQ. FT.**

**PIANO NOBILE/MAIN APT.**  
**6,500 SQ. FT.**



An ornate door was relocated to the library.

STEFANO TRIPOLI FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL (6)

## This California Home Rewrites The Rules on Beach Houses



The Tatum family wanted space to sleep 12. Their architect delivered with this unique design.

By E.B. SOLOMONT

**IN THE LATE 1960S**, when San Francisco lawyer Frank "Sandy" Tatum and his wife, Barbara, set out to build a family beach home, their vision, for a house that could sleep 12, was large. Their slice of beach on Monterey Bay wasn't.

Undeterred, the Tatums hired William Turnbull Jr. to design a roughly 1,600-square-foot house on Potbelly Beach in Aptos, Calif., approximately 80 miles south of San Francisco. To maximize the living space, Mr. Turnbull, then just starting what would become a notable architectural career, devised a modern, three-story home anchored by what he called a "sleeping machine," a white, rectangular structure that housed the bedrooms and bathrooms, said Shelley Tatum Kieran, 60, the youngest of the Tatums' six children. Two staircases and an open-plan living room with floor-to-ceiling windows flank *Please turn to page M10*



**ROUGH SQUARE FOOTAGE**  
**1,600**

The Tatum family's beach house, on Potbelly Beach, about 80 miles south of San Francisco, was built to maximize living space.

JIM SIMMONS (2)