

## **Introducing La Ronda, designed by Addison Mizner (1872-1933)**

This building is imminently and seriously endangered yet may be available to be “saved” via deconstruction; but only if we can quickly find a steward to reconstruct or re-invent the building, either in whole or in part. The owners have been completely stoic and determined on total and immediate demolition. They are temporarily putting up with this single deconstruction bid and all the havoc it will mean to them, while we search for a wonderful steward to take on this project. The clock is ticking loudly; asbestos abatement is scheduled for Sept. 1.

This Mediterranean Revival mansion, La Ronda, was Addison Mizner’s final architectural commission in 1929, and is presently located in the Philadelphia Main Line area. This building is 17,041 Sq Feet with beautiful gardens, terraces and fountains. It features 51 rooms with graceful archways, balconies and staircases, cut coral keystones, deeply carved ceiling tiles, cast concrete details, antique stair treads, garden wall capstones, a hidden bar, many elevated hearth fireplaces... There are 200 photographs available as well as a floor plan, specs and drawings in Mizner’s own hand. This building is presently completely intact and in exquisite condition.

Every heritage feature that can be reasonably saved will be carefully and meticulously handled for preservation opportunities. The primary goal is to find a permanent refuge for its elements, a refuge which will hopefully keep as many elements together as architectural artistry can devise. The highest hope is to locate a steward who will rescue all salvageable architectural components for the purpose of reconstructing the glory of this architectural majesty in its entirety. The second choice will be to preserve entire rooms for glorious reconstruction in a re-conceptualization. Details of Mizner’s castings do exist.