

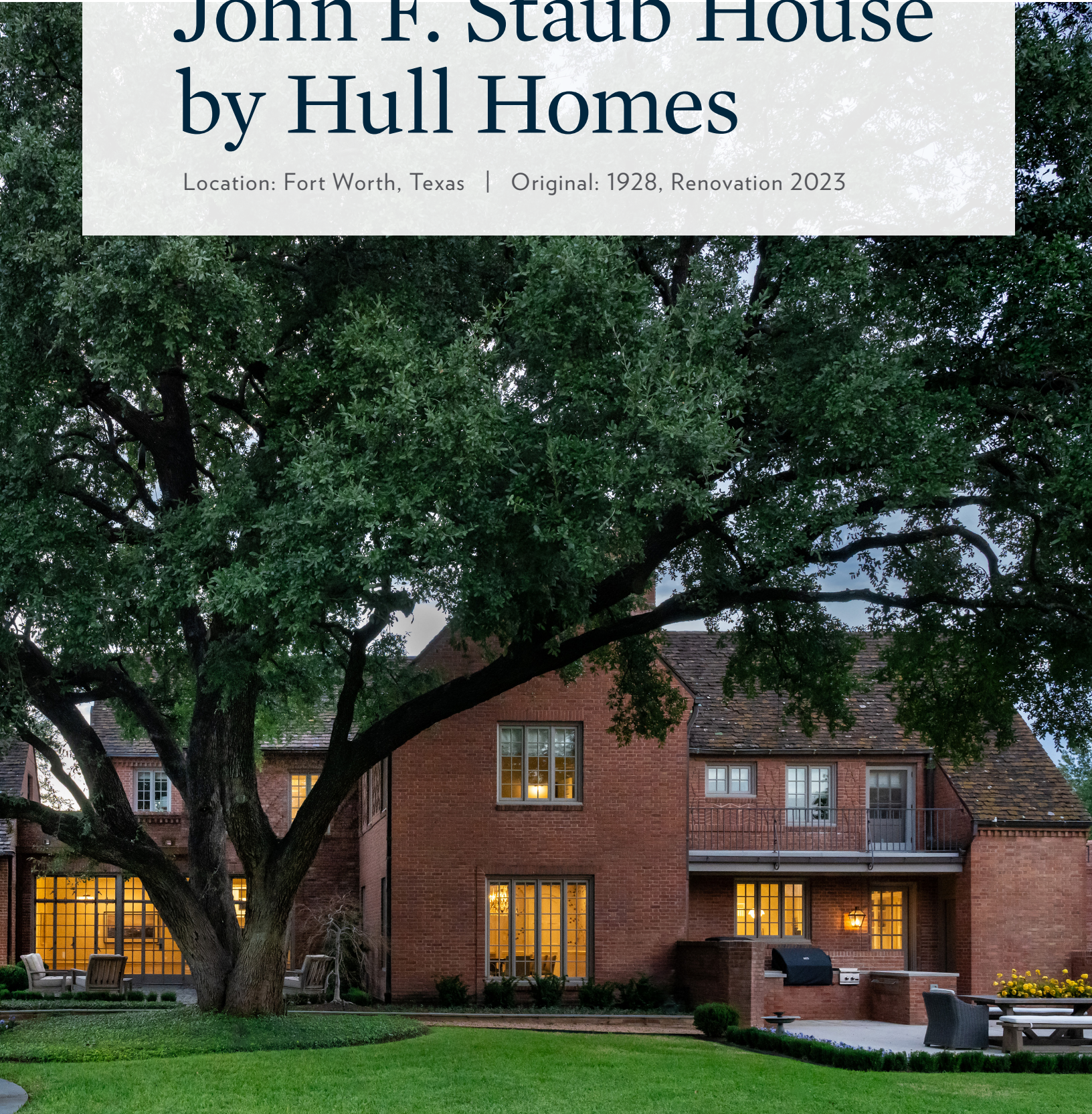


CASE STUDY

LUDOWICI®

# John F. Staub House by Hull Homes

Location: Fort Worth, Texas | Original: 1928, Renovation 2023



## Historic Preservation in Fort Worth

Renowned architect of traditional country houses John F. Staub (1892-1981) studied architecture at Boston's MIT, started his design career in New York, and eventually became the architect of choice for affluent Texans from the 1920s through 1960.

Although he is best known for his work in Houston, including the classical mansions of River Oaks, Staub is also known for the institutional work at Rice University and the University of Texas. Today, many of his buildings are on the National Register of Historic Places.

However, Staub's Fort Worth house design—built during the oil boom of 1928—is among his most iconic. He drew from European building influences: brick and stone construction, copper flashing, and a clay tile roof made by Ludowici.

Recently, the century-old house was renovated by Hull Homes to bring it up to the standards of modern living. Original craft details were restored while the floor plan was realigned for better light, flow, and axis from front to back—where the house opens to the outdoor entertainment space. Hull exposed the original grand staircase that features custom ornamental metalwork, restored existing steel windows, and replicated carved moldings and handsome wood paneling. He also enlarged and modernized the original butler's pantry and servant's kitchen while keeping with the traditional design and materials. The port cochere had to be lengthened to fit 21st-century automobiles.

What didn't change was the 100-year-old Ludowici roof, specified by architect John Staub. The Cotswold shingle style roof with swooped curves and corners was made to look "Old World." This historic roof made by Ludowici in 1924 is still protecting this landmark house and defining its architectural legacy. When a roof endures for 100 years, both visually and structurally, it is "timeless."

"We had to lift existing Ludowici roof tiles to install a new copper gutter system," Brent Hull, founder of Hull Homes, explains. But we were able to lay the original tile back down."

Hull Homes is a custom build firm that's passion for craft is demonstrated in everything they design and build, whether a new period-inspired country house or a major restoration/renovation of a historic landmark. Hull is a frequent specifier of Ludowici clay tile roofing saying, "I believe in building homes that will last for generations."

**ORIGINAL ARCHITECT:**  
John F. Staub (1928)

**BUILDER:**  
Hull Millwork & Hull Homes  
Fort Worth, TX  
[www.hullhomes.com](http://www.hullhomes.com)

**PRODUCT(S):**  
Custom Shingle Tile

**COLOR(S):**  
Custom historic color blend

*Hull Homes is a 2021 Palladio Award winner for "Craftsmanship" and a 2020 Institute of Classical Architecture & Art, John F. Staub Award winner for quality construction.*





Photography courtesy of Hull Homes

“ HULL IS A FREQUENT SPECIFIER OF LUDOWICI CLAY TILE ROOFING STATING, “I BELIEVE IN BUILDING HOMES THAT WILL LAST FOR GENERATIONS.”

– **Brent Hull**, Owner and Founder of Hull Millwork & Hull Homes

*Since 1991 Brent Hull has demonstrated his passion for craftsmanship and historic preservation. Brent builds period-inspired new custom homes, renovates old homes, and manufactures historically authentic architectural millwork. Over the past thirty years, Hull Millwork has produced exquisite architectural millwork and period authentic doors and windows.*

*The company has received numerous industry awards for craftsmanship and design including the prestigious Palladio Award for Craftsmanship, the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art's John Staub Award, the ICAA Quality in Construction Award, and the Historic Fort Worth Preservation Achievement Award. Brent Hull has also been honored with the North Bennett Street School's Distinguished Alumni Award.*

*Hull is an author, magazine columnist, teacher, blogger, consultant, and expert on historic architectural millwork. He lectures widely about architectural style, craftsmanship, historic preservation, and things well made. He is a frequent speaker at the Traditional Building Conference, the Fine Homebuilding Summit, the International Woodworking Fair, and at Institute of Classical Architecture & Art seminars.*



  
**LUDOWICI**<sup>®</sup>

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