

## THE WITHDRAWING ROOM

The Withdrawing room was originally the kitchen, and James did this a year after he did the Reynolds room. He had enough cornices to do the fireplace wall. The rest of the cornices he had the carpenter to bend linoleum to the shape of the cornice, and James gilded them.

Most of the furniture in this room is French. The chairs in front of the window there were bought by Lord Doveen for the Philadelphia Museum in 1929, but before they could pay for them the stock market crashed and the museum couldn't afford them. So, Mrs. Horace Dodge bought them for her estate in Palm Beach. Then when she died and they had an auction for her estate and James got the chair from her estate.

The French writing desk to your left as you come in is inlaid with flowers and has ormolu decoration.

The oil painting above the desk is French and was exhibited at the Philadelphia Academy of art in 1861. It is of the Chateau D'Un, which was the first chateau coming out of Paris on the way to the Loire Valley. From the tower you can see tower of the cathedral at Chartres.

The photograph under the painting is of Mrs. Turner before she was married. Her name was Harper before she was married.

The portrait to the right of the fireplace is Mrs. Turner's great grandfather, John J. Harper, who went down to Alabama from Virginia and started a little school that got to be Auburn. On the way to Alabama he stopped in Georgia for several days to rest and the daughter of the people they were staying with had just graduated from a female academy. She was the one that suggested to name it Auburn. So, he did and this man's son went back to Georgia and married the girl.