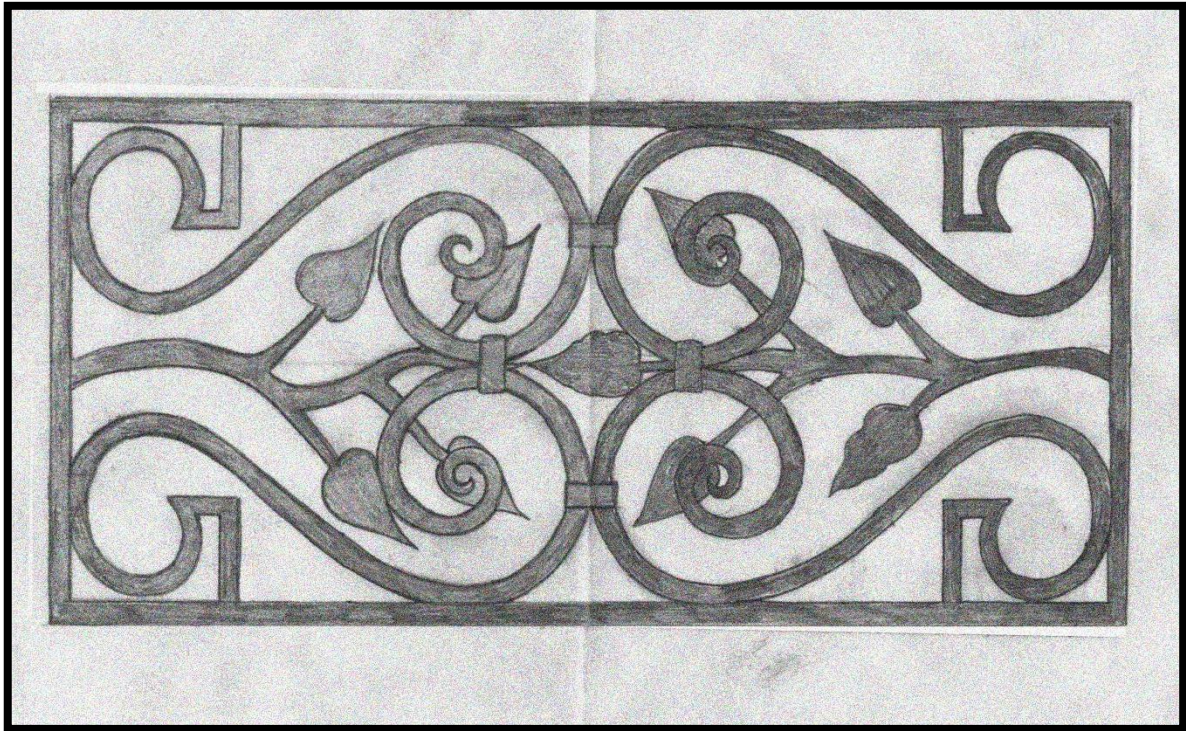




We were commissioned by Larkfield Manor, a catering hall located in Northport, NY to construct a decorative wrought iron canopy for a custom made wood pergola. The idea was to enhance the wooden pergola so that their courtyard would be an inviting place for wedding ceremonies and cocktail hours. The foot print of this structure was 21ft by 16ft. This is a picture of their wooden pergola before the addition of the ironwork.



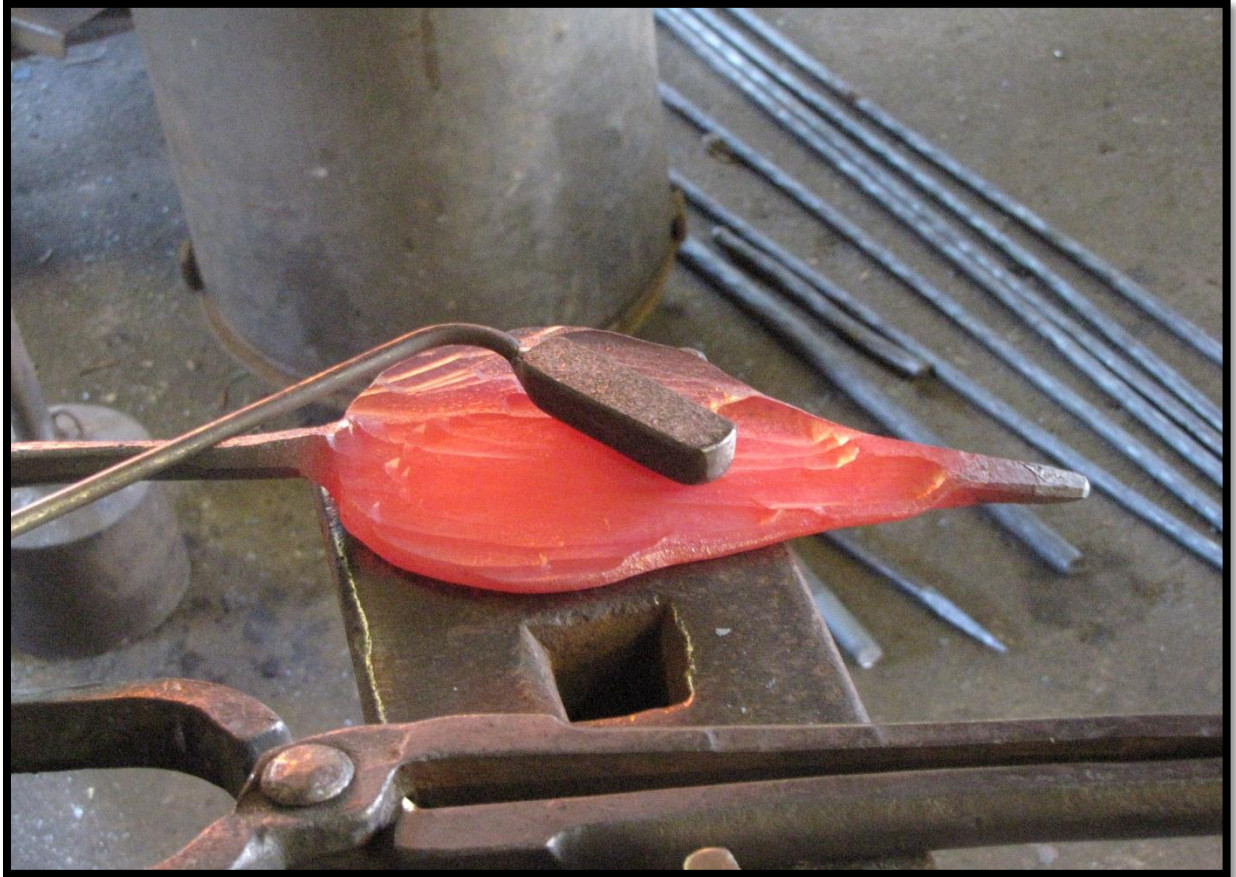
Shown here is a concept drawing of one of the panels. Each panel was to have hand forged scrolls made from 2" by 1/2" flat steel bar. The scroll panel was designed with a leaf overlay. The leaves were hand forged from 1 1/2" solid bar. The owners who commissioned this project were given several design options and chose a Classical Greek Key motif which was incorporated within the overall design. All of the design work and drawings were done in house by owner Rachel Miller.



Shown here is the beginning step of a leaf being forged by owner and blacksmith Rachel Miller. The bar is necked to create a graceful transition between the stem and the leaf. The end of the bar will also be pointed.

The tip of the leaf is being refined on the anvil by Rachel. The part that will become the leaf has been tapered to a point and will be spread wide in order to form the body of the leaf.





Here is the leaf form in process of being spread widthwise. The tool pictured on top of the leaf is called a fuller. The shape of the tool and the way that the tool is used, controls the direction that the metal moves. In the 2nd photo, the leaf has been spread and the tools marks removed by flattening. A center vein has been created using a creasing tool struck by a sledgehammer.



The leaf is being shaped over a special tool on the anvil. Each leaf was given fluted edges to make them appear more natural. There were 48 leaves forged in total. The leaves alone took about 1 1/2 weeks to make.

Here is a photo of the finished leaf.





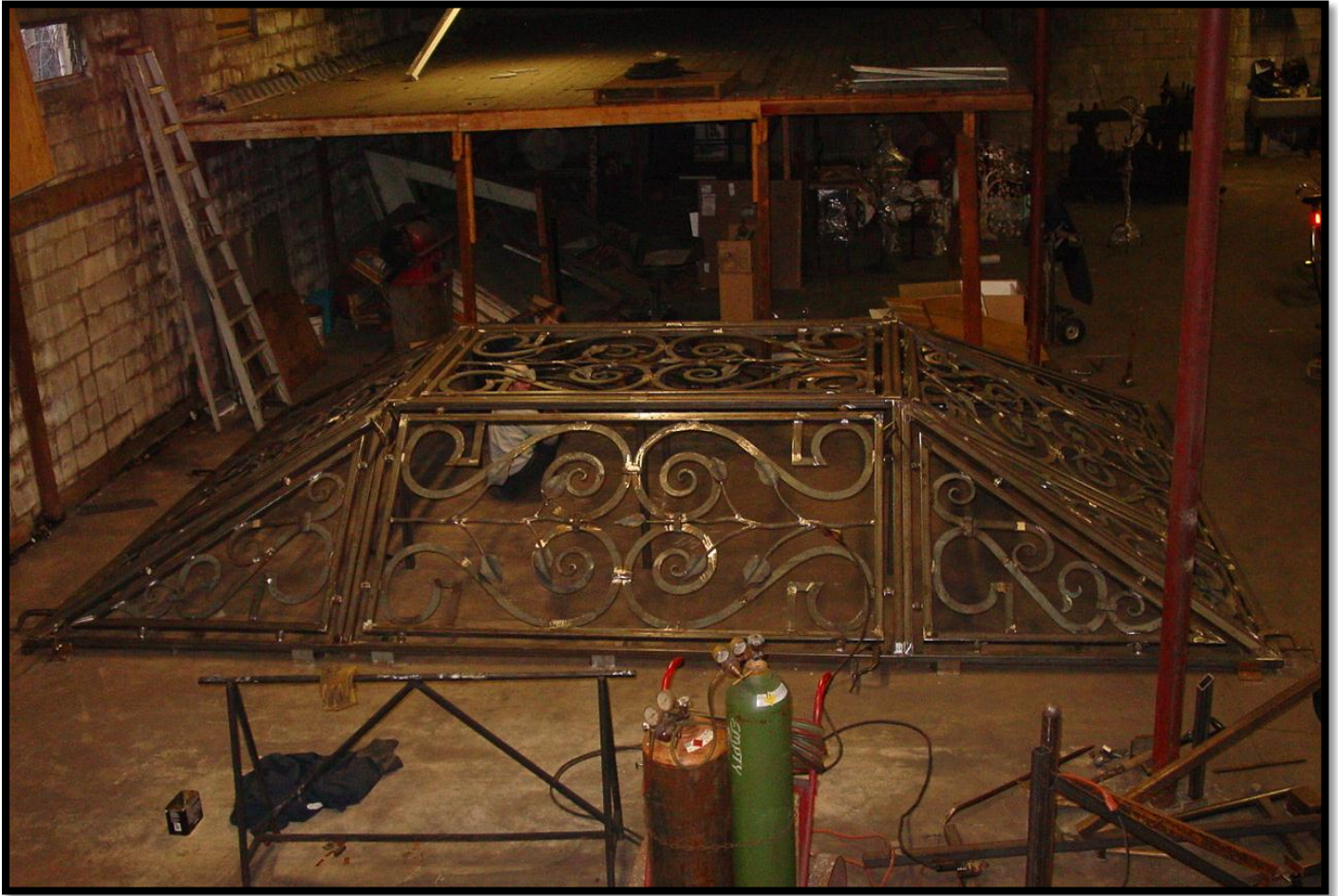
Shown here is the basic frame is taking shape. The frame was designed to be modular and consisted of 5 parts. The sizes of these pieces were designed specifically so they would fit into the finishers spray booth and powder coat ovens. This was also done so it could be transported easily.



In this photo the scrolls are being fitted to the frame. All the scrollwork was bent hot over custom jigs and then joined together. Each scroll used over 7 feet of material.



After the basic frame was built, it was disassembled. Each piece was given an inner frame that was fit with scrollwork and hand forged leaves. In this photo you can see many of the individual pieces.



Here is an overview of the fully assembled canopy. If you look closely, you can see one of our craftspeople inside the canopy. He is doing a final inspection of the welds and other joinery. This gives you an idea of the substantial size and scale of the project.



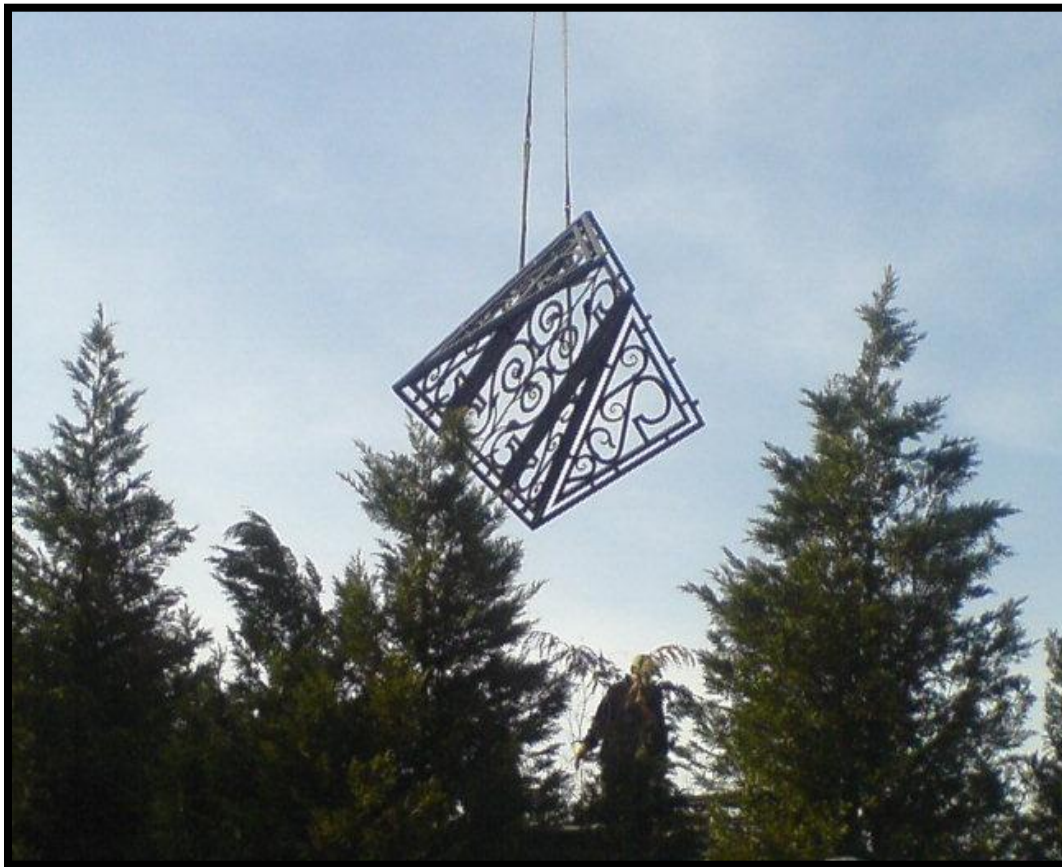
Here the canopy is being disassembled. The welds are being inspected for quality and finish by owner blacksmith Timothy Miller.



Timothy proudly stands atop our handy work. These were the two largest pieces being transported on a 30 ft. trailer. The other 3 pieces were flat.



Palletized, packed and powder coated, the pieces are ready for installation.



One end cap of the canopy is lifted over the tree tops with a boom truck and positioned on top of the pergola.

The final piece is being lowered into position.





Here is view from the inside.



Here is the completed job. The project took about 3 months from start to finish.