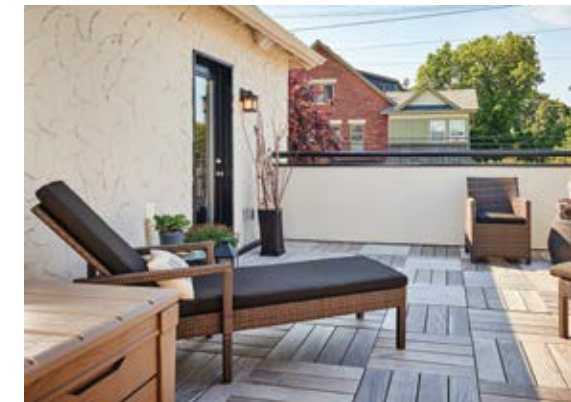


# AT THE CORNER OF *Yesterday & Tomorrow*

STORY **HEATHER WRIGHT**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **JESSICA DEEKS**



The beautifully landscaped gardens create a serene surround to this home in the Glebe. Aussie, the family's dog, enjoys the sunshine downstairs, where the children have their own sundeck on the second floor.



**N**ora and Andy had a challenge before them in 2013 when they purchased their Glebe home. They wanted to modify the house, originally built in 1929, to suit their own personal needs and tastes. They also placed great value on the history and tradition of the home, both for its structure and as a nod to the previous owners over the generations. *Continued on page 26*







The couple kept aspects of the original home, including this stained glass work.

So how do you alter something fundamentally and pay respect by retaining its roots at the same time? By incorporating the very best of tradition and brushing it with shades of trend, as Nora and Andy have done all over the place in this stunning four-bedroom home, which they share with their two children Sarah and Geoff, and their Wheaton Terrier Aussie.

Even though the renovations were extensive (every room was touched), there is a permeating sense of the home’s design traditions. The items that remain are exquisite, like a stunning staircase off the entryway, which clearly sets the elegant tone in the home. The original wood floor on the staircase was kept and restrained to match the rest of the quarter-sawn oak and is paired with its design past, with intricately beautiful, original, wrought-iron spindles that they painted black. It is an excellent example of



Keeping a sense of tradition in the family room.



One of the couple’s favourite aspects of the renovation is the modern kitchen, which opens up to the television room for the whole family to enjoy.

how Nora and Andy have positioned the past to intersect with the present through various design elements in their home.

When they made their move to the Glebe from Hunt Club a few years ago, their criteria was clear. “We liked modern conveniences like a family room next to the kitchen,” says Nora. “We wanted to make this home with some of the comforts we were used to.” They also wanted to have easy access to a garage, which made a corner lot more desirable.

Andy says that they were drawn to the style “of the traditional home, but were tired

of the boxed look.” And so they found this sizeable stucco Noffke offering, which ticked all of their boxes – either with what was already there, or with what could be. W.E. Noffke was an architectural legend, known for building Ottawa homes in residential grandeur through the first half of the 1900s.

Andy says of their home: “We liked the character and saw the potential. We didn’t know any history specifically other than it was a Noffke home. Architecturally and structurally it was very well built. It had good solid bones.”

With **Barry J. Hobin and Associates Architects Inc.**, they set out to reinvent this home while preserving its character and design integrity. Then Nora and Andy got down to the business of building with their helpful builder, **Lindsay Nicol of Crossford Renovations and Custom Homes**. In addition to changing finishes, they made some structural moves too. They added or moved cupboards in most of the bedrooms. They tore down and built a garage. They built a two-storey addition that houses a side entrance, a family room, a powder room and additional

*Continued on page 29*





The chandelier creates a focal point for the dining room.



The elegant dining room is designed for comfort and is ideal for entertaining.



access to the basement. They also reconfigured the space to expand the rooms and areas that they needed, repurposing or removing others. These are all brand spanking new, but very solidly connected to the old, with design and décor. For example, they took great pains to make sure that the addition looked seamless from the outside, by matching the stucco perfectly.

They strategically retained some original pieces, including leaded glass panes and unique, peaked arched doorways.

A new custom front door (Madawaska Doors) boasts the same gothic peaked archway as on much of the main floor. They also have block-paned glass in some rooms (**Glass Block Solutions**) that mimics the lines of the leaded panes. It's these quiet, subtle design connections that really fuse tradition with trend.

There are some undeniably contemporary and cool design pieces, leaving no doubt that this is a modern-day home, like a large, sparkling chandelier in the dining room and geometric sconces in the master bath (both from **Marchand Lighting & Electrical**). The three fireplaces from **Hubert's Fireplace Consultation + Design** have a mantel box and trim from cabinetmaker Denis Gadouras of Louis L'Artisan.

Nora did the décor herself. "I like things that are simple," she explains. "I like consistency in design. I prefer to add colour by way of décor." Her favour for a neutral palette is sublime, in an all-white kitchen with a dark cherry island that transitions into the family room and dining room (appliances, **Universal Appliances**), with stylish cabinetry and hardware, also by Louis L'Artisan and a backsplash from Céragrès. *Continued on page 30*



**TOP:** An antique tea set and beautiful place settings add finishing touches to the home. **LEFT:** The cosy family area overlooks the garden at the rear of the home. **ABOVE:** The family's love for their dog shows in the small touches around the home including this plush toy.





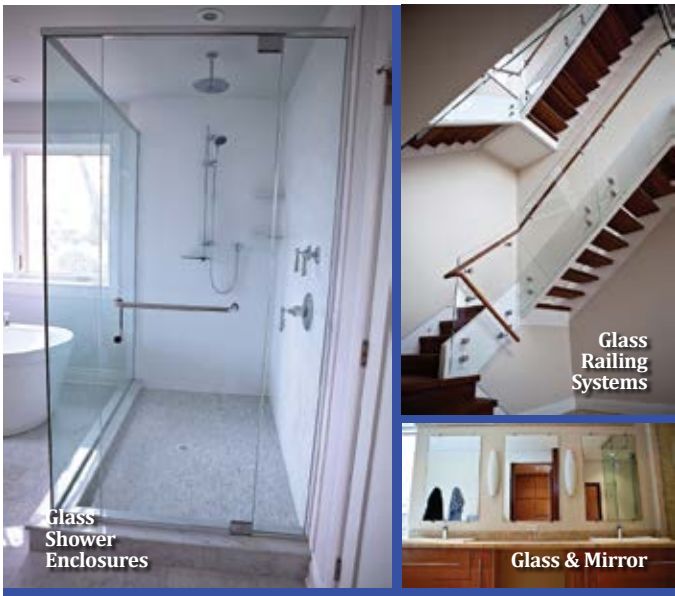
The relaxed master bedroom is complete with a fresh and stylish en suite.

Nora clearly understands the relationship between colour and its effect on the surrounding space. She even custom designed the hardwood-floor stain that runs throughout most of the house. “I wanted a hint of grey,” she says, “It complements nicely with the tile floors in the bathrooms and the slate floors (all from Céragrès) in the entrance ways.”

This connection with colour carries on outside, where Nora and Andy have continued their extensive renovations to recreate and beautify their outdoor living space with help from **Ian Stewart of Yards Unlimited Landscaping Inc.** Always mindful of the home’s history, they even chose their plants and flowers in homage to the two magnificent magnolia trees that sit astride their lawn and have for decades. “There are pinks and blue tones to tie in with the magnolia trees,” explains Nora.

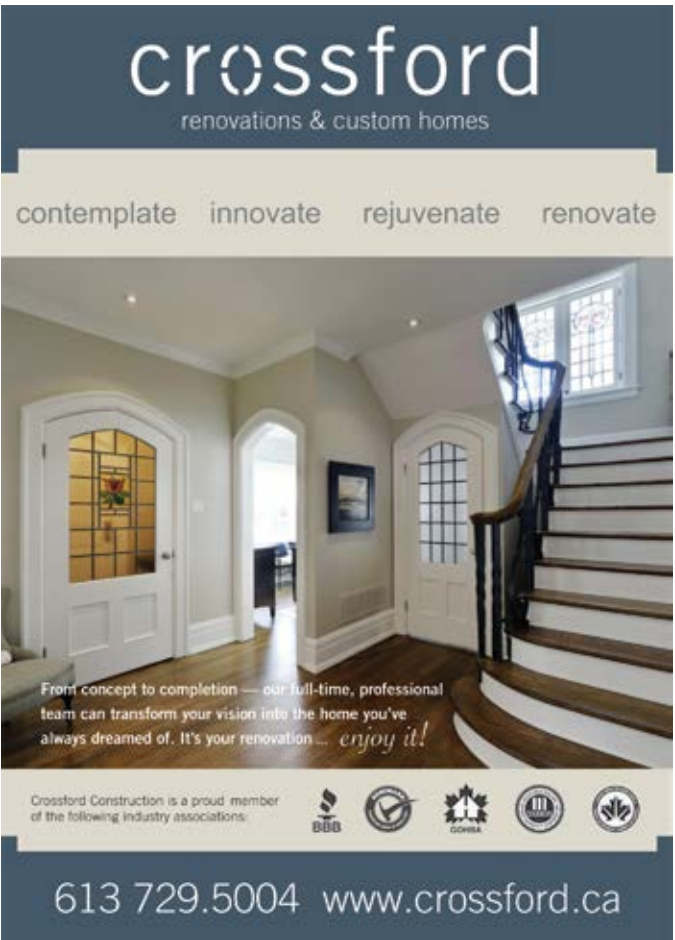
Of their impressive landscaping, which includes an intricate network of pathways and areas in which to sit and enjoy the gracious outdoor space, Nora says that they wanted a “European-style garden” which featured stone. Nora and Andy admit that they gravitate outdoors in the summer, and love spending time in this beautiful, well-constructed space.

Houses, like people, can transmit subtle cues, giving hints to character and past. You often wish walls could talk, but this stately home can remain silent and let the clever design and décor do the talking. **OH**



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