



A STEP BACK IN TIME

BY LISE LAROCQUE // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SUZANNE BIRD

THE PLACE: Located in Stittsville, Gendron Antiques and Reproductions makes its home inside a massive 10,000 sq. ft. red barn-like structure. The main floor halls are lined with a seemingly endless choice of antique pieces – from beautiful vintage hurricane lamps to large, solid wood armoires. The second floor boasts a collection of newer reproduction pieces which offer traditional styling paired with modern day functionality. Owners Marc and Line Gendron each have their area of expertise. When Marc was five years old, his father began an antiques business, which is why Marc feels more at home among the antiques. Line's preference is among the new reproduction pieces; something she attributes to her childhood surrounded by the pieces in her father's new furniture store.

THE STYLE: Since their humble beginnings more than 18 years ago in an exterior booth at the now defunct Stittsville Flea Market, the Gendrons' business has flourished and offers an array of traditional pieces for discriminating tastes. From one-of-a-kind antiques, to reproductions made of new or reclaimed wood, the store has much to offer. "We can incorporate a sentimental piece



into a larger piece so that it becomes useful," says Marc. One particular furniture piece was created using an old wooden framed window as a starting point. A solid wood structure was then built to house and feature the beautiful window to give it new life as part of a large armoire.

WHAT'S HOT: Antiques that can be used or that are unusual. "People want their pieces to be functional and to look like new," says Line. The Gendrons refinish pieces and even transform them by adding new features. "We have taken sideboards and

turned them into vanities by adding sinks," she says. "One customer loved an antique sideboard and we converted it to hide a flat-screen TV."

FAVOURITES: The fact that many of these pieces are reused, repurposed or made of reclaimed materials makes sense to the eco-chic homeowner. There are also many charming, decorative items that provide the perfect finishing touch to a living space.

WHERE: 1145 Carp Rd., Ottawa (Stittsville)
613.831.2186, www.gendronantiques.com **OH**

