

Architecturally designed, the floor-to-ceiling windows of the two stories at the front of the home overlook an abandoned railway bed and Lake Ontario beyond. **BELOW RIGHT:** At the rear of the house, a retracting electronic pool cover reveals a lap pool used year-round. An in-ground hot tub is positioned beneath the outdoor overhang. In-ground radiant heat ensures the patio stone remains snow-free.

If a human dwelling could, in fact, naturally evolve from the earth, chances are it might look a lot like this one.

Earth-toned, clad in weathered zinc siding, the shape of this Port Hope-area home echoes the rolling waves and the undulating hills. When its green roof is complete, it will appear even more a part of the countryside from which it has sprung. Today, the roofline rises smoothly and gracefully toward the south, in the direction of the trees and the Great Lake, beckoning the spectator to explore the ever-changing panorama of Lake Ontario's four-season shoreline.

This is not your father's lakeside country home.

Designed by **Stephen Teeple** of **Teeple Architects** of Toronto, the home's design and construction was principally overseen by Teeple associate **Luc Bouliane**, who has since opened his own architectural firm in Toronto. The builder was **Derek Nicholson Inc.** of Toronto who "was involved from day one. He brought in the most amazing crew that framed and built this house," the homeowners say.

The homeowners, a professional couple with teenaged youngsters and some very large and handsome dogs, prefer not to be named. "We want the focus to be on the house, not on us."

The location was their initial inspiration. "We wanted to live in a place where kids can be kids." They got that, and much more. When they found 75 acres in the Port Hope area, with utter privacy and stunning all-season views, they knew they had their building site. They were inspired by the "Tube House" in Toronto, also designed by Teeple Architects, and just knew when the perfect site was married to the perfect design, they would have a dream come true. And they do. *Continued on page 40*

# SPACE & LIGHT, *freedom* AND JOY

BY EILEEN ARGYRIS  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY



EXTERIOR PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT NORSWORTHY



# feature

**BELOW:** A custom cabinet wall designed by Form and Function is ideal for wood and fireplace implements. The steps lead up to the kitchen dining nook and secondary kitchen at the front of the house, which will service a future exterior deck. **RIGHT:** A dining table imported from Denmark can extend to seat 20 people. The walnut wall contains cabinets for convenient storage space. **BOTTOM:** The wood-burning fireplace is visible on three sides, attached to a primary vertical support beam.



PHOTO: SCOTT NORSWORTHY



Their home is not visible from any public road. The rustling of wildlife in the tree branches and the susurrantion of the waves are the only outdoor sounds. The structure is so designed that outdoors and indoors are one. Views from inside could render superfluous decorating the walls with art, so compelling is the scenery beyond the numerous floor-to-ceiling expanses of glass.

Walls are intriguingly curved, ceilings are marvelously high. The impression is one of limitless space and light, freedom and joy.

The living room is the high point – in every sense. Cantilevered, the elevated room extends southward, 90 feet above a long-disused Grand Trunk railway bed, which is now well treed.

The interior décor might best be described as organic. The floors are mainly sealed concrete, finished in an earthy, charcoal grey. “Bullet-proof,” chuckles the mother of two and owner of three large dogs. Eramosa stone tiles add a touch of elegance to the living room and dining room, an open space with cosy, radiant floor heating that can easily accommodate the Danish 20-foot extension table for entertaining.

*Continued on page 43*

The open, airy sunken living room extends from the dining area. Eramosa stone tile unites the two areas.







The primary kitchen prep area includes custom walnut storage cabinets, durable concrete countertops and polished concrete floors. The area opens onto the dining area below. The open stairway at right leads up to an exterior deck where the family barbecues.

The homeowner herself took a large part in designing the adjoining kitchen space. “I knew exactly what I needed,” she says. [Alan Sharpe](#), the craftsman-owner of Port Hope’s [Form & Function](#), gave her just that, with natural, streamlined, beautiful walnut cabinets. Concrete countertops were installed by [Evergreen Cast Stone](#) of Port Perry, which also installed custom concrete sinks in the master and guest bathrooms.

All kitchen and laundry appliances are manufactured by Miele.

In the breakfast area, abundant storage is conveniently located under bench seating and in a half-wall that divides the kitchen area from the living-dining area, as well as in the traditional wall cabinets. The half-height wall creates visual division, allows for free flow of visitors and also permits a subtle separation of food-preparation and socialization functions, if desired.

The dividing wall also accommodates storage for cord wood for the three-sided, glass-enclosed, wood-burning fireplace (by [The Fireplace Specialist](#) of Concord) that adds ambience to all three spaces. The layered concrete fireplace surround is striking. It serves as the main support for this portion of the house.

A future plan is to add a raised deck space off the breakfast area that will also give direct access for dogs, kids and adults to the gardens, woods and the beach. *Continued on page 44*



**TOP RIGHT:** In-wall stainless steel appliances and storage space lie opposite the kitchen’s prep area. **ABOVE AND LEFT:** A secondary kitchen area adjoins the breakfast dining nook on the ground floor at the front of the home.





Within a total of about 4,500 sq. ft. of living space, the family and their guests also enjoy four bedrooms, a media room with projection screen and game controls, main-floor laundry and handy pet-containment and pet-bathing facilities. Stainless steel cabinetry, backsplash in the kitchen and laundry room, counter, sink and cabinets were installed by **Acero Stainless** of Cobourg. *Continued on page 48*

**LEFT AND BELOW:** The home theatre is situated at the rear of the ground floor. The custom walnut cabinet is an entertainment island that also houses the theatre's electronic equipment. The window overlooks the exterior lap pool and hot tub. **ABOVE:** The sink in a powder room was custom-formed for the space.



**traditional residential architecture**

Port Hope, Ontario | 905.753.1122  
chris@cwallacearchitect.com  
www.cwallacearchitect.com

**Christopher Wallace Architect**

At our newest community, **Forest Hill**, enjoy panoramic views and explore forested parkland on naturally landscaped walking trails in the heart of downtown Brighton and Presqu'ile.



**HENDERSON**  
DEVELOPMENTS

BUILDING COMMUNITIES IN BRIGHTON

613.475.0197 hendersondevelopments.ca

**HIGHLAND**  
(705) 1-888-457-GLAS.com  
**& WINDOWS**

*Improving Your View Since 1983!*

Windows and Doors to suit every need. New Construction & Renovation. Aluminum Clad, Vinyl, Wood, Wood Clad available in Natural, Painted or Pre-Stained in Casements, Double Hungs, Patio Door, Bi-Fold, Lift and Slide...

**LEPAGE**  
MILLWORK



**WINDOWS AND DOORS**



**Audley Interiors**

*your home is my palette...home design at its best*

custom window treatments and blinds  
paint colour consulting  
upholstery  
custom furniture  
custom carpets  
distinctive lighting

**SARAH AUDLEY**  
Interior Decorator  
**905.342.3579**

SHOP AT HOME SERVICE  
www.audleyinteriors.com





A floor-to-ceiling window in the master en suite doubles as a shower and steam-room wall. The vanity sink is of concrete with custom walnut cabinets.



**FOR YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS**

AUDIO/VIDEO • CUSTOM THEATRES  
AUTOMATION • SECURITY • SURVEILLANCE

**CUSTOMIZED TO YOUR  
NEEDS AND BUDGET**


**NEW SHOWROOM NOW OPEN!**  
143 Walton Street, Port Hope

**CALL US LOCALLY AT**  
905.800.0728

**WWW.SONICSYSTEMS.CA**




**KITCHEN CONCEPTS THAT FIT YOUR LIFE**

 Over 24 years experience in local manufacturing  
Free designs and consultations  
Custom cabinetry and counter tops to suit every budget




Visit our Showroom @ 600 Neal Drive, Peterborough  
**705.745.9042**  
www.cabinetree.biz | info@cabinetree.biz

Builders of Fine Stone Structures,  
Restorers of Heritage Masonry, and Designers of Landscape




**INMAN & OXLAND**  
Masonry, Dry Stone Walls, & Landscape


TORONTO 416.859.9685 PORT HOPE 905.396.4560  
info@iando.ca www.iando.ca



*Bridget Anastasia's  
Gifts & Home Decor*



*Beautiful Spring decor and fashion jewelry  
to add brightness and colour to your life.*



1573 Moore Drive, Cavan 705.939.1769 www.bridgetanastasia.com





The home's upper floor belongs to the adults. It houses a spacious master bedroom with en suite overlooking the sparkling lake, office space overlooking the gardens, a spectacular enclosed staircase outside the footprint of the main building, and access to a rooftop deck area. The basement area is largely an indoor gym and gathering space for teens.

Outside recreational space consists of a year-round outdoor lap pool and hot tub, heated, as is the whole home, by geothermal technology by **MGMM Services, Geothermal Specialists**, of Newtonville. The hot tub can quickly be brought up to maximum heat by supplementary propane, supplied by **Home Comfort Heating** of Peterborough, which also installed the interior in-floor heating and air conditioning.

Other contractors who helped to make this outstanding home so comfortable and elegant include: **Stadtke Plumbing & Heating** of Cobourg; **BonaVista Pools** of East York; **James Sculthorpe Ltd.**, Port Hope, (exterior construction); **Gunn-Duncan Landscaping Ltd.**, Cobourg; **New Wave Electronics**, Richmond Hill; and dry stone wall builders and landscapers **Inman & Oxlund** of Port Hope. **OH**

**TOP LEFT:** A rolling, hanging door separates the master en suite bathroom from the upper-floor hallway. **TOP RIGHT:** An all-season aerie invites comfort and contemplation in the master bedroom. **LEFT:** The glass-enclosed open stairway leads up to an outdoor deck along one side of the home at the second-floor level. In the foreground is the stairway down to the fitness/recreation area, storage and utility rooms.



**Lairds Interiors**

The Interior Store that Comes to your Door

Up to **50% off** Levolor® Blinds  
**Spring Special** - March 25th to April 25th an additional  
 15% off Levolor Accordia™ Cellular Shades,  
 Decorative Rollers and Faux Wood Blinds  
 For a free consultation please call:  
**705 341 0453 | 705 879 9119**  
[www.Lairdsinteriors.com](http://www.Lairdsinteriors.com)



**LEVOLOR** custom  
blinds & shades



*A beautiful home  
starts from the floor up*

From hardwood to laminate, vinyl, ceramic, natural stone, carpet and window coverings we have a large selection that will help you create that traditional, contemporary or modern space that you have always wanted.

NEW SHOWROOM ➤ NEW FLOORING PRODUCTS  
 AMAZING SELECTION OF AREA RUGS ➤ HUNTER DOUGLAS WINDOW COVERINGS

**Sine's  
FLOORING**

884 Division St., Cobourg  
 905.372.9117 ➤ 1.800.354.3091  
[sinesflooring@bellnet.ca](mailto:sinesflooring@bellnet.ca)  
[www.sinesflooring.ca](http://www.sinesflooring.ca)

**LIFE LONG STEEL ROOFING**



• PRE-FINISHED WOOD SIDING  
 • LARGE SELECTION OF WINDOWS & DOORS  
 FOR THOSE DO-IT-YOURSELF CUSTOMERS  
 WE CAN SUPPLY THE MATERIALS ONLY  
 THREE COMPANIES TO SERVE YOU  
 WITH ALL OF YOUR BUILDING NEEDS

**ALL WEATHER  
WINDOWS**

**vicwest**

**maibec®**

Life Long Steel Roofing 705.340.2649  
 JAK Building & Construction Ltd. 905.432.4270  
 Roka Lumber 123 Hwy 35 Pontypool ON 705.277.3381  
[jakbuildingltd@gmail.com](mailto:jakbuildingltd@gmail.com)

Working with people to enhance their outdoor living space, helping them create areas of beauty and relaxation on their property



**GUNN-DUNCAN Landscaping Ltd.**  
 LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS AND CONTRACTORS

**905.373.6067**