

“We had to respect the history and period of the property but not adopt a period look; rather we had to adopt an understanding of the period design characteristics and detailing”
— Andrew Waller

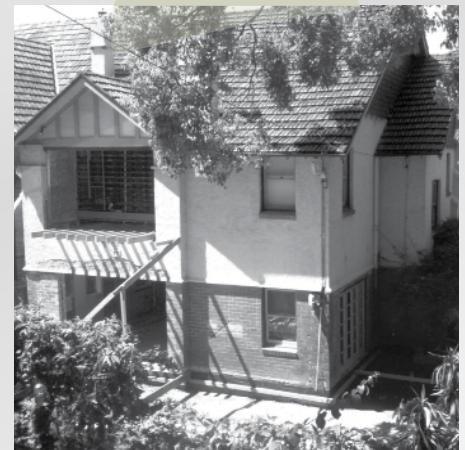
BALANCING ACT



A much-needed update to a period-style home pays respect to its Arts & Crafts heritage without adopting a strictly traditional period look

Words Danielle Townsend
Photography Maree Homer

The refurbishment of this heritage-listed Arts & Crafts home not only required considerable attention to detail, it came with a twist, one that would seem near impossible to some designers. “We had to respect the history and period of the property but not adopt a period look; rather we had to adopt an understanding of the period design characteristics and detailing,” says Andrew Waller of Andrew Waller Design.

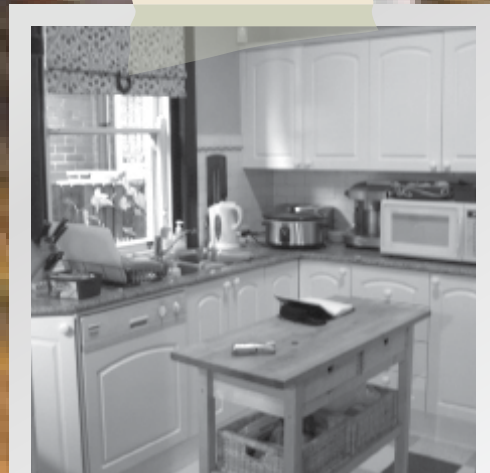


before





Above A new bay window forms a seating area and joinery affixed to other walls creates a library



before

“Our clients loved the period of the house and didn’t want to detract from this era, but didn’t request or want a traditional period update.

“They also didn’t want a large-scale extension — either modern or traditional — dominating the house. They were happy with the scale of the house but requested it be brought up-to-date with modern amenities.”

Andrew took his inspiration from the property’s interesting history. As the home was originally owned by a shoe manufacturer, the walls were covered in, you guessed it — leather. “The kitchen had white patent-leather walls, while the powder room had burnt-orange suede!” says Andrew.

The home’s interior was dark and in original condition, with large-scale main spaces. At the rear were numerous smaller service-type rooms, such as the eat-in dining area, foyer, kitchen and laundry. The brief involved opening up these service areas and the adjacent lounge into a large family room and kitchen.

"Joinery detailing references the Arts & Crafts approach to design without being a pastiche or copy of the period" — Andrew Waller





For contrast against the timber joinery, introduce a stainless-steel bench



Left Light streams into the kitchen through the new Oriel-type window, installed at the centre of the kitchen wall

Above The formal dining space maximises available daylight

To conquer the dark spaces, the renovation had to introduce more natural daylight into the home. To do this, skylights were inserted in darker areas.

As a writer, the homeowner required a library in which to work and be inspired, so the small verandah space (off the formal dining room/lounge) was transformed. This verandah was

extended to follow the bay window of the master bedroom above, and the bay window was extended to frame the banquette seating. The new bay window forms a seating area, with joinery affixed to other walls to create the library. The library walls were wrapped with bespoke bookcases and an inbuilt desk with pull-out writing panels was incorporated, allowing the homeowner to work in style. This bespoke, stained Tasmanian oak joinery which features throughout the interior is a direct reference to the Arts & Crafts design movement.



before



“The library is my favourite space — it works really well with the wraparound joinery,” says Andrew. “It is now such a relaxing space that you want to spend time in it, and we only extended the room approximately 500mm with the bay window. The bookcase joinery and desk wrap the room in warmth.”

This beautiful joinery, designed by Andrew Waller Design and expertly crafted by Hoffmans Joinery, was the biggest splurge for the interior, according to Andrew. Hoffmans Joinery utilised traditional, wedged, tenon joints for extra authenticity.

The rich timber design has been effectively offset with a complementary palette of natural hues and peacock blues. “Colour was an important part of the scheme — we introduced autumnal shades in rust set against a peacock colour to work with the timber joinery shades against the original darker property interiors as well as the ‘new’ reconfigured spaces,” says Andrew.

Opposite A colour palette including peacock blues for the bedroom was introduced

‘traditional period’ style. In the update, bespoke joinery has continued into the bathroom for consistency

Left The bathrooms were a mix of original, dated and badly refurbished non-sympathetic 1980s

Below The new bay window brings natural light into the home





The kitchen and bathrooms were a mix of original, dated and badly refurbished non-sympathetic 1980s 'traditional period' style. In the update, bespoke joinery was continued in the kitchen and bathroom design for consistency. Light now streams into the kitchen through an Oriel-type window, installed at the centre of the kitchen wall as a focal point.


Walls were removed from the service areas (the eat-in dining room, foyer, kitchen and laundry) and the new kitchen was built with a joinery partition wall dividing the adjacent scullery-type space. The scullery and laundry are now hidden behind the panelled wall.

The main bathroom was extended with a new bay window above the kitchen. The bath and toilet behind the nib wall are located in the bay window and a second bathroom was created by removing the wardrobe and water-system cupboard.

A new L-shaped, covered, tiled verandah with skylights for additional light was built around the original building to extend the

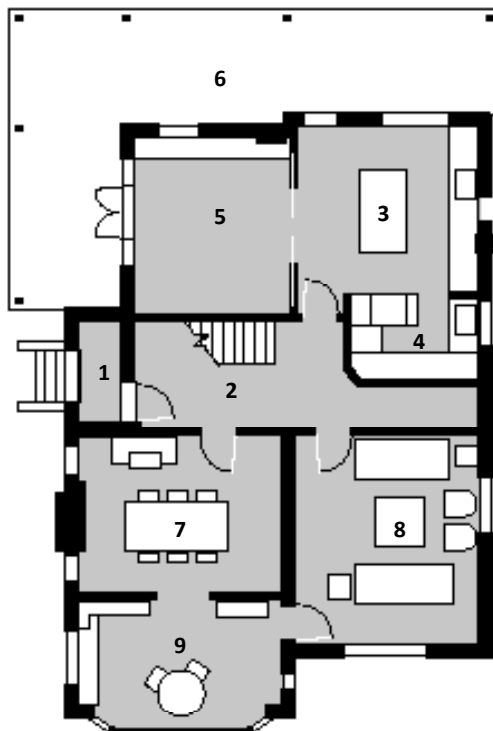
interior space. Bi-fold doors were installed in the kitchen, while period-style French doors and sash side panels have been added to the family room to extend the space. The corner-angled fireplace in the family room was removed.

The brief also involved improving the connection between the garden and interior spaces. "We were more involved in the exterior architectural works and materials and finishes than originally planned," says Andrew. "We were also required to resolve some detailing on-site — for example drawing profile shapes for the new bay window details on timbers on-site.

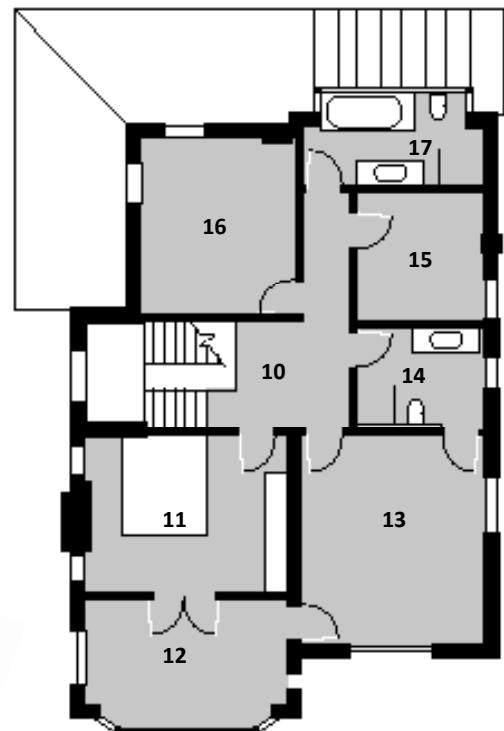
"This is a special project for us because of the balance between respecting the original period of the property and the new insertions. Joinery detailing references the Arts & Crafts approach to design without being a pastiche or copy of the period." 

Left The bath and toilet behind the nib wall are located in a bay window

- Legend
- Ground Floor
- 1 Entry
 - 2 Hall
 - 3 Kitchen
 - 4 Pantry
 - 5 Family room
 - 6 New verandah
 - 7 Dining room
 - 8 Living room
 - 9 Library
- First Floor
- 10 Landing/hall
 - 11 Master bedroom
 - 12 Study
 - 13 Bedroom 2
 - 14 Bathroom
 - 15 Guest bedroom
 - 16 Bedroom 3
 - 17 Bathroom



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



before

project particulars

This project was designed by:

Andrew Waller of Andrew Waller Design

First floor, 722 Bourke Street

Redfern NSW 2016

Mob: 0422 992 676

Email: andrew@mrwaller.com

Web: mrwaller.com

This project was built by:

Beecraft Builders

6A Larool Road

Terrey Hills NSW 2084

Tel: 02 9450 1530

Email: info@beecraft.com.au

Web: beecraft.com.au

Licence number: 139095C

FLOORING

Kitchen/dining/living: Polished timber custom stained by Andrew Waller Design

Bedroom/stair: Cavalier Bremworth Mistique Cool Desert

WALLS

Kitchen/dining/living/stair: Resene Tea (graded triple/double/regular strength)

Master bedroom: Porter's Paints Lake George

Daughter's bedroom: Resene Rice Cake

Outdoor: Resene

Rendered wall: Resene quarter-strength Craigieburn

Timber shingles & fascia boards:

Resene triple-strength Stonehenge

Underside to eaves & beams: Resene Thorndon Cream

KITCHEN

Benchtop: Caesarstone Organic White

Splashback: Brick wall tiles from Skheme

Cabinetry: Tasmanian oak custom-stained joinery, designed by Andrew Waller Design, built by Hoffmans Joinery

Stainless-steel bench & splashback to oven: Hoffmans Joinery

MAIN BATHROOM FITTINGS

Vanity joinery: Tasmanian oak custom stained, designed by Andrew Waller Design, built by Hoffmans Joinery

Benchtop: Caesarstone Organic White

Basin: Villeroy & Boch Loop rectangular basin 620x390mm from Cass Brothers

Tiles: Vycon Argento Seafoam from Ascraft

Walls: Brick wall tiles & border tiles from Skheme

Floor: Mosaic floor tiles from Skheme

Sanitary fixtures: Subway wall-hung toilet from Villeroy & Boch

Taps: Accent Geo Viva by Intamix

Shower: Grohe modern rainshower

Bath: Kaldewei undermount 1800 x 800mm

Floor waste: Bounty square Bermuda range 100 x 100mm

Towel rail: Tranquility round heated 680 x 850mm from Cass Brothers

BATHROOM FITTINGS

Vanity joinery: Tasmanian oak custom stained, designed by Andrew Waller Design, built by Hoffmans Joinery

Benchtop: Caesarstone Organic White

Wallpaper: Vycon Argento Seafoam from Ascraft

Brick wall tiles: Skheme

Border tile: Skheme

Basin: Villeroy & Boch 615x390mm undermount sink from Cass Brothers

Toilet: Villeroy & Boch Subway wall-hung toilet from Cass Brothers

POWDER ROOM

Wallpaper: Evans & Brown, Tiburon Ray Emeralds from Ascraft

Vanity joinery: Tasmanian oak custom stained, designed by Andrew Waller Design, built by Hoffmans Joinery

Benchtop: Caesarstone Organic White

Toilet: Subway wall-hung toilet Villeroy & Boch from Cass Brothers

FAMILY ROOM

Bosko sofa and ottoman: Jordan

Polo chair: Equator Homewares

Rug: Whitecliffe Imports

Artwork: Client's own

TV joinery: (not seen in photos) Hoffmans Joinery

DINING ROOM

Table: Client's own

Dining chairs: Equator Homewares

Rug: Whitecliffe Imports

LIBRARY

Joinery: Tasmanian oak custom stained, designed by Andrew Waller Design, built by Hoffmans Joinery

Library bookcase back panels:

Dulux Beckett

Banquette seat: Fabric from Royston House in Sensuede Moss

Cushions: Various — Jasmine Hall/ vintage/custom made by Andrew Waller Design

Brass hammered jug: Ruby Star Traders (on table)

Round table: Client's own

Bentwood chairs and lamp: Auction find

Hanging light: Existing clients

Water hyacinth woven mat: Equator Homewares

LIGHTING

Existing period pendants and new downlights

WINDOWS & EXTERNAL DOORS

Window & door frame external: Resene Thorndon Cream

OUTDOOR

Paving: Himalayan sandstone from Sydney Sandstone Company

Decking: Timber deck custom stained by Andrew Waller Design

Landscaping: Beecraft Builders

Outdoor furniture: Love chair and Love side table from Equator Homewares

Cushions: Jasmine Hall