

Dream Renovations

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THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO RENOVATE OR EXTEND YOUR HOME. WITH THE COST OF MATERIAL AND LABOUR MORE COMPETITIVE, IT IS A GREAT TIME TO CARRY OUT THOSE DREAM RENOVATIONS. WHEN WE ARE ADVISING OUR CLIENTS PRIOR TO COMMENCING OUR DESIGN WORK, WE REVIEW A NUMBER OF CONSIDERATIONS THAT ARE CRUCIAL TO ACHIEVING A PROJECT THAT CAN OFTEN EXCEED OUR CLIENT'S EXPECTATIONS.

Reviewing an existing home and how a family uses it is the starting point. With clever redesigning of the existing space and its use can often prove invaluable. In some cases additional space is necessary and careful consideration and planning to a new structure is imperative. Adding new space for the sake of it can often result in under used areas, but with careful design and amalgamating the existing spaces with the extension can produce a welcomed addition to any home. The introduction of more natural and artificial light, redesigning existing spaces, enhancing original details, sympathetic selection of finishes and introducing new design features are the bases for a successful renovation. The following are some examples from a number of projects we have completed showing how a small investment in design expertise can go a long way.

LEFT: What was a basement garage is now a contemporary living room which displays design details such as mood lighting, rich finishes, bespoke panelling that conceals storage and displays the T.V and fire. With the removal of the garage door and the introduction of a glass wall by day this room is awash with natural light.



RIGHT: Redesigning the spatial plans together with the introduction of a rear extension has completely transformed this home. By designing the featured curved stairs positioned in the centre of the house enabled all the corridors and adjoining rooms to flow serenely

from this central feature. This home has been completely redesigned to a beautiful home that is also a showcase of good design features, blending soft curved corridors, introducing double height features, detailed joinery and soft lighting.

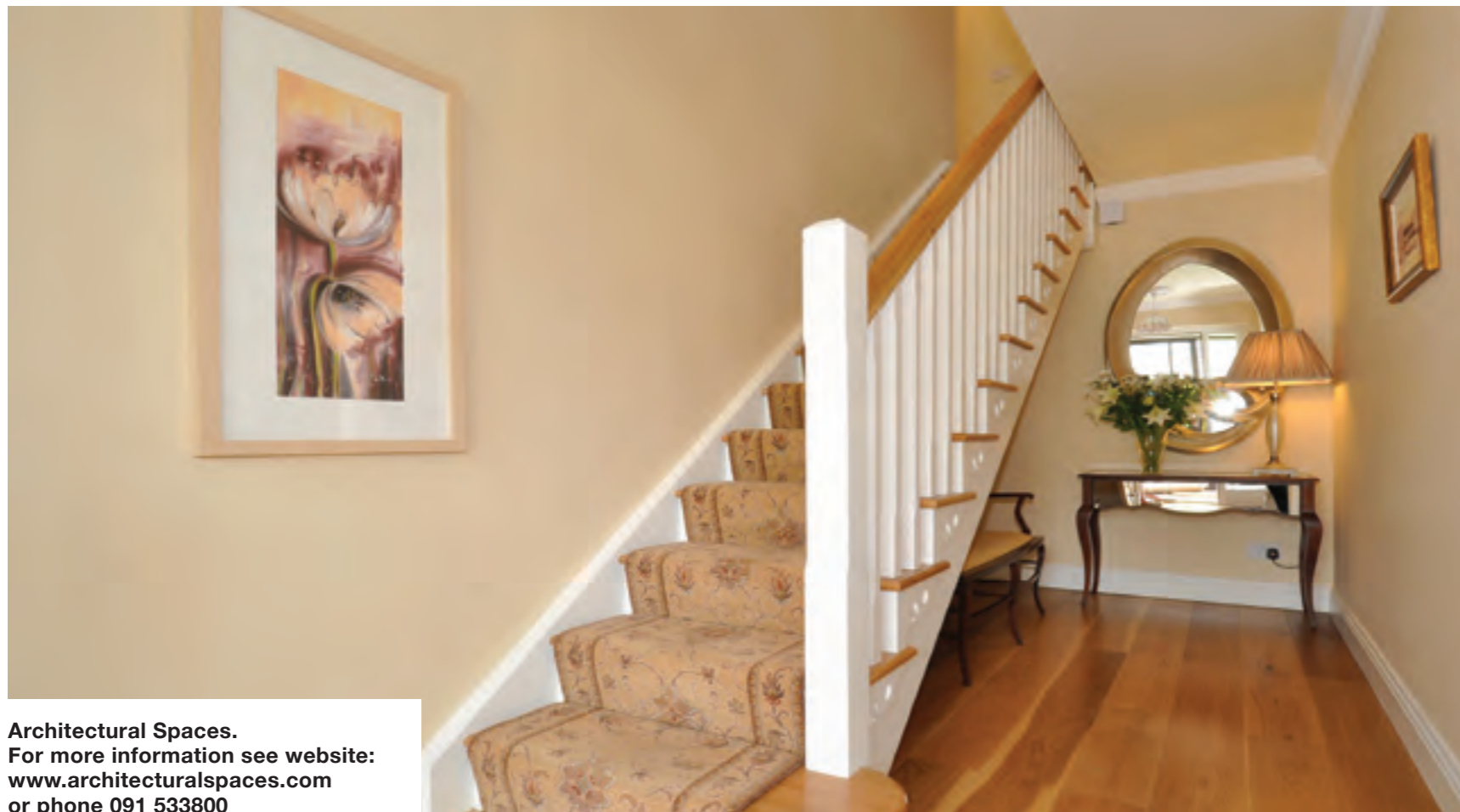


LEFT: Removing a section of the rear wall allows the kitchen to flow effortlessly through feature glass folding doors into the extension which is the new living room. The glass folding doors help separate the sitting room from the living room space, while still allowing natural light into the kitchen. And given the flexibility of the spatial design, if the family wishes to open the entire space as one, they have the option to do so.

MAIN: This sitting room is part of a farm house renovation which originally was two rooms. Through the process of good spatial planning prior to the commencement of work we decided to open up the entire space, which included removing the dividing wall between these rooms. This gave us a most impressive space to turn into a sitting room. On dismantling the dividing wall we made a thrilling discovery – the original limestone fire surround, likely to be more than a hundred years old. Repositioning it in the centre of the room is the perfect focal point. Enhancing original details such as new sash windows, half doors and original deep thick walls together with rich textures created a feeling of character, luxury and comfort. While it has many contemporary touches, it also seems to have a sense of its own history. A true labour of love!



This bedroom is also part of the farm house renovation. We designed the cut roof ceiling with concealed lighting to add a feeling of space and light and we introduced roof lights where suitable which are a welcomed addition letting light flood through the house. Fresh fabrics and texture again add a feeling of warmth and comfort.



ABOVE: The brief of this renovation and redesign of a traditional town house was to create a bright and inviting open-plan living space on the ground floor. We opened up the entire spatial plan together with the extension at the rear. We located the kitchen at the rear of the house and incorporated a functional utility room- which is the new extended section. The living area was positioned at the front of the house. We opened up the space by removing all the internal walls and we designed an open plan stairs leading to the first floor. Natural light washes through the large rear window, teaming up with the light at the front of the house which gives the whole space an uplifting and refreshing energy.

LEFT: The entrance hall to this house was completely redesigned to make more use of space and to introduce contemporary design details. We redesigned the stairs and included all new skirting, woodwork and doors, along with supreme new finishes to create a classical feel.

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