

HIGHLY
COMMENDED
KITCHEN

*“AN INVITING FAMILY
KITCHEN THAT INTEGRATES
PERFECTLY WITH THE
REST OF THIS BEAUTIFULLY
RENOVATED HOME”*

- Judges' comments

A TIMELESS TRIBUTE

Careful renovation of a heritage home seamlessly blends old and new

THESE PAGES (clockwise from left) The pendant lights above the granite-topped oak island are from Lighthouse Remuera; the cooktop, which is flanked by Shaker-style mullioned glass cabinets, features a patterned splashback made from 27 different tile patterns. Looking through the kitchen towards the dining room; the cabinetry is painted with Resene 'Half Truffle' and the hob base units are in Resene 'Ironsand'. The dark walnut stain of the island camouflages integrated fridge drawers.

RESPONDING TO THE HISTORY of a home, rather than merely following fashion, earned Helen Wilcock of Design.spec and Anita Maes of Bella Cassita a Highly Commended award for their renovation of this kitchen in an Epsom, Auckland home. The house was designed in 1909 by English-trained architect Benjamin Charles Chilwell and had been altered over the years, not always sympathetically. But, says current homeowner Claire Gavin, its arts and crafts charm was still largely intact when her family arrived in 2010. They chose to renovate, but stay true to the original design, and Helen and Anita have achieved that vision, said the judges. "There are some really clever, interesting touches that are responses to the style of the home rather than just to current trends: the simple curved mantel that hides the splashback, for example. We particularly loved the hob splashback, which combines 27 different tile patterns. Lovely."

Q&A

WE WANTED TO: Create an elegant yet warm and inviting space for the whole family that is both functional and beautiful, reflecting the character and era of the home but also to fit in with the owners' personal tastes.

THE CABINETRY FEATURES: A cut-out motif of a heart, circle and diamond on the corner posts. Found on original balusters it now recurs in the kitchen and other areas of the house.

THE PENDANT LIGHTS: Are black with gold interiors, adding richness to the colour scheme and interest to the ceiling void.

THE HOMEOWNERS LOVE: The scullery behind the kitchen. It's a very practical space that needed to accommodate the laundry as well as function as a walk-in pantry and appliance area.

WHO ELSE WAS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT: The kitchen was part of a whole house renovation, which took about a year. Architect Rosalie Stanley headed the project for Salmond Reed, with the help of builders KD Construction.

Helen Wilcock, designspec.co.nz, and Anita Maes, bellacassita.co.nz



LIEBHERR