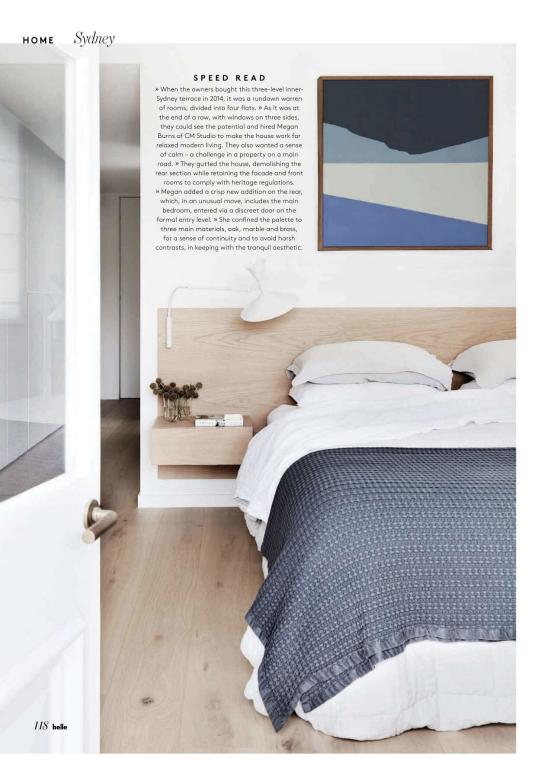


This page In the stairwell and formal living area, Freado oak floorboards and stairs from Tongue N Groove. Balustrade in solid oak with custom brass details. ClassiCon 'Bell' side table from Anibou. 'Agra' rug in Pearl from Armadillo & Co. Opposite page The 19th-century facade with its ornate iron filigree fretwork has been restored to its former glory.





For those interiors, adds the owner, "We wanted something sophisticated, super-simple, clean, elegant and uncluttered."

Megan gutted the house, while retaining the facade and the formal living areas on the entry level, and the two bedrooms upstairs. She located the main bedroom on the entry level, behind that discreet door, so it looks directly into the tree canopy and down into the courtyard with its water feature and lily pond.

"It's noisy at the front, but the owners, who are from the country, wanted quietness. Here they can leave the windows wide open and all they hear are bird sounds, while also enjoying plenty of light," says Megan.

From the formal living area and main bedroom on the ground floor, a new flight of oak stairs leads down to a media room, family room and open-plan living area, where steel French doors with generous glazing take in the courtyard with its Japanese maple. Two existing bedrooms and a bathroom occupy the top level.

For the interiors, much of Megan's inspiration came from the clean, neutral-toned aesthetic of Belgian design stars Vincent Van Duysen and Nicolas Schuybroek. Accordingly, she has confined the materials palette to oak, marble and brass throughout for continuity, the warm natural hues generating a sense of calm, while the white walls lend freshness. "The owners wanted something true to the house, with a simple palette and three main materials," she says.

Befitting the majestic facade, she reinstated archways, deep skirtings, cornices and architraves, which had either been removed or compromised over the years, and added wall panelling. "It elevates the zone and makes it more formal, compared with the more relaxed square set used downstairs," says Megan. Similarly, she went to great pains over the crafted finishes by including, for example, brass inlays in the balustrades. The results are crisp and pared back, with meticulous attention to detail. As a favourite space, Megan singles out the informal living, with its sitting area and the kitchen with its banquette, "falling away to the courtyard. It's so serene."

"The whole outside world just fades away," adds the owner, relaxing in her sun-soaked informal living area. "I can't believe how calming this house is." In For more go to cm-studio.com.au.





This page, clackwise from top In the ground floor guest bathroom, basin and shelf in Carrara Gioia marble designed by CM Studio and made by Euro Marble. Carrara marble tiles in shower from Surface Gallery, Astra Walker 'Icon+ Lever' tapware in Eco Brass. Custom mirror by Saltwater Joinery. Sculpture on mantel from Anchor Ceramics. Custom fireplace in Carrara Gioia marble from Euro Marble. Custom basin and benchtop in Carrara Gioia marble from Euro Marble. Astra Walker 'Icon' gooseneck taps in Eco Brass. Bath from ACS Bathrooms. Opposite page Custom bedhead by Saltwater Joinery. Nemo 'Lampe De Marseille' wall light by Le Corbusier from Cult. Bedding by Bemboko.









