

MOST
OUTSTANDING
renovation
or conversion

HOME RENOVATION



Blyth Dale Road, Toronto, by Northridge Edge Construction

Located in Toronto's trendy Yonge and Lawrence area, this once-stately two-storey home built in the 1960s was starting to show its age. One of the few original homes left on the street, it was dwarfed by the grand custom homes that have become the norm here.

But rather than pull the house down and start from scratch as most of their neighbours had done, the owners felt that the home had "good bones" and could be the basis of their new dream home. They also wanted to retain many of the elements that had attracted them to this house in the first place – the true two-car garage, the large front facing windows, and more importantly, the turret style front entrance.

The new design incorporated all of these elements, and created a new stone and stucco front elevation, more in keeping with the neighbourhood. The turret was extended to a second storey (creating a nursery for the couple's new baby), another storey was added over the garage, and the front-facing window was transformed into a large bay.

Inside, 800 square feet of new living room was added, including a new bedroom, taking this home from five to six bedrooms. A master ensuite, complete with an oversized Jacuzzi tub and fireplace, was added, as was a powder room on the main floor. Significant work also occurred in the basement, where the floor was lowered, creating a media room and play area for the children.

What the judges said: The metamorphosis of this house is quite impressive. The designers converted a banal 1960s home into a home with its own character and markings. In addition to massive exterior conversion, a great deal of work was done to the interior, which created many amenity spaces.

