



This page The landscaping for this Unley Park home in Adelaide was carried out by David Baptiste Garden Design. Travertine platform from CDK Stone. Yellow Western Australian limestone from Just Rocks & Limestone S.A. Opposite page Light and white, the living room is a peaceful place for relaxing. A Ligne Roset 'Pumpkin' armchair from Domo sits on a Soumakh rug from Hali. Mirrored 'Slit' table by Hoy from Cult. Custom fireplace surround and mantel in Paloma limestone with a laminated stone bullnose edge. Above the fireplace is an artwork by Nicholas Elliott. On the left console are three vases by Schapes.

# WELL

In this Adelaide home, classic

# THOUGHT

design features have been

reframed in a contemporary context.

# OUT



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**D**ownsizing from a double storey, ornately European-style house to a more intimate, single-level, modern property is a momentous change at any time, but it was especially significant for interior designer Georgie Shepherd's clients, Bob and Barb, a sprightly couple in their 80s. "To take on something like this at their age is super impressive but then again, Bob would give a lot of 30-year-olds a run for their money," says Georgie, director of GSiD who worked with senior interior designer Mara Morton on the Adelaide home. "The last time they had taken on a renovation for their own personal residence was 20 years ago, so this time it was less running around and more about a very specific brief. They were completely up for the challenge and put a lot of trust in us," says Georgie, who collaborated with builders and architects, the Genworth Group.

The concept involved re-interpreting the traditional features of the couple's existing home into a more contemporary expression. Documenting their furniture and antiques gave Georgie an insight into how they lived and the materials they were drawn to. So while the new building envelope had beautiful high ceilings and generous proportions, Georgie was conscious of softening the modern structure with classic detailing like high shadow-line skirtings and door architraves, making the "scale of each space more manageable and visually comfortable."

It was critical that the layout be both functional and familiar. "There were certain arrangements they were accustomed to which were important to maintain," says Georgie, offering the kitchen »



**These pages** "The elegant island anchors the kitchen space," says Georgie. The space was designed to be ergonomic and easily usable for the owners. Solid herringbone oak floor.

Ajax natural stone top from CDK Stone made by Ideal Stone. ACP Atelier 'Sedis' stool by Anne-Claire Petre from Stylecraft. Articolo 'Scandal' long pendant in Mid Bronze with mesh inlay and shade in Snow.

On the island is a large vase from Schapes, and a small 'Wave' bowl from Billies by shstoneware. At the rear, Miele full-surface flush induction cooktop. The two vessels are Ligne Roset 'Cells' vases from Domo.





« as an example. “We kept the flow the same as what Barb was used to, the drawers for pots and pans in the same position, and the oven in a similar spot. Although the materials and design draws on a new look and feel, Barb was essentially walking back into a comparable format, albeit with improvements.”

The same went for the architecture and floor plan. “It was of great importance to our client that the transition from their grand, established classical home should not come as a shock when designing their new abode,” says Chris Diamantis, managing director of the Genworth Group. Most significantly, the use of external natural stone and the towering four-metre high ceilings were reminiscent of their elegant old Adelaide residence. “In line with their instructions and current level of comfort, the internal brief was to complement the past without cloning,” he says.

Framed by bluestone pavers and garden beds, the house is defined by a series of intersecting planes in limestone and travertine. Up a series of large-format floating steps, the house opens into an entryway dwarfed by a satellite-style Volker Haug ‘Oddments’ dual-ring pendant light. The sightline travels all the way through the central gallery to the glazed walls at the rear where Bob’s precious luxury cars are within view. Bringing this personal display showroom inside the house was key to the brief.

From the foyer, the house wings out to the left where there’s another short corridor with Barb’s sewing room, a guestroom »

**This page, clockwise from top** A dramatic Volker Haug ‘Oddments’ dual-ring pendant light presides over the entryway. Natural travertine flooring in Special Light supplied by CDK Stone. Ligne Roset ‘Curule’ chair from Domo beside an artwork by Christian Lock. Aerin ‘Iveala’ sconces from The Montauk Lighting Co. The line of sight travels all the way down the hall to a view of the garage. The living room fireplace is custom made in Paloma limestone with a laminated stone bullnose edge. On the shelf is a New Works ‘Kizu’ table lamp from Aura Objects and ‘Wave’ bowl from Billies by shstoneWARE. All the garden and surrounds were landscaped by David Baptiste Garden Design.



**This page** In the study, a false door on the left leads to a secondary apartment. The custom-stained solid herringbone oak floor has a brushed brass inlay border. ‘Bliss’ rug in Tobacco from Hali. Gubi ‘Masculo’ lounge chair with swivel base from Cult. American oak custom whitewash stained joinery by Unique Space. Joseph Giles’ recessed pulls from The English Tapware Company. On the bench is a ‘Shogun’ table lamp by Mario Botta for Artemide from Stylecraft. The shelf on the far left includes a round ceramic from Billies by ShstoneWARE, GlobeWest ‘Ridge’ goblet bowl, brown ceramic by Ringwood Arts Co., and an artwork by Lola Bezar. On the middle shelves the small white vessel is Vitra ‘Nuage’ from Aura Objects and a Ligne Roset vase from Domo. Black vessel by Schapes. On the far right shelves is a ceramic by Yuro Cuchor next to a vase from Billies by ShstoneWARE. On the benchtop below are Ligne Roset bookends from Domo.



**This page** In the master ensuite, Joseph Giles solid brass and glass T-bar pulls from The English Tapware Company on the cabinetry. Large format porcelain slab in Neolith Calacatta Luxe from CDK Stone. GlobeWest 'Ridge' goblet bowl. Astra Walker 'Icon Plus' tapware in the shower from Routleys BKL. Custom solid brass mirror by Unique Space. **Opposite page** When the owner first saw the titanium panel from Complete Marble and Granite he knew it was an "absolute must", says designer Georgie Shepherd. Decina 'Mia' freestanding bath exclusive to Routleys BKL sits on a small plinth.



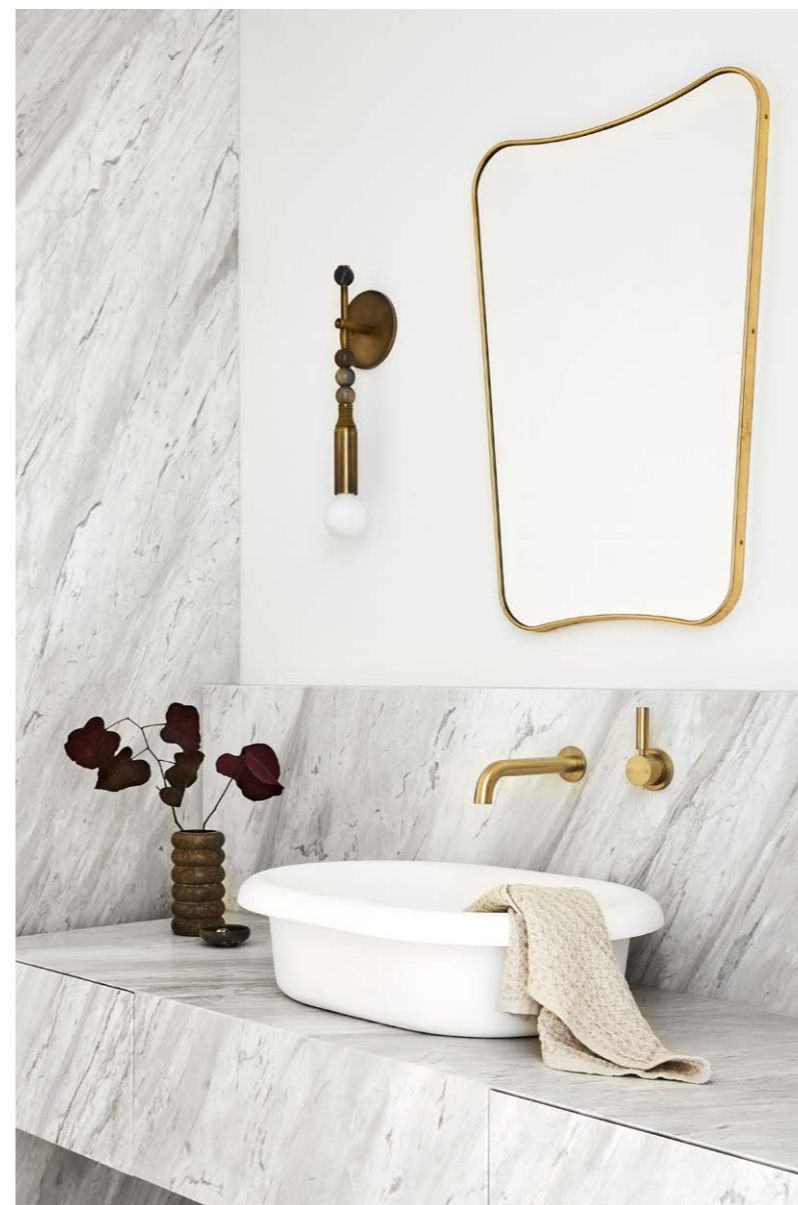
**SPEED READ**

» This house in Adelaide's Unley Park is a new property by Genworth Homes who worked alongside interior designer Georgie Shepherd. » The sprightly owners, a couple in their 80s, were moving from something large and ornate. » To ease them into their new single-storey house, Georgie interpreted classic design features into a contemporary context. » The calm design scheme includes natural stone, travertine and limestone. » The pièce de résistance comes by way of a titanium panel in the master ensuite. » The house includes a dedicated sewing room and study with a false joinery door leading to a secondary guest room. » Central to the brief was a high-end garage for the owner to display his luxury cars.





This page The serene walk-in-robe features a bespoke ottoman with brass detail upholstered in Catherine Martin fabric. Fyber 'Envy' carpet in Latte. American oak veneer joinery by Unique Space. Kintore pulls by Lo&Co. Joseph Giles brass hanging rails from The English Tapware Company. Opposite page, clockwise from top In the powder room, Ajax marble top with apron edge from CDK Stone. Rogerseller 'Evolve' claybrook benchmark basin from Routleys BKL. Ferm Living 'Bendum' vase next to a small ceramic dish from Ringwood Arts Co. Apparatus 'Talisman 1' sconces in brass with agate and leather from Criteria frame a Gubi 'F.A.33' mirror in polished brass from Estilo. The wine cellar joinery is made in Polytec 'Woodmatt' board in Perugian Walnut. 'Quadro' sconce by Il Fanale from LightCo. Resident 'Offset' stool from Aura Objects. In the main bathroom is a custom American oak joinery unit with a bevelled edge and Joseph Giles brass and glass T-bar pulls from The English Tapware Company. Ajax marble top with apron edge from CDK Stone and cut by Ideal Stone. Large vase is Billies by Shstoneware. Beside the custom fine edged solid brass mirror by Unique Space is an Articolo 'Fizi' sconce in brass. Astra Walker tapware from Routleys BKL. 'Glen' floor tiles from Cerbis Ceramics.



« and a luxurious bathroom. Divided by a central corridor, a powder room is on one side while opposite is an interconnected master bedroom, walk-in-robe and ensuite, where a vertical, show-stopping feature slab of titanium flickers with gold and brown.

Transitioning to the open-plan rear, the natural travertine floor shifts to solid-oak herringbone. The creamy white of the island's Ajax marble features watercolour-like hues and has been cut in solid round chunks, the silhouette echoed in the curved corners of the rangehood behind. The painted joinery is a fresh interpretation of Bob and Barb's former Shaker kitchen, designed with a bevelled edge, each solid-oak panel beautifully crafted by Unique Space. Hooked behind the kitchen is a laundry and walk-in butler's pantry with a dumb waiter that carts up wine from the cellar.

Light and tranquil, the living room has been warmed up with a custom fireplace in Paloma limestone with a stone bullnose edge. Heavy and oversized, it's a nod to period fireplaces but executed in a smoother, more streamlined profile. Incorporated into the main living space is a study with a hidden pivot door that leads to a secondary guest suite. From the rear zone there is both physical and visual access to the garage, where Bob's dream to have his beloved cars on show has now come true. [georgieshepherd.com.au](http://georgieshepherd.com.au); [genworthgroup.com.au](http://genworthgroup.com.au); [davidbaptiste.com.au](http://davidbaptiste.com.au); [uniquespace.co](http://uniquespace.co)

