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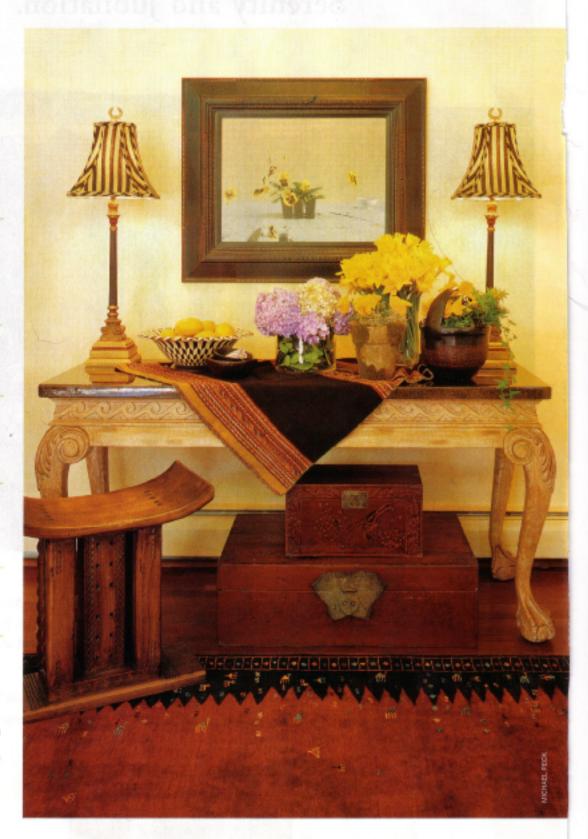
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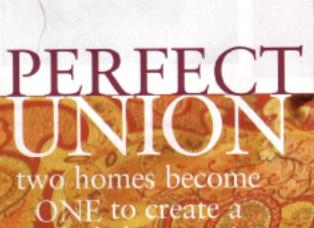
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ON THE COVER: Interior designer Mikhail Dantes and residential designer Ken Pieper worked with homeowners Jennifer and Todd Crosbie on a dramatic transformation of their Genesee home. Maximilian feeds his favorite stuffed cow "Moo" in the newly updated kitchen.





ONE to create a secluded retreat in the heart of Denver.
Linda DuVal reports.
Photography by Michael Peck.
Produced by Niña Williams











Greenhouse windows create a light-filled littchen space while ample cabinets keep the countertops free of clutter. An Oriental rug provides unexpected softness underfoot and protects the red Brazilian cherry wood floors. Just off the littchen, a distressed, hand-hewn refectory table, Ellis Woods, Shanahan Collection, DDC, (303) 778-7088, anchors the dining area. The faux-glazed walls "turned to butter," says Lohr as they spread caramel glaze throughout the home. "The rooms just naturally gravitated toward that color, We used it to provide cohesiveness between the different rooms."

nce upon a time, a tiny 1904 farmhouse stood alone outside Denver until the city grew and eventually surrounded it. In 1982, a contemporary home was built immediately adjacent, sharing a wall with the farmhouse to wedge the new home into the 50-by-125-foot city lot.

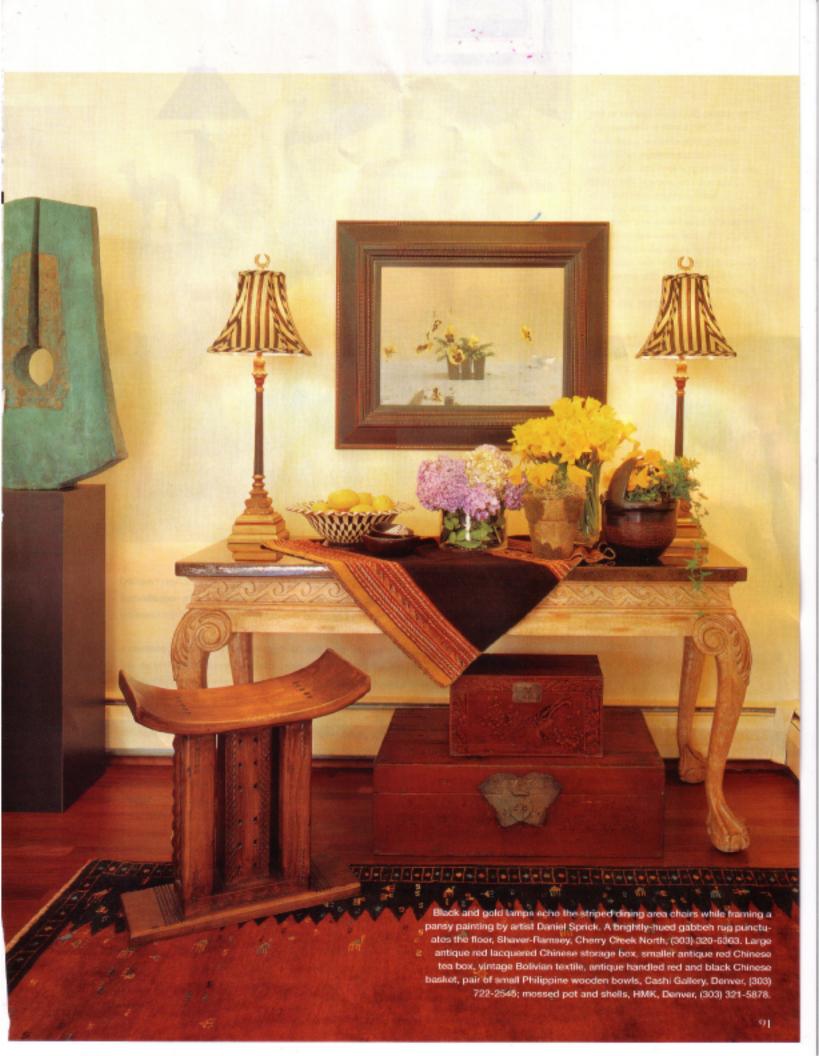
When the current owners purchased the property in 1999, they realized the potential for creating an updated living space that would combine the best of both homes. They worked on the project bit by bit, first remodeling the 1982 home, then renovating the 1904 house, and finally merging the two into one 21st-century urban retreat. That transformation was the collaborative effort of interior designer Cassandra Lohr, architect Richard Henry and general contractor Tom Haverley.

Lohr was first on the scene five years ago and followed the project to its recent completion. "My first job was to bring everything up to date" in the newer home, she says. The bathrooms had to be gutted and completely redone, and for this she brought in Tom Haverley of Primo Construction. With suggestions from the owner, they moved the bath entrance to open up the room, added gold fixtures, mirror scences and a new glass-block window over the sunken tub, which allowed light to enter, but ensured privacy.

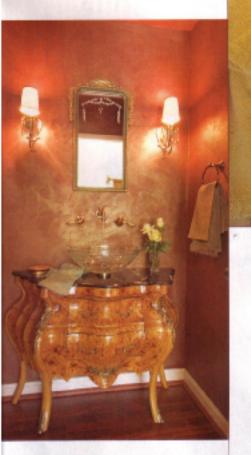
On the second floor of the 1982 home, the master bedroom was redecorated in an "Ernest Hemingway, almost safari theme," Lohr says. The room's focal point is a handcrafted one-of-a-kind armoire with faux crocodile leather and copper trim that houses an entertainment center. Masculine overtones are tempered with touches such as lace window coverings that imbue femininity, according to Lohr.

Off the master bedroom, an oversized outdoor terrace overlooks the courtyard entry to the home. This sunny space is warm even on chilly winter days, capturing the light and sheltered from wind.

Leaving the master suite, the homeowners can either enter an open office with a balcony rail that overlooks the living room or descend the stairs. At the bottom of the stairs lies an airy, spacious kitchen. A bank of greenhouse windows on the south side makes the space sunny and bright throughout the day. Dark green granite



Lohr added Old World appeal to the powder room with a 19th-century antique reproduction commode, topped with a carved crystal bowl and antique gold finish faucetry, Eurobath & Tite, Denver, (303) 298-8453. Antique sconces with hand-out Austrian crystals, a handetched antique mirror and deep red walls with gold glaze complete the luxurious space. Mustard yellow Fino Lino guest towel and aqua Anichini guest towel, The Brass Bed Fine Linens and Furnishings, Cherry Creek North, (303) 322-1712.



countertops are a striking juxtaposition to white cabinetry. "The kitchen needed very little work," says Lohr. "Instead of overhauling the whole room, we sanded and repainted the cabinets. Then we replaced the countertop and laid an Oriental carpet to cushion the cook's feet."

The slightly raised kitchen opens into the dining and living rooms, creating a great room with defined-use areas. A hand-hewn, distressed refectory table anchors the dining area while black-and-gold-striped dining chairs are echoed in the striped lampshades on the sideboard. The alabaster chandelier sheds a warm, luminous glow.

The entrance to the property gives way to a private courtyard, complete with swimming pool, waterfall and lots of space for gardening and entertaining. In summer, tropical plants create a resort-like atmosphere. From the courtyard, French doors lead into a gracious foyer that was once the farmhouse kitchen. Now the space sets the stage for the rest of the house, with a small antique carpet, round marquetry tripod table, a recessed chandelier and a glass-enclosed wine room. Visitors can then enter the living room on the right or the family room on the left. It was at this juncture - both literally and figuratively - that Lohr called in architect Richard Henry to blend the two houses into one.

One clue that the space on the left belongs to the old farmhouse is the intermittent exposed brick on the interior walls. It provides the room, adjacent powder room and stair wall with a rustic aesthetic. Henry also added two glass-block windows to bring light while ensuring privacy.

The architect's biggest challenge was the upper level, which he brought up to current building codes. There, he transformed a tight staircase and three tiny rooms into a guest suite. "From a design standpoint, there weren't a lot of *



Designer Cassandra Lohr was inspired by Ernest Hemingway's African safari tales. The focal point of this plush bedroom, a hand-crafted armoire with faux croc leather and copper trim, The Collection by Cassandra Lohr, Egg & Dart, DDC, (303) 744-1676, conceals an entertainment center. Bed, Columbine Showroom, DDC, (303) 722-4400. Anichini throw, wood pulp Legna bed linens by SDH and Susan Unger clive leaf pillow, The Brass Bed Fine Linens and Furnishings, Cherry Creek North, (303) 322-1712; Large antique Chinese bamboo basket, red lacquered antique Chinese round wooden storage jar, Cashi Gallery, Derwer, (303) 722-2545.







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options," he says. Henry opened up the staircase. One of the three rooms became a bathroom and dressing area, the middle room became a sitting room and the third room became a sleeping area. The suite has two private balconies that overlook the mountains to the west and the courtyard below.

Soft buttery, faux-glazed walls tie the home's separate interiors together and create a backdrop for a rich color palette defined by the red Brazilian cherry floors and lush golds found in fabrics throughout. Lohr continued this warm color palette upstairs, adding accents of muted jewel tones, such as cranberry and salmon. Here, as elsewhere in the house, the homeowners' contemporary art collection brings life to the walls and richly colored area rugs punctuate the floors.

It is rare when a home remodeling project is dubbed "painless" by the owners. But that is just how they describe the artful merger of these two residences. Of course, they note, that it helps if you can live in one house while the other is being remodeled.

The homeowners are delighted with the final result. They now have a fluid, light-filled home that opens into the courtyard where they enjoy Colorado's climate year-round; a perfect match for their urban lifestyle.