

Making an entrance

Imaginative use of colour, shapes and details transforms a very ordinary two-storey home

ove and hate are usually changes need to be made. reserved for our deepest inshe says.

downtown office district. But it was a the house was remodelled. house that only its builder could mass-produced 30 years ago.

entry was cramped, the kitchen was small, the ceilings had been sprayed change was the creation of a fullaccess to the first floor.

tenants for three years, the owner internal design and creates a gritted her teeth and moved in. She feeling of spaciousness in every room considers this to be the ideal - if long- surrounding it. suffering - way to see exactly what

The owner decided to make the volvements, but they can be house her personal domain. The first and the existing staircase supports lavished on buildings as well. Con- floor would contain her private were strengthened and covered sider these words from the owner of a living space, and an area in which with Strongwall cladding and a formerly very dull two-storey home in she could formally entertain. The plaster finish. Auckland. "Ihated everything about ground floor would provide bedit. I hated the design, I hated the rooms and bathrooms for her elements of the new design are kitchen, I even hated the ceilings," grown-up sons who visit regularly.

The upper floor required some She nevertheless bought the alterations. The kitchen at the top house five years ago because it was of the wrought-iron stairs was an excellent investment. It is located in moved to an outside wall to make one of Auckland's best suburbs, with room for a dining table. A small

love: a square, gabled, suburban box was provided with a generous en suite the sleek lines of the new Insulclad Inside, it was little better. The rooms were similarly equipped.

But by far the most dramatic with glitter finish in the 1970s, and an height entry lobby to replace the awkward wrought-iron staircase gave wrought-iron staircase. The work of Auckland architect Lynda Simmons, it After renting out the house to is the central element in the new

Building the lobby involved Photography by Andrew Coffey

only minor structural changes. A new staircase was made from tawa

Equally impressive is how the repeated throughout the renovated areas, giving them a strong sense of unity. The shapes of the stair supports, for instance, are echoed in a pergolalike structure at the top of the stairs.

Detailing from the staircase splendid views of the harbour and deck on the sunny northern front of area is also repeated in the feature wall of the dining area. Attention The upstairs master bedroom to detail extends outdoors, where bathroom, and the downstairs bath- exterior cladding now give the house considerable street appeal.

Architect: Lynda Simmons (Neil Simmons

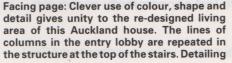
Builders: North City Builders Joinery: North City Joiners

Feature window: Supreme Glazing Services Electrical: Anthony Murray Exterior cladding: Insulclad

Interior wall paint: Levene Tinge of Peach









repeated in the dining room.

Top: The new entry lobby

Facing page: Clever use of colour, shape and used in the staircase area -tawa veneer, lacquer trims and sandblasted glass - is



Above, left and middle: The house before and after renovation. The exterior was reclad.

Above: The stairs to the first floor. Note the inset detailing on the stair risers.