



# Craftsman harmony

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It is easy to assume that this Highlands home has been a feature of the neighbourhood since its earliest days. The fieldstone foundation, the wraparound verandah and the double-hung windows with their mullioned upper panes all strongly suggest an Arts and Crafts influence and early 20th-century construction.

But the home's exterior could not be more misleading. The house was built after the Second World War and remained a functional but essentially plain two-storey box until the creative, confident present owner transformed it into a home of exceptional character and charm.

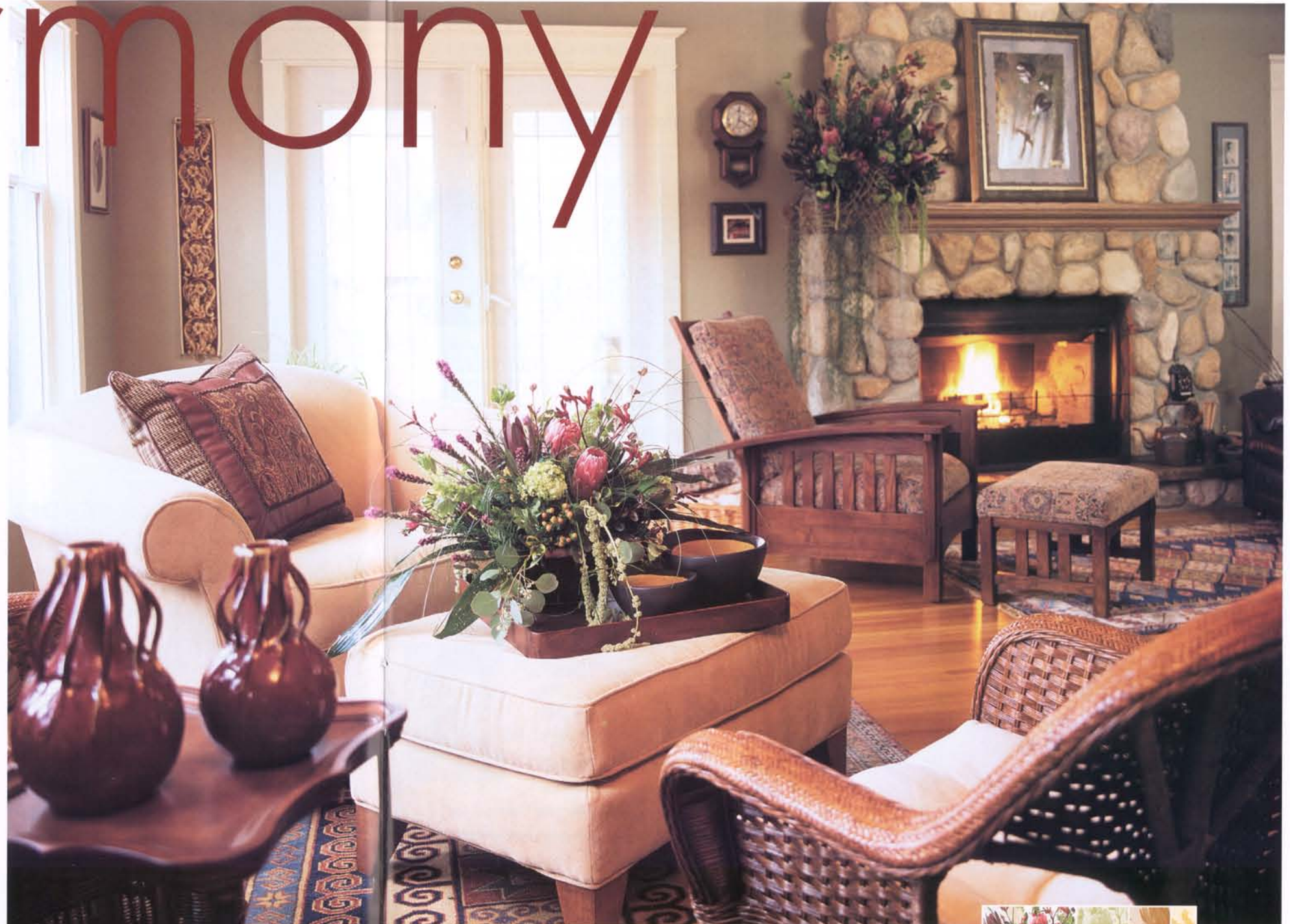
Attracted by its wide corner lot and proximity to the river valley, she pondered its potential. A review of house designs in books and magazines yielded ideas she incorporated into her own drawings and plans. These became the basis for an ambitious building project, undertaken by Homestyle Construction, which included not only a redesign of the existing structure but also the addition of a three-car garage with a master suite above.

The decoration of the house reinforces references to an earlier era. Contemporary furnishings in Mission style blend well with

a collection of antiques, many of them country pieces like the pine blanket boxes, an oak pedestal table and pressed back chairs and a pretty drop-front desk with incised scrollwork. In the master bedroom, the rectilinear simplicity of custom-built maple cabinets once again reveals the influence of Arts and Crafts design.

The garden, like the house, is a bold departure from standard suburban style. Stretched across the front of a shallow, south-facing lot and fully exposed to the sun, it has

been developed, in part, as a xeriscape. A mix of native grasses, left unmown, replaces most of the lawn. Closer to the house are more composed plantings, mixed borders of drought-tolerant shrubs and perennials brightened by the friendly informality of purple cone flowers, daisies and black-eyed susans. A path of slate slabs set in fine gravel connects the house to the street. Together, the house and its setting perfectly express the Craftsman ideal of home and nature in harmony. — D.T.



FLORAL DESIGN BY SALISBURY GREENHOUSES &amp; LANDSCAPING



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