

# ARCHITECTURAL GEM



Cheryl Nestro

## STATELY NORTHVILLE RESIDENCE RECEIVES THE REGAL TREATMENT

*By Jeanine Matlow Photos by Gene Meadows*

Before this magnificent house found its proper owners, interior designer Cheryl Nestro already had begun to make her mark on it. Nestro, the CEO of Tutto Interiors, along with builder Aldo Stenta of Vistal Homes, both in Northville, were tapped by Habersham Furniture – known for quality antique reproductions – to showcase the company’s newly launched cabinetry lines inside the handsome home before it went on the market.

The talented team went to work to create an elegant nest with richly detailed cabinetry that helped to further develop the tasteful aesthetic of the 8,500-square-foot structure. When her clients saw the house, they not only were sold – they wanted more of the enamored details Nestro already had incorporated.

**Follow Through** “They wanted to keep the integrity of the style of the home,” Nestro says. “They liked what they saw, and they felt very strongly about





A hand-finished coffered ceiling provides an exquisite detail in the kitchen, which contains travertine floors and a substantial island, with a granite countertop.

carrying through with the original plan.”  
With all of the dark trim, her clients thought it was important for the wall treatments to stay on the lighter side. “I did not want the contrast to be too stark,” Nastro says. “We compromised on just the right plaster treatment with a warmer color, which proved to be just right.”

**A Formal Affair** “It’s very French,” Nastro says of the overall style. The dining room is no exception, with touches of drama at every turn. The pleasing palette of chocolate brown and steel blue is easy on the eyes.

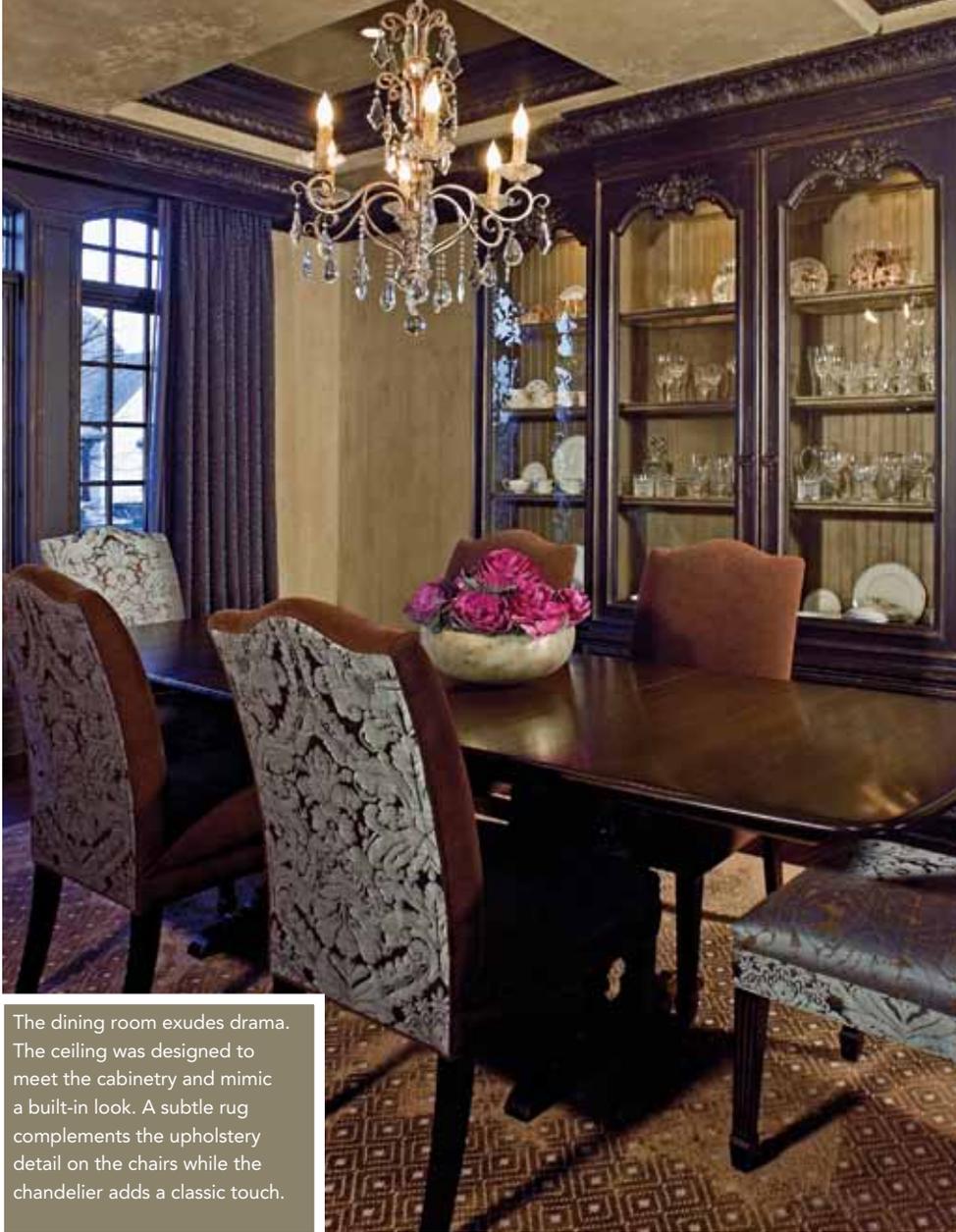
The coffered ceiling was finished on-site and dropped to give the illusion of a built-in curio cabinet. “We literally built the room around this furniture piece,” Nastro says. Even the crown moulding was designed to meet the crown of the cabinet.

The clients’ existing dining table got a fresh perspective with new chairs and a custom rug. “I wanted a small pattern that wouldn’t overpower the room,” Nastro says. A crystal and iron chandelier hangs overhead while a custom treatment covers the walls. “It’s a multilayered, textured faux finish that is meant to look like a very old wall,” she says.

**Tall Order** The formal living room might be modest in size, but the soaring barrel ceiling gives the illusion of more space. “It was initially a clean slate, with an oddly shaped ceiling,” says Nastro, who designed a custom built-in for the room that was installed on-site.

A piano sits amid custom furnishings that form an inviting environment while an extensive faux-paint treatment on the ceiling draws the eye up. “I didn’t want it to jump out at you. I wanted a subtle nuance,” says Nastro,





The dining room exudes drama. The ceiling was designed to meet the cabinetry and mimic a built-in look. A subtle rug complements the upholstery detail on the chairs while the chandelier adds a classic touch.



The serene sitting area inside the master suite features a double-sided fireplace and a lovely view of the lake. A pair of settees is embellished with bullion fringe.

who was inspired by a fabric pattern that was enlarged for the look.

**Tailor Made** Custom-lead glass doors that lead to the library reveal a jewel of a room. The space evokes a cozy vibe, with custom cabinetry that mimics built-ins but actually are separate pieces of furniture placed throughout the room. The well-proportioned shelving forms a unique configuration that includes a curved corner piece, a section with arched niches and a cabinet that conceals the TV. A custom stool was made by Designs Designs in Commerce Township, which also did the draperies throughout the house.

**Time Out** A lighter color scheme surrounds the master suite, where nightstands from the homeowners' prior residence were refinished to suit the space. Touches of sea green in the



Though the living room is relatively small, the tall ceiling and custom cabinetry bring grandeur to the space.



The library takes the definition of cozy to a whole new level, with its richly detailed cabinetry and custom furnishings.

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semi-custom bedding convey the lakefront location. “It has an earthy, serene color palette,” Nestro says.

Tumbled stone travertine floors can be found in the master bath. A rounded wall that results from a spiral staircase features a faux-paint treatment, with a stenciled relief pattern. Granite countertops house double sinks. The window treatments can be opened and closed by remote control.

**Chef’s Special** The custom kitchen features a substantial island, with a granite countertop. Hammered copper sinks join side-by-side refrigerators and a wine cooler in the well-equipped space. A hand-finished coffered ceiling and travertine floors create a luxurious feel. The homeowners’ stools from their previous home were refinished for a rich, new look.

**Smart Moves** With every project comes a learning curve. In this case, it would be the unique architecture that taught Nestro a lesson. “I realized working on this home that no matter how unorthodox a space may be, selecting the right proportions makes all the difference,” she says. □

Interior designer Cheryl Nestro turned a barreled wall that conceals a spiral staircase into a lovely attribute, with a faux finish. Custom cabinetry complements the travertine floors.

