

History lesson

In this 1800s brownstone, designer Nicole Hirsch was able to introduce modern design without losing the traditional bones of the property

WORDS JANE CRITTENDEN | PHOTOGRAPHY JARED KUZIA | STYLING SEAN WILLIAM

TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOUR CLIENTS, WHY DID THEY FALL IN LOVE WITH THE PROPERTY?

My client was pregnant with her fourth child and they were moving for more space. They bought an 1800s townhouse that needed a full renovation. We were fortunate to enter the project alongside High Street Development and Embare Design, who have strong backgrounds in the preservation and remaking of historic Beacon Hill homes in Boston.

DO YOU HAVE A SIGNATURE STYLE OR LOOK THAT DRAWS CLIENTS TO YOU?

Our client had been following our work for some time and really loved how we bridged a contemporary aesthetic with historic New England architecture. They wanted us

to bring in a modern, clean yet livable design while not losing the traditional bones of the property.

HOW DID YOU RESPOND TO THE CLIENTS' BRIEF?

The house was stripped back and reworked to function for the family. Period details were reinstated and balanced with interiors that are a sophisticated blend of clean, contemporary lines with classic touches. Another determining factor was understanding my clients would have four children under six by the time they moved in. For example, we planned the family room with a large sideboard for toy storage. We also chose durable performance fabrics for upholstered pieces.

WHERE DID YOU FIND INSPIRATION FOR YOUR APPROACH? This neighbourhood is iconically Boston — everything

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY
19th-century, six-storey brownstone townhouse

ROOMS Kitchen-dining-sitting room, office, playroom, two cloakrooms, six bedrooms, five bathrooms

LOCATION
Boston, USA

SITTING ROOM

Contemporary furniture contrasts with the elegant period features.

Custom rug, Art + Loom. Senna chair, Tov. Similar Arabescato marble fireplace, Marblebee. The Orma coffee table by Emmanuelle Simon, Invisible Collection, has this look. Try the Gogan large composition sofa, Chaplins



from the doors to the windows to the cobblestone streets leading up the hill. We infused little details that carry back to traditional Boston, such as the classic black and white marble chequerboard floor you see as soon as you come inside the house.

WHAT WERE THE SUCCESSES OF THIS PROJECT? We had so many learning moments about how we wanted to stay connected to the rich design history of New England architecture but also continue to be forward thinking in our approach to how we imagine spaces. We had the kindest clients who trusted our process and worked comfortably alongside us. We were aligned from the

start and were able to move forward quickly and efficiently – you can see that in the cohesiveness of the design from one room to the next.

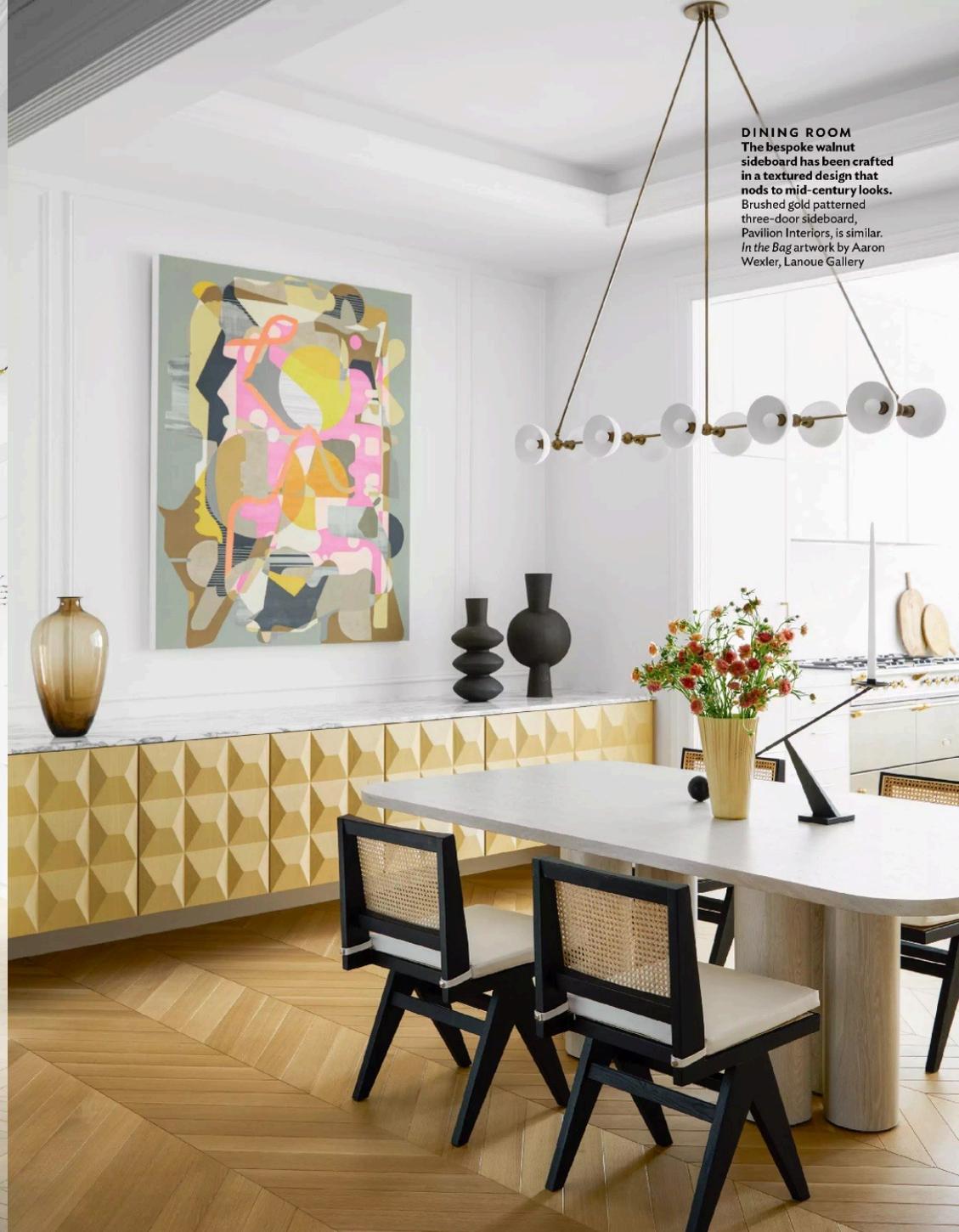
HOW DID YOUR CLIENTS REACT WHEN THEY SAW THE RESULTS?

They were overjoyed! They love the custom detail in the house. Each space feels like it was made for their family. It's the perfect blend of modern with soft traditional elements infused throughout. The result was a true marriage between Nicole Hirsch Interiors' design aesthetic and our clients' vision for their home. 🍷

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KITCHEN
Stools are finished in a walnut stain to bring warmth to this otherwise neutral scheme.

Kariba stools, Woodbender. Cupboards in White Dove, Benjamin Moore. Ernst stoneware vase, Nordic Nest, is similar



DINING ROOM
The bespoke walnut sideboard has been crafted in a textured design that nods to mid-century looks. Brushed gold patterned three-door sideboard, Pavilion Interiors, is similar. In the Bag artwork by Aaron Wexler, Lanoue Gallery



MAIN BEDROOM

A pair of shapely chairs and double wardrobes create a pleasing sense of symmetry. Walls in White Dove, Benjamin Moore. Cloud 19 chandelier by Apparatus, SCP. Ritz chair in Silver Grey velvet, Swoon, is similar



DAUGHTER'S BEDROOM

'We started with a bold, artistic wallpaper here and added pink to create a fresh tone,' says Nicole. Raked repeating mural wallpaper in Bone, Cuff Studio. Try Nuvola bed in Dusky Pink velvet, Heal's



'In the main bedroom, the mix of creamy whites, taupes and warm greys are layered with delicate touches of hardware to bring in a luxe elegance'



MAIN EN SUITE

Floor-to-ceiling marble creates style impact along with a focal point free-standing bathtub. Millbrook Carrara tiles, Claybrook, are similar. For a tub like this, try the Heritage Victoria double-ended roll-top bath, Victorian Plumbing



MAIN EN SUITE

'We hand-picked the marble and hardware was selected to be elegant, understated and special,' says Nicole. Yester Home's solid brass round bar cabinet handle is similar. Stilk sconces in aged brass, Daikon Studio

MAIN BEDROOM

The curved bed shape echoes in the bedside tables and chairs. Cream bedside table, House of Isabella, is similar. Ebell medium wall sconce, Kelly Wearstler. Hand-knotted rug, Stark