

A Nostalgic Renovation To A Grand Heritage Home

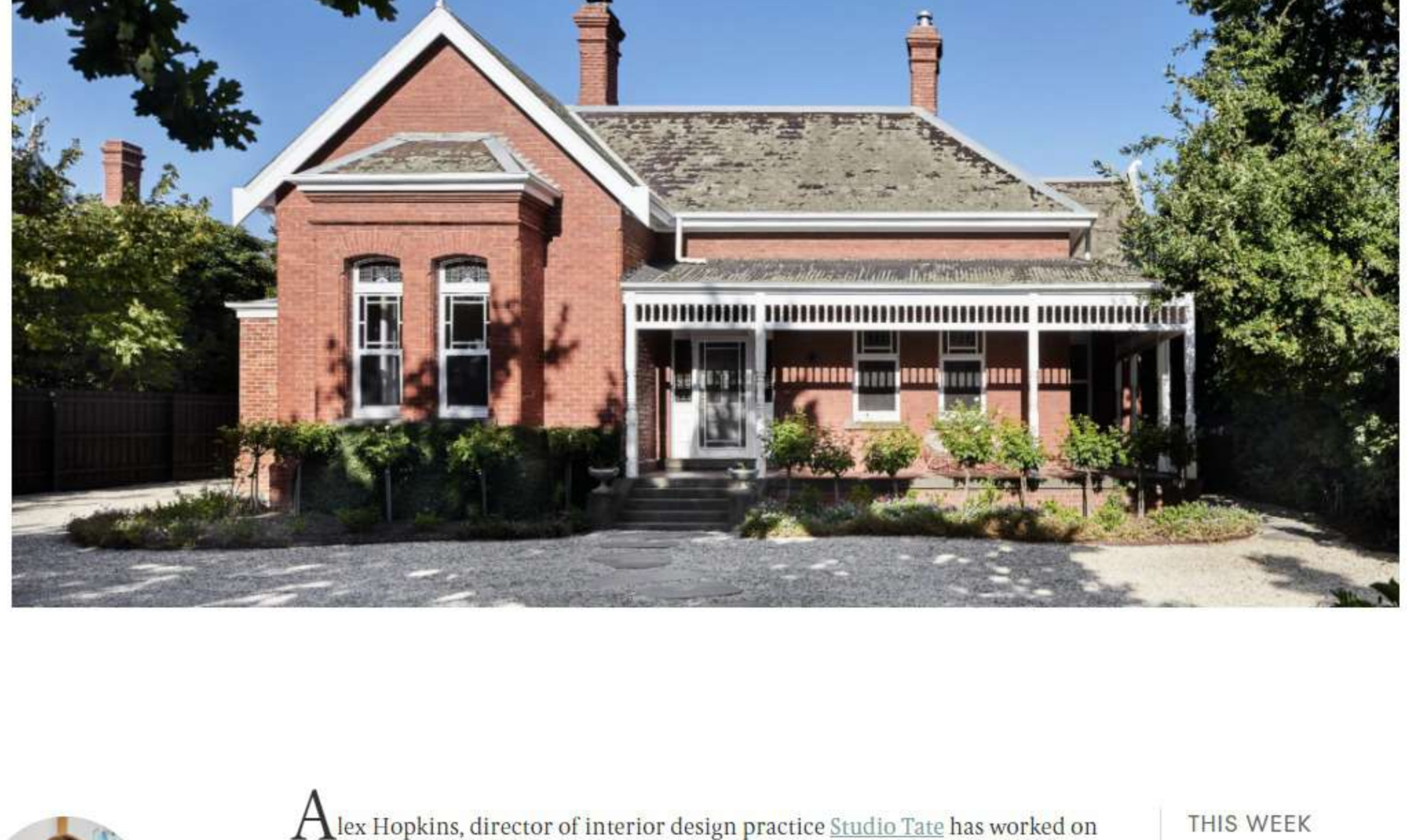
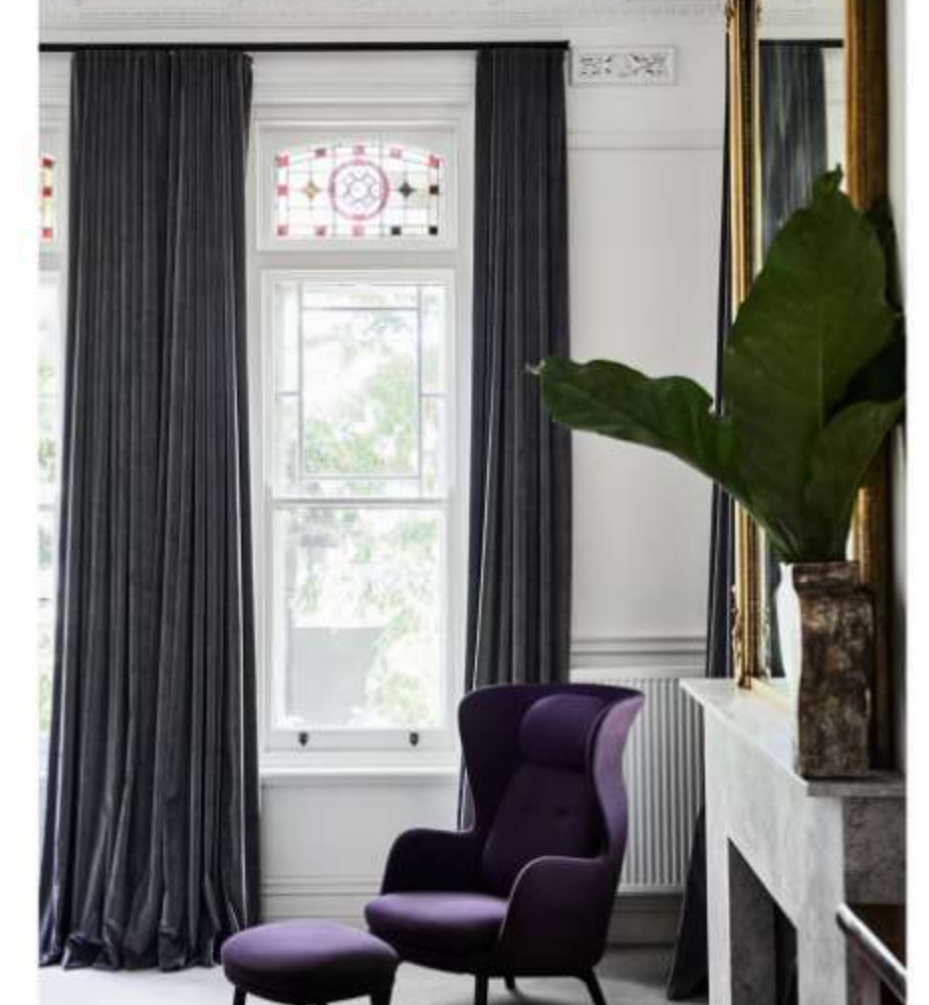
INTERIORS

When renovating a grand, heritage home, in many cases the best results can be achieved with a light touch.

Interior design practice **Studio Tate** adopted this approach when working on an 1899 house in Armadale, Victoria, choosing simply to improve and rework the original footprint, rather than add an extension.

The already magnificent home now truly reflects the lifestyle and individual taste of the young family who live here, who Studio Tate director Alex Hopkins has known for over 10 years!

1st December, 2020



Amelia Barnes
Tuesday 1st December 2020

Alex Hopkins, director of interior design practice **Studio Tate** has worked on numerous residential projects over career, but never on a house she previously frequented as a babysitter!

When this family asked Alex to design some bespoke joinery for their 1899 home, the designer decided to go a step further. 'Upon further discussion, and looking over the floor plans more generally, we found there was an efficient way to extend the life of the home, allowing for the changing needs of the family,' Alex says.

The vision was to update the dated interiors (a combination of period features and '90s renovations), and better connect the floor plan.

Studio Tate devised a new glass walkway in response, connecting a former 'back room' (a storage room used for stable gear), turned main dining area, to the rest of the house. This minor addition means all other works could be completed within the home's existing footprint, in turn minimising construction and respecting the heritage requirements of the area.

The new dining area is complemented by a more casual seating area around the kitchen island bench for a more low key vibe.

Distinctive period features were retained throughout the home, such as Victorian period mouldings, picture rails, and parquet flooring. The entryway's geometric motif ceiling was also restored, and inspired much of the project's mirrored symmetry.

Unexpected furnishings and a bold contemporary artwork provide focal points amid the home's largely monochromatic palette, whilst luxe textures and details, such as the velvet drapes in shades of plum, dark navy, tan and soft lavender add a colour and texture to the bedrooms with a nod towards the home's grand origins.

Alex's nostalgic attachment to this home gave her a head start in understanding how to approach its update, resulting in a truly excellent renovation!

THIS WEEK



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'Looking over the floor plans more generally, we found there was an efficient way to extend the life of the home.' - Alex Hopkins