



The front elevation has been transformed from the original profile, pictured left.

The old backyard, right, now features a swimming pool and an alfresco area.



Character renovation



GEMMA NISBET

Over the years, Janine Cameron has built or renovated 46 homes. So when she says that Australian Renovation Group, which was responsible for her most recent project, did a “fabulous” job and that she would “definitely” use them again and recommend them to friends, you know she has plenty of experience as a yardstick.

When Ms Cameron decided to renovate the home, a character dwelling in South Perth in which she had been living for a number of years with her daughter, she had five different builders around, but ARG stood out from the start.

“They were the only ones that dealt specifically with this age of home and also shared my vision,” she said.

“I didn’t want it to have the feel of

a new home. It had to be comfortable and homely.”

The job involved reconfiguring the original home as well as a fairly extensive addition to the rear, replacing an old sleep-out.

An original bedroom had a big corner window installed, the old kitchen was turned into a study and the existing bathroom was refurbished, with a skylight added.

A study nook was also added, along with cavity sliding doors that open to the new open-plan area at the rear.

Ms Cameron took care of the kitchen, which has an island bench and traditionally styled cupboards to suit the character of the home, while ARG was responsible for the light, bright living and dining space that it overlooks.

Big windows let in plenty of light, a gas fireplace keeps the space cosy

in winter and period details such as the cornices, ceiling roses, skirting boards, architraves, light fittings and window frames have all been selected to provide continuity with the original home.

The open-plan area also leads to an alfresco area which in turn leads to the pool and garden.

A corridor off the kitchen provides access to the laundry and powder room, before coming to the new main suite at the rear.

There is a walk-in robe with access from either side of the bed and an ensuite featuring a hobless shower with a frameless glass screen, lacquer cabinetry and stone tops with a semi-recessed basin.

The home is for sale.

The home was an entry in the 2010 HIA-NAB Perth Housing Awards.

