

Architect hits the roof

TERRY SMYTH

RENOVATOR'S DREAM

"It was a standard Paddington terrace that we bought three years ago and it needed work", Cindy said. What Cindy and her husband Jamie wanted was a compromise - a design that would give them a bigger, modern living space at the rear of the house while retaining the period warmth of the front section.

As it turned out, they got a clever compromise

"Because we were pulling down half the house and retaining the front, there was a need for a transition from old to new", Cindy said.

"And we needed to bring in a lot of light because it was very dark and the walls were damp. So (architect) Andrew (Schultz) suggested an internal atrium.

"The backyard was quite small, so he put in very nifty feature - the retractable garage roof".

More about that later.

The house, as Mr Schultz first saw it, was a large, two-up two-down terrace with a rear extension containing a third bedroom, kitchen, dining room and bathroom.

"The front of the house faces north so all the main living space was south," Mr Schultz said.

"It was very dark at the back and hemmed in by the two-storey brick walls of properties on both sides, and it had a side courtyard that was incredibly dark and damp.

"Basically, they wanted to keep the period style at the front but lighten the place up and get as much living space as possible."

THE PLAN: MORE SPACE AND AN INCREDIBLE SHRINKING GARAGE



■ The property: A three-bedroom, two-story terrace house in Paddington. ■ The architect: Andrew Schultz of SDP Architect, Waverly. The brief: Maximise the living space inside and out, open up the building to let in more light and add a double garage. ■ The time: Ten months. ■ The cost: \$550,000.

