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HISTORY REVIVED LIVING ROOM

LOOKING TO THE PAST, ARCHITECT DOUGLAS VANDERHORN ENLIVENS A NEW HOME WITH HISTORICAL DETAILS.

Walk me through the process when dreaming up this space.

This home was a recent build, but by ensuring historical authenticity throughout, it's not noticeably new to its surrounding historic community. I love English Tudorstyle homes, but when designing them I work at keeping the rooms bright. I was able to do that with large leaded casement windows with transoms and a generous bay window. A high ceiling with a plaster tracery pattern makes it distinctively Tudor.

Do other elements lend to the Tudor style?

A tracery ceiling is very common in this style home. I went through many sketches before arriving at a defining pattern. The Gothic oak architraves were custom-carved, accented with trefoil panels surrounded by a leaf motif that carries personal significance for the client. By keeping the detail modest with less ornamentation, we were able to provide a backdrop for a more contemporary interior.

What defining components most accurately illustrate your personal aesthetic?

The historical and architectural authenticity of this space most reflects my work. Ensuring that the architectural palette isn't apparently new makes this space a true classic. I worked hard to get the floor plan, exterior look and spaces just right, and then detailed things very selectively as it's all about filtering. I usually try to avoid having too much of a good thing.

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