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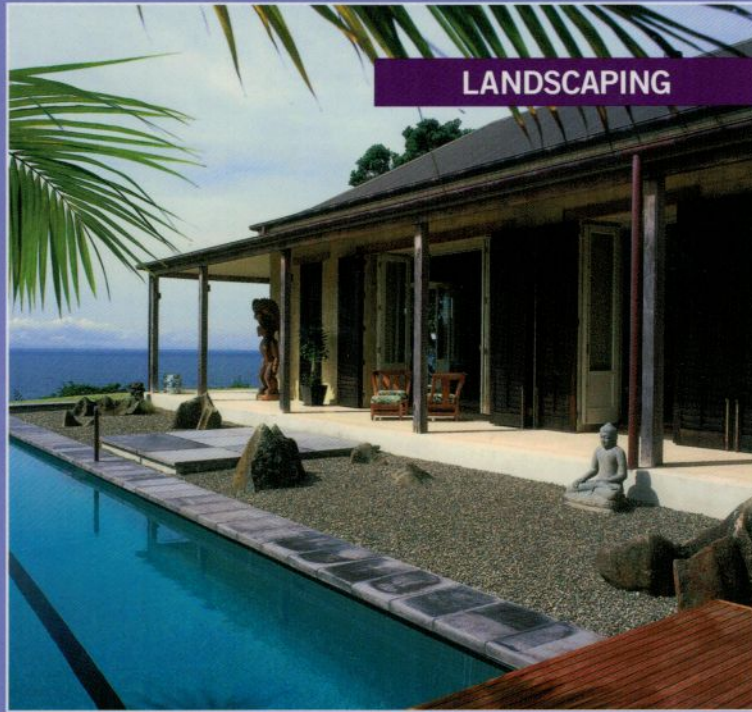
# TRENDS

THE TRENDS GUIDE TO RENOVATING YOUR HOME

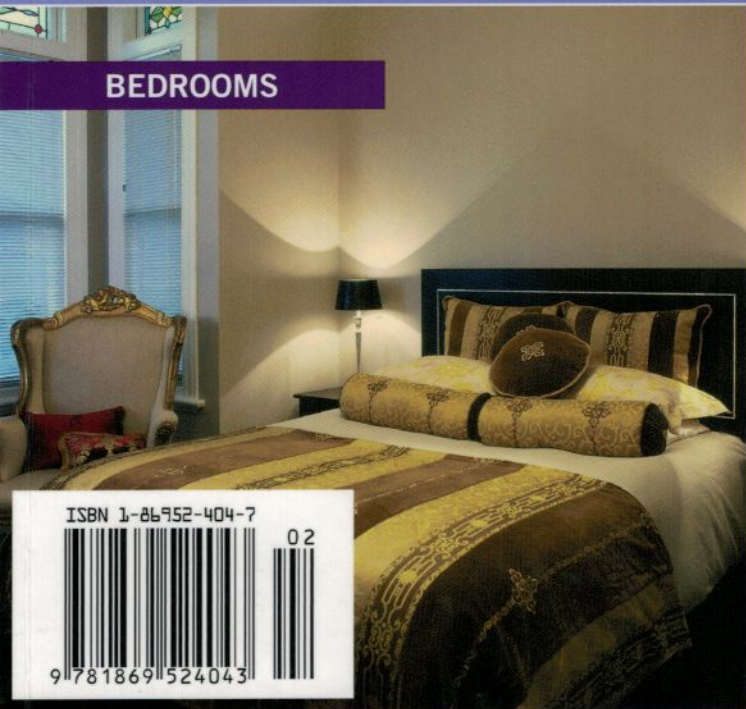
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# Scaling new heights

From renovating an old castle to building a six-storey house on a mountainside, Mardini Construction undertakes all types of building work

*This page:* Renovation projects undertaken by Sydney-based Mardini Construction range from large home makeovers to detailed interior work. Company director Elvis Mardini recently won the North Shore Builder of the Year award and has twice been a finalist in the Housing Industry of Australia awards.

It's probably fair to say that home renovation projects are not always straightforward. Most often, there's some tricky work involved in transforming a home to better suit your lifestyle.

To ensure you get the best result possible, you need an experienced builder who can liaise with your architect and deal quickly and efficiently with problems that may arise.

Mardini Construction is such a company. Headed by registered Master Builder Elvis Mardini, the company specialises in the construction of new homes and renovation projects in the middle to upper end of the market.

Mardini, aged 32, has been in the building trade for 12 years and has already notched up some of the industry's big awards. He recently won the

North Shore Builder of the Year Award in Sydney for a restaurant and bar refurbishment on Manly Beach. Mardini has also twice been a finalist in the Housing Industry of Australia Awards in New South Wales.

Other recent major projects undertaken by his company include the renovation of a 200-year-old sandstone castle.

"In projects such as these,

there is a need for highly skilled tradespeople who can deliver the specialised skills needed to meet the required standards," he says. "At the end of the day it's the tradespeople who make the difference and fortunately this company is backed by a highly qualified team."

Mardini says the company undertakes a variety of renovations, from small to very large multimillion dollar projects.

"For many of our clients, there is a need to ensure the renovation is carried out in such a way that the new parts of a house are indistinguishable from the old," he says. "For example, a large extension built for the castle renovation project incorporated sandstone walls. These were chipped and hand-carved to tie in visually with the existing building."

This project also involved



*Above:* An indoor swimming pool was part of Mardini Construction's extensive renovation of a 200-year-old sandstone castle.

*Left:* No detail is overlooked during a renovation, says Elvis Mardini. The front door of this home features diagonal cedar panelling. Mardini says the company favours environmentally friendly materials, such as recycled hardwoods, concrete and glass, and solar heating systems.





**Top:** This new bathroom in a penthouse unit incorporates mosaic tiling, an overhead shower, Indian carvings and a concealed laundry.

**Above:** All the wood cabinetry in this home was handcrafted on site by Mardini Construction.

**Right:** The new extension to the 200-year-old castle includes an indoor water feature and hand-carved sandstone walls.

lifting the entire building and adding a new indoor pool.

Other work currently under way by the company includes a new six-storey house that is being constructed on the side of a cliff in Sydney's northern beaches district.

For more information, contact Mardini Construction, 9 Richard Ave, Earlwood, NSW 2206, mobile 0419 714 719, fax (02) 9591 5798.

