



Stone cold stunning

A new holiday house has been excellently primed for entertaining, says **Ann Pilmer**.



The entry area



The ensuite

The entertainment wing

Project Sorrento beach house
Design Morris Partnership, Richmond, 9428 8807

Brief To add an entertainment wing to a mock period cottage, complete with bar, pool and plasma screen (to watch big sporting events) and update the old house.

Solution Planning permission was gained, building of the new wing got under way and the old place was gutted for an attic extension when architect Mike Morris appraised the situation. The old house didn't make best use of the site, so Morris recommended to the owner that the

The entertainment wing

If you conjured up the perfect place for a party, this would be it.

Stepped up from the entrance hall, it is six metres by five metres with a tough, exfoliated granite tile floor, bi-fold anodised aluminium doors on two sides interspersed with Rheinzink columns to weather softly, and has an indoor/outdoor cantilevered bar topped with a sliding window overlooking the pool and — the crowning glory — a stone feature wall with a fireplace, wood storage and a big-screen TV. Adjoining it are the laundry, guest bathroom and a natty outdoor shower. A cupboard beside the bar hides the fridge and the clutter for the sound and TV systems. A recessed sliding door in the wall beside the entrance hall can be pulled shut, so late-night

impact with minimum fuss — just what you want for a holiday hangout. A shallow pond beside the front door reflects the large pool at the back of the house. "It's a softening element and a visual link to the pool at the back," says Morris. The land was excavated so the house nestles, rather than perches, on the site and when the front gate slides shut, the owners are enclosed in their own world.

Morris, skilled in subtly mixing different materials, was commissioned after one of the owner's children partied in another Morris-designed house, commented how cool it was and suggested his dad have a look.

The ensuite

Stone, a theme that started in the entertaining wing and continued into the new house, is a feature in

CONTACTS

Builder Moody Builders 5988 8463

Project team Mike Morris, Rex Lin, David Morris, Christine Berry
Rheinzink Craft Metals 9850 8029

Calacatta marble Peraway Marble 9460 3899

Porcelain tiles Classic Ceramic Importers 9682 6555

Glass mosaics Artedomus 9428 0000