



An award-winning former display, The Urban Retreat by Empire Building Company will be re-opened tomorrow for one day only.

Luxury apartment living

SANDRA ARGESE

When Geoff and Beth Nathan enlisted Residential Attitudes to bring their dream home – unlike any other in Subiaco – to life, the final result spoke volumes.

An unconventional ‘upside-down’ design was applied for the active retired couple looking to downsize

and live the bustling Subiaco life. The four-bedroom home’s soaring ceilings, airy open-plan living area and wide garage were just some of the inimitable features which helped achieve this.

Mr Nathan sat down with *New Homes* to talk about his building experience.

When making decisions about your home, how did you get inspired?

I have always been inspired. We built our previous home in Claremont, I have also built and sold homes and was, for many years, a director of a magazine called *Homes and Living*.

What prompted you to choose to build in Subiaco?

We purchased an apartment on Brigid Road in Subiaco in 2002 and leased it for 12 years. We sold our Claremont home in 2014 and after refurbishing Brigid Road, we moved in. We had no desire to move, however in my retirement I needed a project. In 2016 the last 10 blocks came up for sale in Subi Centro. I went to the auction and put my hand up. Halfway through building on the site, we decided to move in and not sell. We love Subiaco and believe it has a great future.

What did you want to achieve throughout the home?

We wanted the feeling of living in a luxurious apartment with a balcony overlooking the park, as well as the extra advantages of

privacy afforded by a townhouse. We wanted a lift, a living area on the first floor, a large north-facing balcony, the ground floor to be finished in engineered wood, large concrete-looking tiles and more.

What advice would you now give yourself at the beginning of the building process?

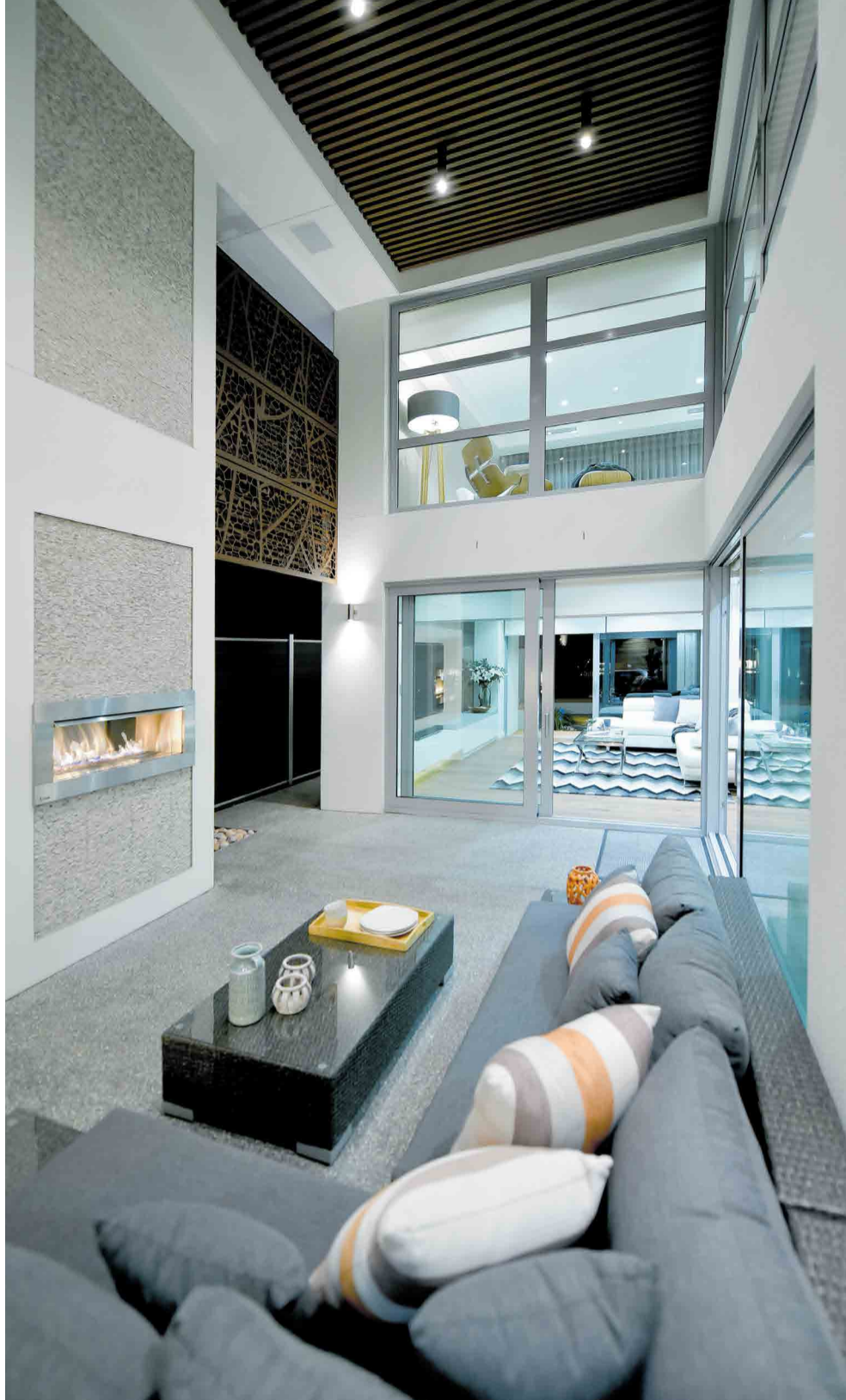
Take your time to finalise plans. Walk through the plans many times until your wife (or husband) and builder can’t stand any more of your queries. By the time you sign off you need to be as satisfied as you can that you will not require further changes.

What would you say to others who aren’t sure about building?

Don’t build unless you really want to, as in most cases there will be an already-built option. Don’t be scared about the building process, just do your homework and select a respected builder.

CONTACT

Residential Attitudes, 1800 958 039
www.residentialattitudes.com.au



Residential Attitudes’ custom build in Subiaco.

Enduring design on show again

JACK MCGINN

An award-winning past display inspired by the works of lauded American architect Frank Lloyd Wright will open its doors to the public one more time this weekend.

Built by Empire Building Company in Attadale, The Urban Retreat was designed in 2013 and won Townhouse of the Year \$450,000 and Over at both the HIA Perth and HIA Western Australian Housing Awards in 2015. The home went on to be a finalist in the HIA Australian Housing Awards in 2016, and continues to showcase many features desirable in today’s market.

The home features 374sqm of luxury living space, with open-plan design at its ground-floor heart and a dual frontage allowing the company to build it with two elevations.

A family home at its core, The Urban Retreat’s layout is cleverly set out so parents in the kitchen can supervise their children anywhere on the ground floor.

The upstairs is dedicated to a

bedroom quarters, with the ample frontage providing plenty of balcony space and a master suite offering a dressing room, a built-in bedhead, electric blinds and underfloor heating.

Empire Building Company Managing Director Andre Malecky said the past display was fondly remembered and stood the test of time to stand out in today’s market.

While the display was sold by Empire in 2016, the company has received permission to show off its standout build this weekend only.

“As the proud owners of The Urban Retreat, when asked by Andre if he could reopen the home to the public this weekend we were delighted,” the owners said. “We were also reassured that he had the confidence that our home was, after almost four years, still up to the close scrutiny of the interested public – it’s a testament to the quality of construction. It’s not surprising though, given the range of homes Empire has built since our Urban Retreat.

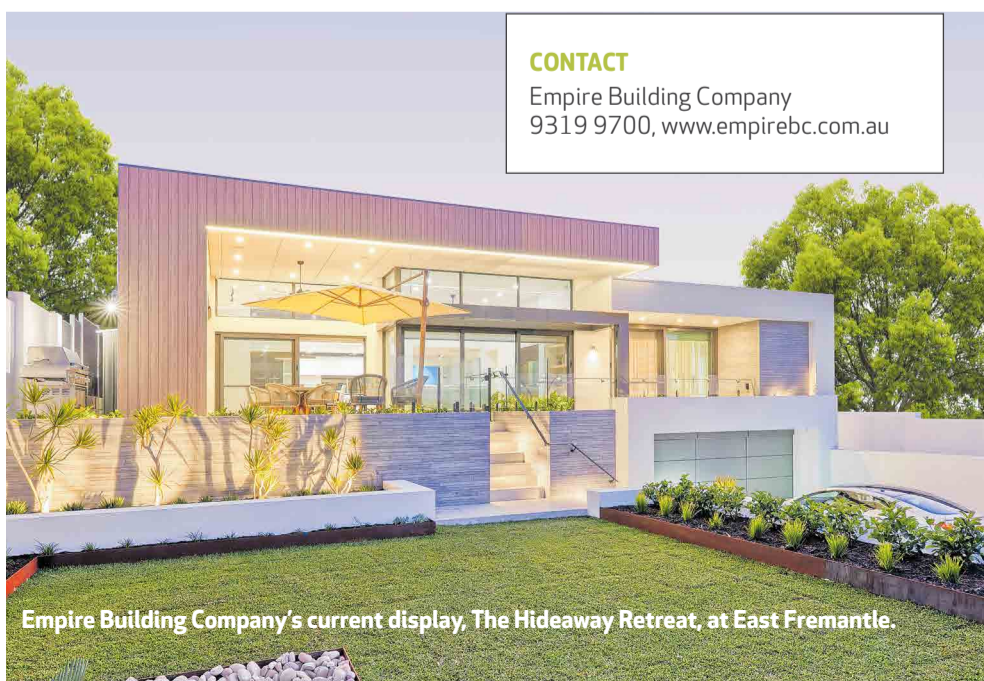
“We have lived in this amazing home since 2016 and still

appreciate the quality, style and function that Andre and his team created for us. The home has proven to meet and exceed expectations in every possible way – we welcome you to come see it for yourself.”

The home is located at 8A Ince Road, Attadale and will be open from 12.30-2.30pm tomorrow Sunday November 10.

It sits a short drive from Empire’s current display home, The Hideaway Retreat, which will be open from 1-4pm on Sunday at 7 Locke Crescent, East Fremantle.

The Hideaway Retreat’s regular open hours are Wednesdays 3-5.30pm, Thursdays 5-7.30pm and Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4pm.



CONTACT

Empire Building Company
9319 9700, www.empirebc.com.au

Empire Building Company’s current display, The Hideaway Retreat, at East Fremantle.