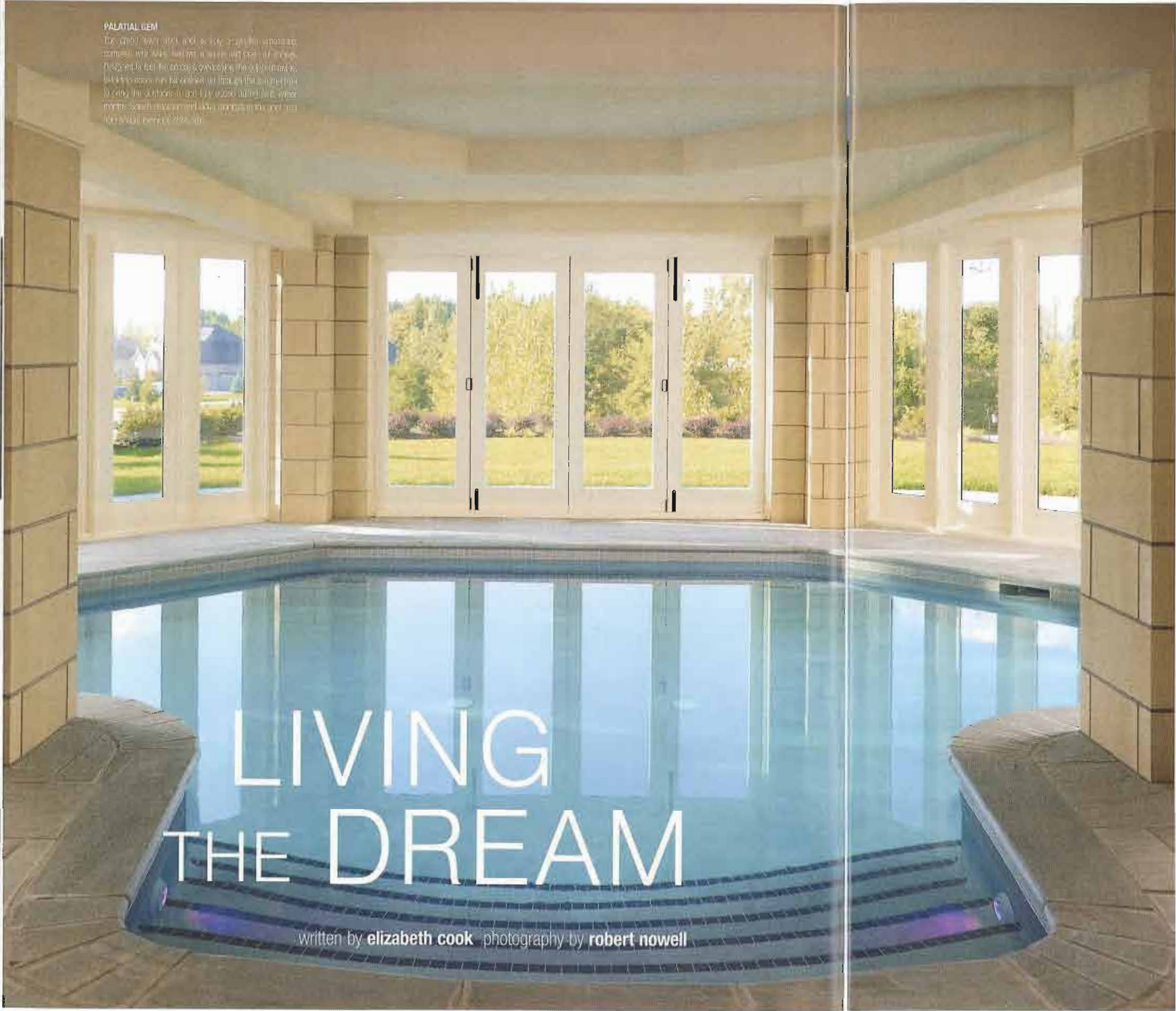


PALATIAL GEM

The great living area and the pool are separated by a wall of windows, a wall of light and air. Descending to the pool is a walkway with a stone wall, a wall of light and air. The pool is a masterpiece of design, a wall of light and air. The pool is a masterpiece of design, a wall of light and air.



# LIVING THE DREAM

written by elizabeth cook photography by robert nowell



Creativity, collaboration and attention to detail combine to produce a home that's both stunning and functional for a growing family

A

spectacular realization of what can be called the "transitional style," this home strikes a graceful balance between a modern and traditional look, where tailored lines and simplified elegance live harmoniously.

The homeowners are a young couple that desired a stunning and functional home in which to raise their growing children and share with their large, extended family. Though their tastes were extraordinary, they preferred a residence whose frontage felt unassuming; therefore, the rear elevation of the home actually reveals its true grandeur.

Against this backdrop, tiered landscaping complements the sloping property and private ravine beyond, and permits a walk-out basement with an indoor pool. The exterior of the home is Arriscraft Renaissance stone with stucco for a classic, European style, adorned by custom wrought iron railings, copper turrets and an abundance of additional copper detailing. >>



**CHERRY PEEKING**

The main floor study boasts unbelievable craftsmanship with panel work from floor to ceiling, done in solid cherry hardwood for the character of a private and refined library. All work completed on site by CroMade Cabinetry.



**OUT OF SIGHT PLEASURES**

Especially when using attractive, traditional wainscoting in central areas, classic details should never be glaringly spoiled by modern conveniences. Dell Smart Home Solutions takes required gizmos and gadgetry and expertly integrates and co-ordinates them, with one obvious benefit to this technology being the elimination of unsightly wall switches and TV boxes throughout the house. The lighting system is centrally controlled and adjustable for various situations by sleek, programmable keypads, and all audio visual electronics get their signal from hidden boxes, leaving a clean, uncluttered look everywhere in the home.

**WRAP IT UP**

An upper terrace from the master bedroom takes aerial advantage of the vista and looks over the Niagara Escarpment. This outdoor seating area with Cyprus wood ceilings and tiled floors has remote controlled screens that seemingly slide out of the arched beams above, making it a useable three-season room. Likewise, interior motorized window shade screens circle the entire home to manage solar gain.



**THE PAMPERED CHEF**

The spacious eat-in kitchen is visually open to the adjacent family room and provides an ample mudroom and a large, walk-in pantry to the sides. Working with a generous mahogany centre island and quartz counters on every surface, Tom Zivic from CroMade Cabinetry also custom designed and handcrafted the span of "face frame" cabinets using traditional millwork methods.

And while the outside features allow for the beautiful and low maintenance living the homeowners wanted, other comfortable and unique décor fine points abound within the interior. Not a single detail was overlooked in this 4,400-square-foot dream home.

Of particular note are the chosen finishes. Limestone and marble tile and hickory hand-scraped hardwood flooring are used throughout the home, alongside the extensive use of architectural wood detailing—including extra large trims, custom wall and ceiling panelling, interior solid wood eight-foot doors, and curved wood archways—exuding a stately, majestic atmosphere and craftsmanship.

Distinctly spacious and open, the home also resembles a vacation getaway with its inviting spa-like amenities, indoor pool, gourmet kitchen, alfresco living spaces and exquisite furnishings.

Commencing in August of 2009, the actual construction took about 18 months to complete, and the execution of the plan proved to be an impressive, adaptable journey. "The success of this project was born of an ability to make changes right through the building process in order to satisfy the homeowner's prefer-





**LAVISH AND LUXE**

The sumptuous master bedroom with ensuite was envisioned as a private respite from everyday stresses. A carefully planned layout benefits from panoramic views and has easy access by French doors onto an elevated back terrace to enjoy gorgeous sunsets. Outfitted with lavish fixtures, a frameless glass walk-in shower, private water closet, and tiled with marble throughout, it also bestows a wealth of floor to ceiling cabinetry, providing plenty of needed storage space.

**"CARRIE" ME AWAY**

His and hers dressing quarters each maintain a unique, boutique sophistication; hers is done in a high gloss, fashionable finish with custom glass door fronts, his is completed in classic wood for an old-world look. Inspired by Carrie's closet from TV's *Sex and the City*, the homeowner's dream was to have that same panache, while putting her own personalized spin on it. >>

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## DESIGNER SECRETS

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## Reinvented SPACE

ONE COUPLE'S JOURNEY FROM BARN  
TO CONTEMPORARY CONVERSION

## LIVING THE DREAM

A YOUNG FAMILY FINDS THEIR LOCAL PARADISE