

DESIGN STATEMENT

The client's brief to the architect was to design a house around a large kitchen that would be the centre and focal point of the house. The kitchen would be warm and inviting, used as a kitchen and not just admired, because this client loved to cook.

Her inspiration for the kitchen had been drawn from the old English style that displayed a sense of graciousness with the timeless classic features that blended with her new home designed in the old Federation style.

I was given architectural plans with some ideas that were not necessarily what the client was hoping to achieve.

On the plans I noticed there was a large cool-room and walk-in pantry behind the kitchen. I enquired as to why she wanted such a large area dedicated to a cool-room and she wasn't adamant about having this room as long as there was enough fridge space. Also on the plan was a separate room to be used as an office off the kitchen. I also questioned her as to why so much space was dedicated to an office and she said it was very important to have somewhere to control her household affairs close to the kitchen.

Knowing what was not a necessity and what was most important to her, I then made some suggestions about changing the pantry/cool-room area into a "Butlers Pantry" that would relieve the main kitchen of a lot of the day-to-day use. In the butler's pantry we designed space for three Liebherr fridge/freezer units, a combi microwave and oven, a steamer and a second sink with a zip hot water system for coffee etc.

This design would mean the kitchen could remain practically untouched while the food preparation and day-to-day use could all be contained within the butler's pantry if she wanted.

So this enabled me to design the main kitchen without any modern appliances such as fridges etc spoiling the traditional look.

Rarely comes along the opportunity to design a kitchen in such a large space and complement the casual elegance of a beautiful home with the classic details required to capture the authenticity of craftsmanship of past times.