

Tanglewood official residence updated

■ Montrose architect called \$1 million project challenging

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The \$1 million residential remodel of Norway's consul general official residence, 1024 Rocky River in Tanglewood, recently was completed.

Elisabeth Roderburg, the consul general, requested the remodeling to make the home more conducive to working, entertaining and raising a family.

Renovations began last September.

LBJ Construction, a Houston-based company that was in charge of the project, worked with architect Nancy Ganucheau, principal of That's Architecture, 2402 Commonwealth St. to complete the design.

The Montrose resident said she had begun the project with Ray Nayle of RNDesigns, but "tragically, (Nayle) passed away unexpectedly just before the house was completed, adding a note of sadness to the happy conclusion of what had been an

enjoyable construction experience."

The renovation of this home was completed in conjunction with Norway's 100th year celebration of independence.

Ganucheau said she was given specific instructions regarding the design of the project.

"The client wanted me to remember that Norway, while a wealthy nation, thought of themselves as a humble people who have not forgotten their roots," Ganucheau said.

"The design needed to make use of natural materials brought together in a simple, yet elegant way.

"This alone became my touchstone for every decision. Some of the materials selected were black slate for the floors and natural cherry for the millwork were used throughout the home."

Breck Powers, LBJ construction principal, said the overall goal was to "maintain the integrity of the home's original footprint and sustain Tanglewood's ranch-home theme."

"The renovations were chal-

lenging and unique due to the amount of work involved," Powers said.

Ganucheau said the job was challenging.

"Raising the ceiling in certain areas and popping up the roof, presents an interesting solution to the gloom brought about by the original home's ranch-style 8-foot ceiling heights," Ganucheau said.

"Although we could not change all of the ceiling heights because we were keeping the old house, we were able to raise the ceilings in some areas and put in larger windows with transoms allowing us to create varying ceiling heights, textural differences and varying light levels.

"For instance, in the public rooms, drawing room and dining room, the ceiling pops up to 14 feet with light streaming in through lots of tall windows."

The previously converted garage, which was a dark space with low ceilings, was torn down and rebuilt as a family's quarters, she said.

The renovations to the residence were completed in time to celebrate Constitution Day, which is May 17 and is Norway's equivalent of the Fourth of July, she said.



GANUCHEAU