



HOMEFRONT

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HOMEFRONT EDITOR: MARK TREMBLAY | mtremblay@thegazette.canwest.com

F3 Shelter F6 REAL ESTATE CLASSIFIED ADS

RANDOM SAMPLER

A selection of recent Montreal-area real-estate transactions



Beaconsfield
100 Celtic Drive, cottage, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 1 powder room, sauna, 2 fireplaces, west-facing backyard with stream, finished basement, 2-car garage. Taxes (municipal, school): \$6,913. Valuation: \$480,900. Asking price: \$449,000. **Sold for \$410,000.** Listing agent: Sabina Gabriel, Royal LePage Village.



Brossard
1065 Colomb Ave., cottage, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and 1 powder room, finished basement, natural gas heating. Built in 2006. Taxes (municipal and school): \$4,844. Evaluation: \$375,700. Asking price: \$439,000. **Sold for \$426,000.** Listing agent: Raymond Tsim, Royal LePage Raymond Tsim Inc.



N.D.G.
4427 Hingston Ave., cottage, 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 powder room, electric heating, finished basement. Built in 1964. Taxes (municipal, school): \$5,034. Valuation: \$405,600. Asking price: \$559,000. **Sold for \$509,000.** Listing agent: Laura Campanelli and Darquise Paquin, Groupe Sutton Centre Ouest Inc..



Pointe Claire
119 Ambassador Ave., cottage, 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 powder room, electric heating. Built in 1962. Taxes (municipal, school): \$3,329. Valuation: \$216,300. Asking price: \$284,900. **Sold for \$288,000.** Listing agents: Francesco Pompilio Royal LePage Global and Vasiliki Kapantais Royal LePage Anne Shears Alliance.

If you are an agent and want to submit your listings that have sold, email them to realstate@thegazette.canwest.com. Include a digital photo and the listing info.



Designer Tracey Mackenzie, left, visits with architect Pamela Plumb in the almost 200-year-old house Plumb rebuilt and added to in Pointe Claire.

LOOK DEEPER Architect saw beyond the sagging roof and hole in the floor of an 1830 house and wasn't even daunted by taking it apart piece by piece and rebuilding it

Marriage of old and new

STEPHANIE WHITTAKER SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

There were folks who thought Pamela Plumb had taken leave of her senses after she bought an 1830 house in Pointe Claire village nine years ago with a plan to resuscitate it. The place was decrepit, barely fit for human habitation.

But Plumb, an architect, saw beyond the hole in the living room floor that revealed the earth beneath, the sagging beams, the tiny bathroom tucked under a stairwell and the layers of wallpaper dating back more than a century. And in time, she not only renovated the building to be used as her professional office, she also designed a show-stopping contemporary home, which she annexed to the back of the historic structure to create a blissful marriage of old and new.

She inhabits the space, which overlooks a wide expanse of Lake St. Louis, with her husband, Raj Dhindsa, and her mother, Katharine Ivey.

The whole project is actually an act of love – love of family and of the natural environment. Plumb, a native of Seattle, wanted her elderly mother to come to Canada to live with her. “My mother



Office in the 1830 house in Pointe Claire which was taken apart and rebuilt by Pamela Plumb.

was living on Vashon Island, off Seattle, in a converted fire hall and she wanted the village life and to be close to the water,” Plumb said.

“That combination was hard to find here. But then we saw this old house in Pointe Claire village. When I went to view it, it was in such bad shape that the real

estate agent didn't want to come in.”

The tiny seigneurial-style house, which nestles up against the sidewalk of one of the village's narrow side streets, was beside another house, built in the 1920s and the two structures were being sold as one property. “They were two feet apart and they

were attached at the back,” Plumb said. “The city wanted us to preserve the older house.”

So she devised a plan to demolish the 1920s structure, save the 1830 one and attach a contemporary home behind it on the spit of land between the old house and the shoreline. What followed was a

long period of negotiation with the Pointe Claire administration to get permission, which was complicated by the stringent regulations that come into play when construction is done beside a waterway.

Despite the dilapidated state of the old house, Plumb and Dhindsa fell in love with it and ultimately saved it by disassembling and rebuilding it. “If you're an architect, these things don't daunt you,” Plumb said. “We took down the little house by hand with friends; we had deconstruction parties. We saved everything that wasn't rotten and numbered every piece.”

And what she discovered in the process was what she calls “a history of construction materials from the 19th and 20th centuries,” which had been added in layers over 200 years. “We reassembled the structure as it might have been when it was originally built,” she said.

The little building now houses Plumb's architectural office and, on the second storey, a home office for Dhindsa, who is a professor of biology at McGill University.

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LIZA KAUFMAN
514.232.5932

lizakaufman.com
Chartered real estate agent | Managing Director