

Renovations of the year

WORKING with difficult access and live-in clients is never easy but these additions make it look like light work.

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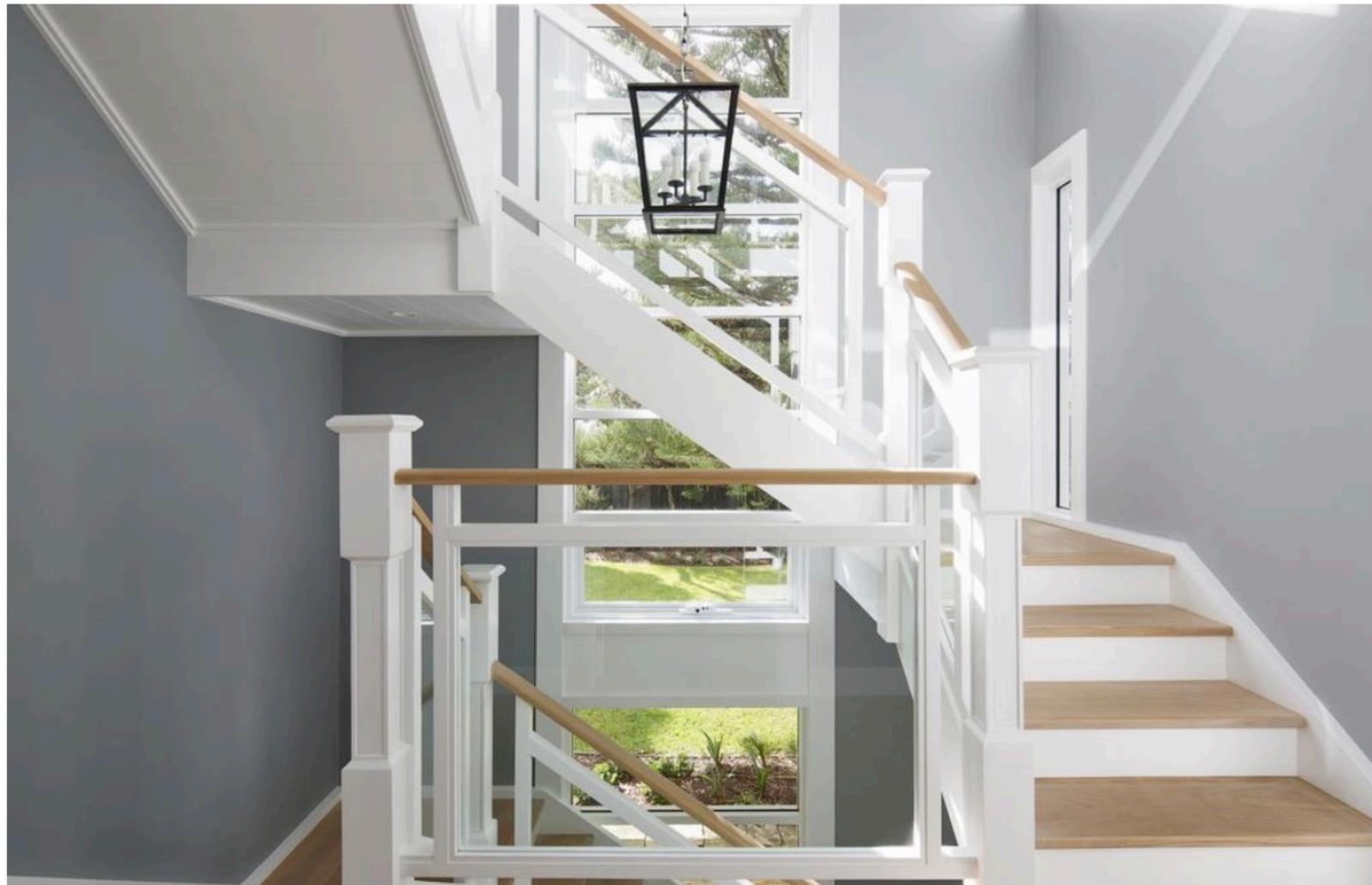
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It's not often you get the chance to return to a house you once worked on but that was the position director of Beach Houses Australia Tom Hicks found himself in with this beachfront home which won Renovation of the Year.

From modest but beautiful projects demonstrating attention to detail on a budget to jaw-dropping homes that showcase innovation and a stunning response to the landscape, this year's winners reveal a plethora of builders with the right recipe for success.

RENOVATION OF THE YEAR



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BEACH HOUSES AUSTRALIA

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Tom had worked on the house in the early 2000s under the direction of his father John Hicks and Peter Paine of Hicks Paine Builders.

Understanding how the house was put together was a key advantage for working on the house, which had suffered from exposure to the elements on the beachfront site.

Although the builders had allocated 24 months to upgrade the house with everything from CBUS home automation and rainwater harvesting to a 15KW solar PV cell system, the owners challenged them to get the job done in 14 months.

This meant that up to 50 workers were on site at a time, with 20 people allocated to carpentry alone.