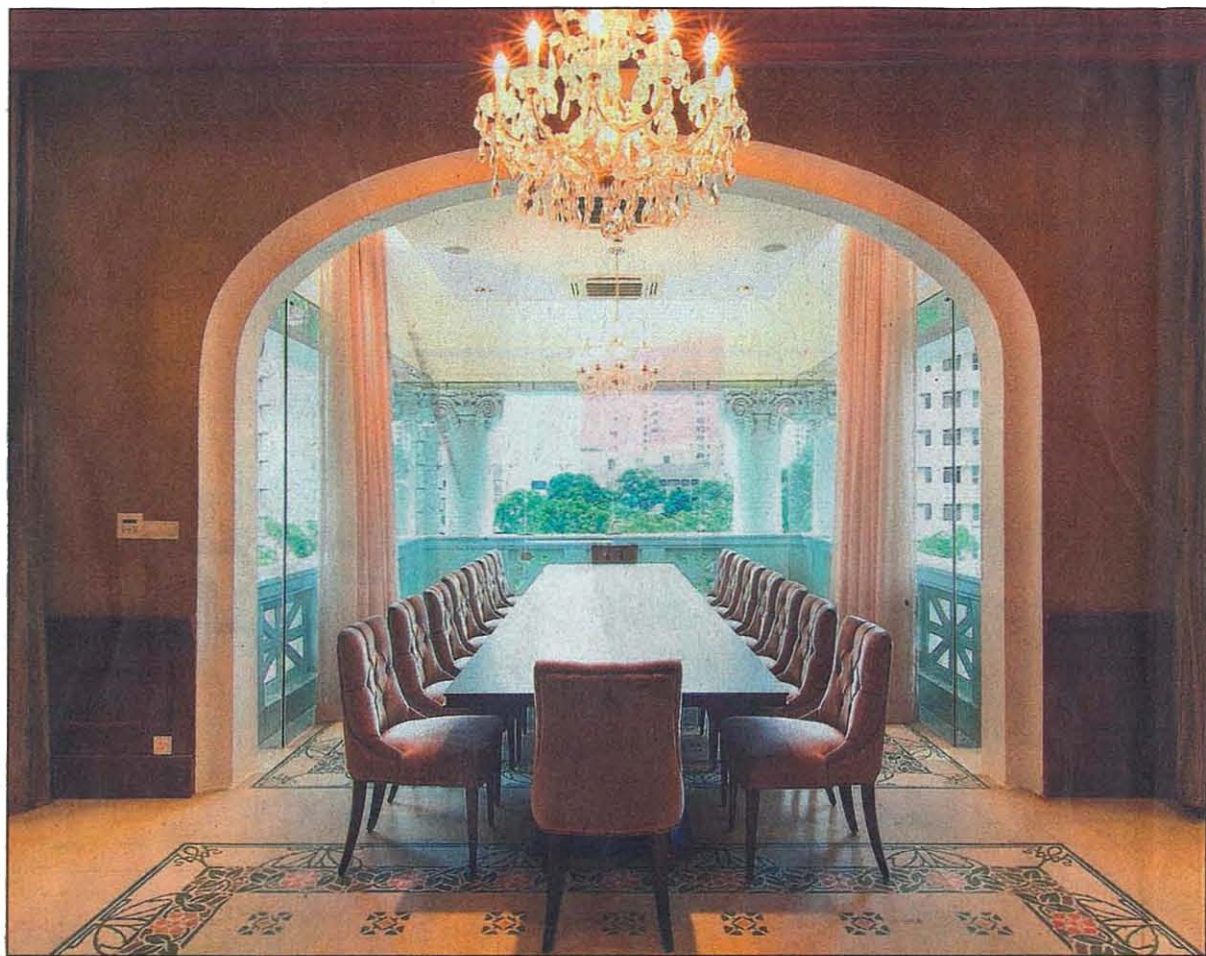


# life! *home & garden*



## Open house

From previous page

**42 Cairnhill Road (Tan Chin Tuan Mansion) (Category B winner)**

**What:** A 1930s bungalow now used for functions

**Size:** 6,780 sq ft

**Architect:** Gieto Sugianto of Architects 61

**Owner:** Chew Kwee San of Cairnhill Rock, a business entity

Drive down Cairnhill Road and it is easy to spot an 80-year-old bungalow standing in front of a new 20-storey residential tower.

The two-storey bungalow once belonged to the late philanthropist Tan Chin Tuan and was used as a private residence by the Tan family for decades.

The biggest restoration challenge for Architects 61 was the



**A luxurious dining area (top) is among the additions to the Tan Chin Tuan Mansion (left), a former private residence-turned-event space. PHOTOS: ARCHITECTS 61**

limited information and documentation on the place. It had to rely on old photos instead.

Architects 61's Gieto Sugianto recalls sourcing Peranakan tiles throughout Malaysia and Vietnam to get some as close to the original as possible.

To reconfigure the mansion into an event space, a timber staircase at the mansion's centre was removed.

The house's foundation had to

be strengthened when a new basement carpark surrounding it was dug out.

Then there was the challenge of integrating the old with the new. The new residential block was built so that it cantilevers the old mansion. This highlights the mansion even more, and the new building becomes a backdrop to the old one, say the architects.