

# *Small condo is memorable infill project*

*Euclid Ave. condo has art deco feel*



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Critic's Eye

Though it has suffered at the hands of innumerable home-improvers, Euclid Ave. remains one of those archetypal Toronto thoroughfares that makes the city so liveable. It can't be described as beautiful, but its consistency and coherence give it enough appeal to compensate for that.

The advent of Euclid Lofts, 257 Euclid, is proof that small infill projects can enhance a context such as this even as they bring density and modernity to the neighbourhood. Built from two existing anonymous boxes, the new condo transforms them into something quite

memorable.

The façade, finished in white stucco with black trim, has a vaguely art deco feel to it. The geometry is square; it has none of the triangular shapes associated with the Victorian architecture that abounds in the area. But with its large windows and simple shapes, that becomes an asset.

Behind the façade, the two-storey building reverts to yellow brick. The side units are accessible from a narrow passageway. With one wall painted yellow, this potentially nasty space is actually a pleasant feature. In too many such projects, it would have been a necessity one would try to ignore.

The small front yard, filled with gravel instead of grass, enhances the crisp, clean lines of the renovation.

**GRADE: A**

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