

On the market: Palm Beach condo with a view of the lake was a 'perfect' pied-à-terre

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REAL-ESTATE

Robin Reardon and Norman Nelson renovated their Palm Beach Towers condo after buying it in 2014. They have the two-bedroom apartment, No. 512A, listed at \$3.95 million.

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Special to the Palm Beach Daily News



In a renovating and redecorating project, it helps when an interior design pro is part of the family, says Robin Reardon, who with husband Norman Nelson owns a lakeview condominium at Palm Beach Towers in Midtown.

When they were New York City residents, the couple had rented a unit at Palm Beach Towers and loved living there, so after they decided to buy a condo in 2014, they settled on a fixer-upper in the development at 44 Coconut Row.

“It was very dark and tired,” Reardon recalls about No. 512A. “My sister, April Russell, who now lives on Garden Road (in Palm Beach), originally lived in London and is a decorator. She did our apartment in the city and we asked her to help me decorate our apartment here in Palm Beach.”

With her help, the couple completely redid the apartment, which they have enjoyed over the years. But today they are considering other living arrangements.

“We haven’t quite decided what we are going to do. We will see how it all goes,” says Reardon.



In any event, they are selling their two-bedroom, two-bath condo with 1,500 square feet of living space, inside and out. It is listed with Palm Beach Residential Properties broker Cappy Abraham for \$3.95 million, with the furniture available separately.

It may have been “dark and tired” to Reardon when she first saw it, but it also had a terrace, a big plus for her at the time. “I was still smoking, and I needed a terrace to smoke on, so we bought it,” she admits.

Nelson chimes in with his positive recollections: “It had a great view and two bedrooms,” explains the retired attorney.

Reardon finishes his thought: “Which was perfect for us and fitted our needs,” she says. “Since we were New York City residents, it was like our little pied-à-terre.”

All of the rooms face south, with a view across the condominium’s pool area. Their terrace, with south and west views, captures vistas from the Intracoastal Waterway to the West Palm Beach skyline.

The couple’s update of the 1950s-era apartment included covering the walls in the main areas with fabric; replacing the old floors with creamy white hardwood and sisal carpeting; redoing the bathrooms in marble; and installing custom cabinetry by the West Palm Beach firm Porath Fine Cabinetry in the kitchen, bathrooms, office and closets.



The kitchen also has stainless high-end appliances and a mirrored backsplash.

Reardon and her sister also repainted and added new moldings, curtains and shades throughout. They replaced the air-conditioning system, redid the terrace, and relocated the washer and dryer to a closet by the bedrooms.

“Everything is fixed and perfect, and we think Palm Beach Towers is amazing,” says Reardon, who worked as a real estate agent in New York City. “Everyone is so helpful — and, of course, we have Restaurant 44 (onsite) and can order up” for room service.

Palm Beach Towers stands on 11-and-a-half acres with a pool and putting green facing the Intracoastal Waterway, just south of the Royal Poinciana Plaza and about a block from the Flagler Memorial Bridge. The building has 24-hour security and door staff, and offers concierge services to its residents.

In addition to Restaurant 44, which also provides indoor and outdoor dining, Market 44 offers breakfast, lunch and poolside dining service. Venues within the development include Cosmo Salon & Spa, a tailoring shop, an on-site masseuse, and a health club and exercise studio with complimentary classes.

On the site of Henry M. Flagler's original Royal Poinciana Hotel, Palm Beach Towers was built as an apartment hotel in 1956 and converted to condominiums in 1973 by the late Harry and Leona Helmsley. There are two six-story towers — the north tower "A" building and the south tower "B" building. Both towers are connected at three levels, with the second level offering professional offices and a library.

"We will miss Palm Beach Towers and our sweet apartment and its views, which are so lovely," Reardon says. "It is so beautiful to see all the lights at night from West Palm Beach. I love that because I am a New York City girl."

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