

well as international celebrities such as Andrew Lloyd Webber. Recent projects to which Browne has lent his toney English look include an apartment in Manhattan's Trump Tower, a horse farm in Kentucky, and the Indiana country house he designed for television star Oprah Winfrey.

Browne was destined for Sandhurst and a military career, but when his patriarchal grandfather died, he found his way into business. His path to interior design had many detours. At nineteen, he drove the Bentley he inherited from his grandfather to Monte Carlo. He intended to hire himself out as a driver until a small headline ran in the *London Daily Mirror*: "Anthony Browne—Kinsman of Marquess of Sligo—Cabdriver in Monte Carlo."

In his twenties, he landed a job as assistant to the famous Robert Stigwood, who with Brian Epstein managed the Beatles. Browne managed the Bee Gees' world tour but in 1972 opted out of the high-pressure pop-music world, first, to dress windows for Christian Dior in London and then to direct Starcraft, a family business devoted to textile cleaning and restoration. In eight years, he propelled Starcraft from a well-kept secret of the aristocracy to a nationally known company. In the process, Browne became an expert on restoring dyes and glazing chintzes. He also gained firsthand knowledge of the interiors of many important British stately houses.

By the late 1970s, Browne had acquired an American clientele and decided to open a branch of Starcraft in Georgetown. "People were asking me to do curtains and then whole rooms. The interior design work quickly overtook Starcraft," Browne recalls. His revamping of Mrs. Evangeline Bruce's bedroom in 1981 was followed by work for the Phillips and Gardner families and Oatsie Charles, Nancy Reagan's friend.

Since 1980, Browne has lived in a

