

# SCC/ASLA 2014 Quality of Life Design Awards ~ Image Summary: Evans Residence-Little Court

(use 50 words or less)



1. The Master Plan helps to illustrate the unique characteristics of the lot. Once much larger, the grounds have been greatly carved away. Formality orders the composition closer to the house while the gardens spread out and become somewhat more eclectic and a bit wild at the edges.



2. A host of factors necessitated augmenting the highlighted area. New gardens, stairs, pool and spa, sections of driveway, courtyards and walks merge seamlessly with the existing gardens. The plan solves circulation, parking, and arrival issues and heals wounds inflicted by years of damage caused by subdivision and neglect of the gardens.



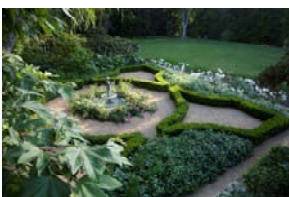
3. The long driveway is framed by oaks and hedged Pittosporum undulatum trees. Large sections of the property have never had irrigation and are planted with resilient plantings that have withstood decades of neglect. We built the palette of new plants for the garden on the backbone of what has withstood the test of time.



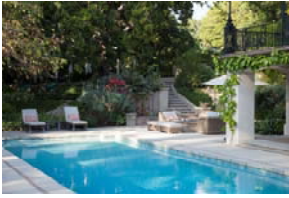
4. Ninety year-old remnants in the garden...brick-on-sand and washed concrete...were the inspiration for the new motor court which replaced a narrow angled driveway that almost touched the house. One hundred year old Olive trees were repositioned to frame the new arrival sequence.



5. The front courtyard was originally the rear terrace of the home...it looked like visitors were being asked to sneak in! The new court provides a much stronger sense of arrival and weaves together the details and plantings unique to Little Court. Iron, tile, cast stone, brick and Mediterranean planting coalesce in this arrival space.



6. A terrace in the back yard relates axially to a prominent prow of the architecture and creates a beautiful vista. Previously a forlorn portion of the gardens, the new knot garden of Boxwood, decomposed granite, and gravel showcases how formality and a water-wise approach can coexist beautifully.



7. Replacing a pool that had been added to the lower level courtyard in the 1940's, the new pool is centered within a framework of historic walls and architecture. The curved staircase and fountain is a new addition allowing much improved circulation from the new kitchen and historic Wisteria Terrace on the level above.



8. A new fountain is a focal element from a host of vantage points. It replaces a crumbling site wall holding a terrace with a stunning Strawberry tree. The scratch coat plaster matches the historic walls and the reproduction Batchelder tile echoes the onlooking terraces.



9. A fascinating part of the history of the property is the decorative tile by Ernest Batchelder that embellishes terraces and the original front staircase. Working with tile artisans in Los Angeles, we carefully restored the existing areas and added reproduction tile to the pool, new lower loggia, curved staircase, and fountain.



10. A new two-story addition with wood shop below and garages above created a need to extend the gardens on the south side of the property. Old and new, native and Mediterranean, fragments and details all come together as a unified whole in the restored gardens of Little Court.