

## Desert Lifestyles / the Private Gardens of Paradise Valley



'Poolside in Arizona' © Slim Aarons 1973

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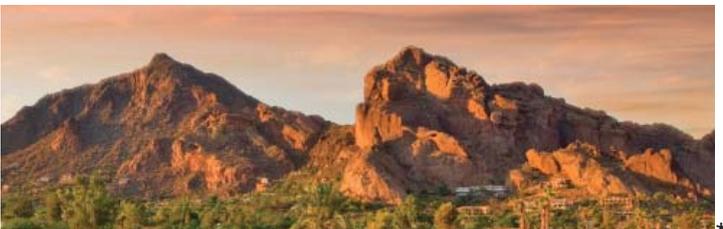
## The Significance of Camelback Mountain

Camelback Mountain is a prominent landmark and a valuable public amenity in the Valley. It has evolved over the years as a desirable area to live and has become a status symbol. Consequently, the mountain has been built upon and commoditized in ways that affects the work of the Landscape Architect. Views to the mountain inform and shape the design of buildings and sites; preservation or negation of views can lead to conflict; public access to hiking trails creates problems in both the private and public realm. The mountain also provides opportunities with dramatic changes in grades unique in this largely level city, interesting microclimates for planting and spectacular views.

The mountain was originally reserved for an Indian reservation in the late 1800s. By the 1940s, nearly the entire mountain was privately owned, and finally in 1968, after multiple unsuccessful County, State and Federal efforts to restrict development above the 1,600-foot level, Camelback Mountain became a City park.

The higher part of the peak, the “hump” is Precambrian granite (ca. 1.5 billion years old), while the “head” is primarily made up of layered red sedimentary sandstone from the Tertiary period (ca. 25 million years old). It is an extremely popular recreation destination for hiking and rock climbing, with two strenuous summit trails ascending 1,280 feet in elevation. Tree and plant species are characteristic of the lower Sonoran Desert and include Ironwood, Palo Verde, and Mesquite trees, Saguaro, Ocotillo, and several cacti species including Prickly Pear, Barrel, Hedgehog, and Jumping Cholla.

The Town of Paradise Valley is a unique residential community located largely to the north and east of the mountain. Residents treasure unobstructed views of prominent geographical features, the desert environment, privacy, dark skies and protection against noise and air pollution. The Arcadia area of Phoenix lies directly south of Camelback Mountain and is made up of large residential ranch-style homes built on former citrus groves, with well-irrigated lush landscaping.



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# Challenges & Opportunities of Shaping the Landscape in the Desert

## Ordering the landscape

- Respecting the natural order of the landscape and making informed, defensible decisions while adapting the environment to create meaningful and appropriate gardens.

## Influence of architectural styles

- Reactions to imported regional perception of the landscape
- Borrowed styles
- Native Planting pros and cons

## Outdoor living

- Seasonal (8 months out of year)
- Amenities that everyone wants to have: swimming pools, fire pits/fireplaces, outdoor BBQ's and kitchens, outdoor living rooms, etc.
- Water features: Oasis, cooling effect, masks urban noise pollution, water for wildlife, reflection, play. Discuss technical issues such as size, durability of materials and algae as a design element.

## Desert and desert-adapted plants – very diverse, wild and wonderful

- Phoenix started national native plant movement (Ron Gass @ Mountain States Wholesale Nursery, 1969)
- No water use, low water-use and moderate water use plants
- Leaf structure of typical plants in this region
- Edible landscapes – citrus (one of 5-C's of Arizona)
- Landscape plants as sculpture in the garden
- Variety of trees, cacti, succulents – attracting wildlife
- Low maintenance plants – just give them room
- Turf in the desert – play and retention

## Shade in the desert

- Average daily temperature in the summer
- Seasons when we spend a lot of time in our gardens
- Natural vs. structured

## Irrigation techniques

- Flood irrigation
- Spray/Sprinkler
- Drip systems

## Material vocabulary in desert gardens

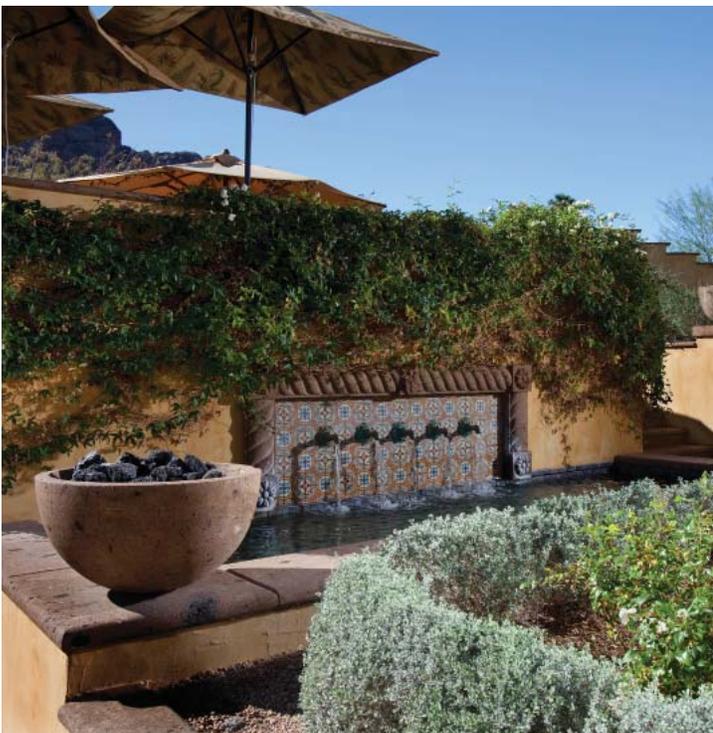
- Compatibility with harshness of climate
- Materials that complement architectural style
- Desert needs permeable surfaces: pervious concrete, pavers, decomposed granite
- Durable materials that can withstand the heat: Concrete, stabilized decomposed granite, stone, glass, steel, concrete block, plaster
- Materials we can add the desert soil to: rammed earth, concrete
- Decomposed granite mulch/top dressing: why we don't use other types more common in other parts of the USA.
- Low maintenance materials



This 1.7 acre lot, with spectacular views of Camelback Mountain, was designed for an avid traveler and art collector. The gardens were designed as a series of collections inspired by the homeowner's favorite travel destinations and pastime activities, and were positioned to maximize superb views of the mountains and Arizona sunsets. The design references areas like the Cinque Terra, Andalusian Courtyards, Italian Villas, as well as a moonlight garden and a butterfly and hummingbird garden to create the "collection of gardens", each unique in feeling and style yet blended effortlessly from one to another to create a cohesive composition. The style of the garden reflects our Spanish history in Arizona and compliments the style of the residence.

### **Significant Features**

- The garden was developed as a direct extension of the client's personality by reflecting her hobbies, travel experiences and interests. It is an excellent example of how the architecture, site, client's personality and program merge in a way that work together seamlessly.
- Project materials include tumbled travertine, hand-carved Cantera stone pots, fountains, house trim, and fire features, stucco, Saltillo tile; and antique floor tiles.
- The selection of the boulders used on the project was somewhat challenging as the color needed to be a near perfect match to the distant mountains to "connect" the mountain to the garden. The zero-edge swimming pool was designed to create a calmness in the garden and reflect the mountain views.
- Boulders were set into the pool to accentuate that connection.
- The sunken area in the rear yard as well as the dry stream in the front are actually retention basins that were required by local code to hold the large volume of water required by code to be retained after rainfall.



## Planting Design

The selection of plants was driven by the concept plan and the feeling of the various gardens on site.

### Trees / Palms / Citrus

Acacia willardiana / Palo Blanco  
Bauhinia lunarioides / Anacacho Orchid Tree  
Caesalpinia mexicana / Mexican Bird of Paradise  
Cercidium microphyllum Foothills Palo Verde  
Cercis canadensis 'Mexicana' / Mexican Redbud  
Chitalpa tashkentensis / Chitalpa  
Cupressus arizonica 'Blue Pyramid' / Blue Pyramid Cypress  
Dalbergia sissoo / Sissoo Tree  
Lysiloma microphylla / Desert Fern  
Prosopis velutina / Native Mesquite  
Olea europaea 'Swan Hill' / Fruitless Olive  
Olneya tesota / Ironwood Tree  
Pistacia chinensis / Chinese Pistache  
Pithecellobium flexicaule / Texas Ebony  
Prosopis chilensis / Chilean Mesquite  
Pyrus kawakamii / Evergreen Pear  
Ungnadia speciosa / Mexican Buckeye  
Bismarckia nobilis / Bismarck Palm  
Brahea armata / Mexican Blue Fan  
Chamaerops humilis / Mediterranean Fan Palm  
Phoenix dactylifera 'Medjool' / Date Palm  
Citrus spp., various

### Accents

Agave attenuata / Foxtail Agave  
Agave colorata / Mescal Ceniza  
Agave desmettiana / Smooth Agave  
Agave geminiflora / Twin-flowered Agave  
Agave havardiana / Harvard Agave  
Agave tequilana / Tequilana Agave  
Agave weberi / Weber's Agave  
Asparagus densiflorus 'Meyers' / Myers Asparagus  
Canna 'Tropicana' / Canna Lily  
Cycas revoluta / Sago Palm  
Dietes bicolor / Fortnight Lily  
Dracaena marginata / Dracaena  
Euphorbia antisyphilitica / Candelilla  
Euphorbia rigida / Gopher Plant  
Ferocactus wislizenii / Fishhook Barrel Cactus  
Fouquieria splendens / Ocotillo  
Muhlenbergia capillaris 'Regal Mist' / Pink Muhly  
Pachycereus marginatus / Mexican Fencepost  
Pedilanthus macrocarpus / Lady's Slipper  
Trichocereus candicans / Argentine Giant  
Yucca rostrata Chihuahuan / Desert Yucca

### Shrubs

Anisacanthus quadrifidus 'Mexican Flame' / Desert Honeysuckle  
Buddleia marrubifolia / Woolly Butterfly Bush  
Calliandra californica / Baja fairy duster  
Cordia parvifolia / Little-leaf Cordia  
Cuphea llavea / Bat-faced Cuphea  
Dalea frutescens 'Sierra Negra' / Dalea  
Dodonaea viscosa / Hop Bush  
Ericameria laricifolia / Turpentine Bush

### Shrubs Cont.

Hibiscus rosa-sinensis / Chinese Hibiscus  
Ilex vomitoria 'Nana' / Dwarf Yaupon Holly  
Justicia californica / Chuparosa  
Justicia candicans / Red Justicia  
Justicia spicigera / Mexican honeysuckle  
Leucophyllum candidum 'Silver Cloud' / Violet Silverleaf  
Leucophyllum candidum 'Thundercloud' / Thundercloud Silverleaf  
Leucophyllum frutescens / Texas Sage  
Leucophyllum laevigatum / Chihuahuan Rain Sage  
Leucophyllum langmaniae 'Lynn's Legacy' / Texas ranger  
Penstemon ambiguus / Sand Penstemon  
Penstemon eatonii / Firecracker Penstemon  
Penstemon parryi / Parry's Penstemon  
Penstemon strictus / Rocky Mountain Penstemon  
Salvia clevelandii / Cleveland Sage  
Salvia chamaedryoides / Germander Sage  
Salvia leucantha / Mexican Bush Sage  
Strelitzia reginae / Bird of Paradise

### Groundcovers / Vines

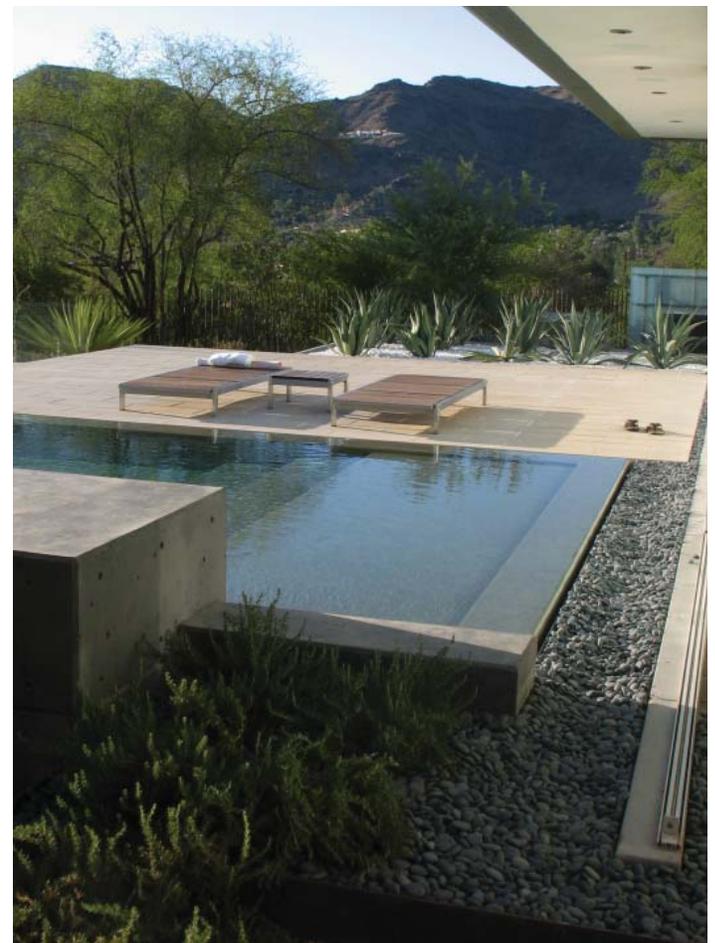
Antigonon leptopus / Queen's wreath  
Artemisia 'Powis Castle' / Powis Castle Artemisia  
Bougainvillea 'Rosenka' / Bougainvillea  
Dyssodia pentachaeta / Golden Dyssodia  
Erigeron divergens / Native Fleabane  
Eupatorium greggii 'Boothill' / Gregg's Boneset  
Ficus pumila / Creeping Fig  
Hardenbergia violacea / Lilac Vine  
Hymenoxys acaulis / Angelita Daisy  
Lantana 'Gold Mound' / Lantana  
Lantana montevidensis / Trailing Lantana  
Melampodium leucanthum / Blackfoot Daisy  
Parthenocissus spp. / Hacienda Creeper  
Passiflora alatacaerulea / Passion Vine  
Rosa 'White Carpet' / Rose  
Rosa banksiae / Lady Banks Rose  
Rosmarinus officinalis 'Prostratus' / Rosemary  
Ruellia peninsularis / Desert Ruellia  
Setcreasea pallida / Purple Heart  
Teucrium chamaedrys / Trailing Germander  
Thymus praecox arcticus / Creeping Thyme  
Thymus serpyllum / Mother of Thyme  
Thymus vulgaris / Common Thyme  
Verbena rigida / Prairie Verbena  
Wedelia trilobata / Yellow dot  
Zinnia acerosa / Desert Zinnia  
Zinnia grandiflora / Prairie Zinnia



The Hiemenz residence is a home and garden renovation on a hillside site in Paradise Valley. The gardens are extensions of the architecture and provide a series of spaces for outdoor living. The gardens are a direct reflection of the owner's aesthetic and design sensibility which he conveyed through close collaboration during design and construction.

### Significant Features

- The project reflects the owner's interest in architecture and design and is the result of his direct involvement in the process.
- Cast in place concrete, glass and steel were the basic elements of construction used in a variety of ways to provide screening, create visual interest and create outdoor rooms.
- Simple concrete cubes connected with glass form a minimalist outdoor kitchen. Concrete benches and planters create a sculptural outdoor lounge. Cantilevered glass concrete and floating glass panels create an interesting fireplace intended to screen negative views to neighboring properties. A translucent glass screen was used to create privacy and provide strong ambient lighting at the entry courtyard.



## Planting Design

Planting was ordered based upon site conditions and use. Hillside landscapes were restored using native species. Screening was provided with native landscape along select property and site lines. Courtyard, patio and pool area landscapes were arranged in a formal, sculptural manner using primarily cacti, succulents and accents.

### Trees

Caesalpinia mexicana / Mexican Bird of Paradise  
Ebonopsis ebano / Texas Ebony  
Prosopis velutina / Native Mesquite  
Olneya tesota / Ironwood  
Parkinsonia sp. / Palo Verde

### Succulents

Agave americana  
Agave bovicornuta  
Agave colorata  
Agave desertii  
Agave desmettiana var.  
Agave durango  
Agave medio alba picta  
Agave murphyi  
Agave weberii  
Agave parryi  
Agave titanota  
Agave triangularis  
Agave vilmoriniana  
Aloe brevifolia  
Aloe dawseii / Dawseii's Aloe  
Aloe nobilis  
Aloe striata / Striated Aloe  
Asclepias subulata / Desert Milkweed  
Euphorbia antisiphilitica / Candelilla  
Hesperaloe funifera / Giant Hesperaloe  
Hesperaloe parviflora / Red Yucca  
Hesperaloe nocturna / Night Blooming Hesperaloe  
Pedilanthus macrocarpus / Lady's Slipper  
Yucca bacatta  
Yucca faxoniana  
Yucca pallida  
Yucca pendula

### Shrubs

Calliandra californica / Baja Fairy Duster  
Dalea pulchra / Indigo Bush  
Dasylirion quadrangulatum / Toothless Desert Spoon  
Dodonea viscosa / Hop Bush  
Encelia farinosa / Brittlebush  
Fouquieria macdougalii / Tree Ocotillo  
Fouquieria splendens / Ocotillo  
Gaura lindheimeri 'siskiyou pink' / Pink Gaura  
Hyptis emoryi / Desert lavender  
Justicia californica / Chuparosa  
Lavendula sp. / Spanish Lavendar  
Penstemon sp.  
Rosemarinus sp. / Tuscan Blue Rosemary  
Ruellia peninsularis / Desert Ruellia  
Salvia clevelandii / Chaparral Sage

### Shrubs Cont.

Salvia leucantha / Mexican Sage  
Vaquelinia californica / Arizona Rosewood  
Viguera deltoidea / Golden Eye

### Cacti

Cleistocactus strausii / Silver Torch  
Echinocactus sp. / Golden Barrel  
Echinocereus sp. / Hedgehog  
Echinopsis pachanoi / San Pedro  
Lemaireocereus marginatus / Mexican Fence Post  
Mammillaria sp. / Pincushion  
Opuntia basilaris  
Opuntia robusta  
Opuntia rufida  
Opuntia santa rita  
Trichocereus sp. / Argentine Giant

### Vines

Parthenocissus sp. / Hacienda Creeper





The recent renovation of this large patio home built in the late 1970's provided an opportunity for genuine indoor/outdoor living. As a winter home for the client, the design needed to capture the opportunity for outdoor winter living as well as a singular view of Camelback Mountain. The hardscape design complements the newly renovated interior/exterior architecture and bold sculptural vegetation enhances the strong architecture of the house as well as the hardscape. The two distinct garden areas were designed so that the client could find solitude in his garden as well as entertain friends and family. The main garden has a large lap pool as the focal point flanked on each end with outdoor entertainment spaces and the solitude/contemplation garden has a minimal feel with a small turf area with fragrant citrus trees aligning the edge. In addition, universal design was incorporated into the hardscape and landscape allowing easy access in and out of the house for the client.

#### **Significant Features**

- Minimal hardscape design complements the newly remodeled contemporary residence.
- A black glass tile & basalt wet-edge reflecting pool acts as the focal point for the house
- A white cast-in-place concrete BBQ area & a charred firewall act as book ends for the long linear space .
- A long Glu-lam bench tying in the sandblasted beams from the house, adds additional seating opportunities for guests, as well as a great place to watch the sunset over Camelback Mountain.
- The site utilizes on-site retention; CU-Structural Soil has been placed under the concrete deck and around the large specimen trees.



## Planting Design

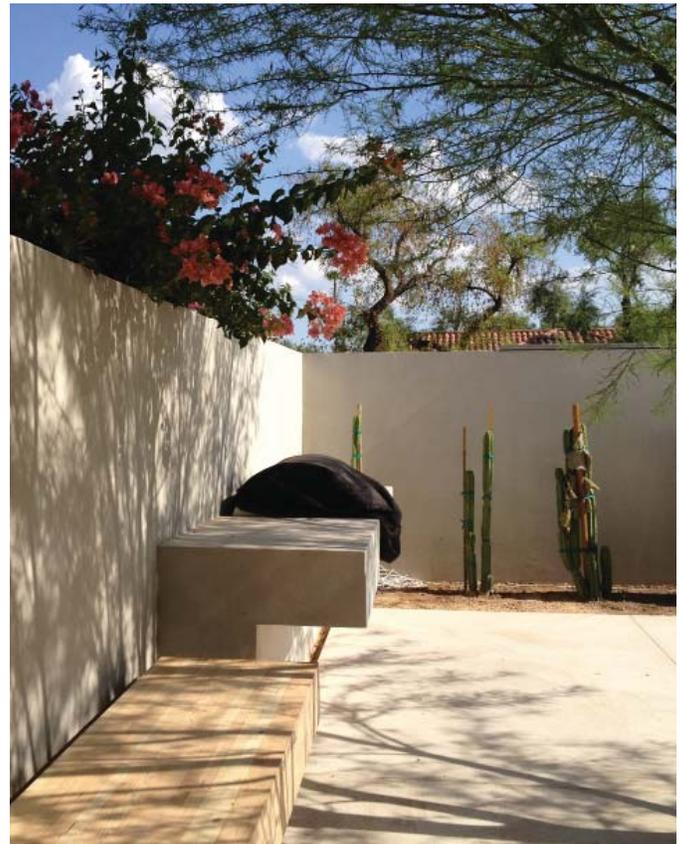
The overall planting design was inspired by the Jardín Etnobotánico de Oaxaca in Mexico with its cluster of large sculptural specimen cacti. Many large cacti dotted the existing front yard and was later enhanced by adding additional specimen columnar cacti. The client also desired a special cacti garden outside of his dining area with many unique cacti & succulents from all over the world. A row of citrus trees were planted in shady garden screening the neighbor's house to the west.

### Trees

Cercidium hybrid / Desert Museum  
Citrus sp. / Blood Orange, Valencia Orange Mexican Lime, Lisbon Lemon, Ruby Red Grapefruit

### Cacti / Succulents

Agave franzosinii / Franzosinii Agave  
Agave parryii / Parry's Agave  
Aloe dichotoma / Tree Aloe  
Aloe 'Blue Elf'  
Carnegiea gigantea / Saguaro  
Cereus repandus / Peruvian Apple Cactus  
Cleistocactus strausii / Silver Torch  
Cylindropuntia bigelovii / Teddy Bear Cholla  
Dasylirion quadrangulatum / Toothless Desert Spoon  
Echinocactus sp. / Golden Barrel  
Myrtillocactus cochal / Candelabra Cactus  
Myrtillocactus geometrizans / Crested Blue Myrtle Cactus  
Opuntia sp. / Prickly Pear  
Opuntia ficus indica / Indian Fig Prickly Pear  
Pachycereus marginatus / Mexican Fence Post  
Stenocereus thurberi / Organ Pipe Cactus  
Trichocereus pachanoi / San Pedro  
Yucca rupicola / Twisted Leaf Yucca





This 2.4 acre project was designed to be reminiscent of the architecture of Southern Spain. The style known as Spanish Mediterranean in the Andalusia region has locally become known as “Santa Barbara Style” in Arizona due to the coastal town of Santa Barbara borrowing most of its style from that region. The white stucco walls, red-tiled roofs, hand carved stone detailing, and the use of Moorish tile is very prominent to this style of architecture. The original garden had blocked most of the views, thus one major goal was to take advantage of the sunset and mountain views.

### **Significant Features**

- Project materials include tumbled Italian travertine, roman brick, stucco, Saltillo tile, hand-carved Cantera stone details, Mexican Pebbles, and Moorish mosaic tiles.
- The rear garden was remodeled to include a new swimming pool and spa with Moroccan tile accents. The pool included two hand carved stone water spouts that spill water out into the pool from a second story Ramada. A portion of the pool is tucked under the Ramada creating a conversation area and relief from the sun. This space creates connections between the swimmer and the lounging with a cozy fireplace. The roof of the Ramada includes a fire pit to take advantage of the mountain views and the afternoon sunsets.
- This project included the addition of three new outdoor fireplaces and a new BBQ bar as the homeowner is a chef and much of their entertaining is surrounded by gourmet meals.
- The detailed tile work and mosaic pebble work on the entry walk and steps were inspired by the streets and courtyards of Cordoba, Spain. The primary entry to the residence is also flanked by two private courtyards. One done with a strong Moorish theme, and includes a Moorish style fireplace, fountain and covered dining terrace. The master bathroom courtyard has its own private fireplace and the outdoor rug was created with thousands of tiny white and black pebbles individually hand set.
- 90% of all existing trees and specimen plants remained or were relocated on this project. Only a few Eucalyptus trees were removed to open up the views to mountains. In addition, 20% of lawn was removed to conserve water and still allow enough for active play for a large family with numerous pets.
- The sunken trampolines serve as a retention basins to keep most of the rear garden rainwater on site
- Water features were replaced with smaller ones that included sub surface basins or small jets to conserve water.

## Planting Design

The gardens are filled with citrus, date palms, Mediterranean fan palms and many other plants from the Spanish Mediterranean area allowing the garden to carry the theme and feel of that style and region. It also incorporates many native plants of the Sonoran desert which create a unique tie to our region and pay respect to the diverse and unusual plant palette of Arizona.

### Trees / Palms / Citrus

Bauhinia lunaroides / Anacacho orchid tree  
Caesalpinia cacalaco / Cascalote  
Caesalpinia Mexicana / Mexican Bird of Paradise  
Cercidium praecox / Palo Brea  
Chitalpa tashkentensis / Chitalpa  
Cordia boissieri / Texas olive  
Cupressus arizonica 'Blue Pyramid' / Arizona Cypress  
Dalbergia sissoo / Indian Rosewood  
Lysiloma thornberi / Feather Bush  
Olea europaea 'Swan Hill' / Olive  
Olneya tesota / Ironwood  
Pithecellobium flexicaule / Texas Ebony  
Podocarpus macrophyllus / Yew Pine  
Prosopis chinensis / Chilean Mesquite  
Sophora secundiflora 'Silver Peso' / Silver Texas Mountain Laurel  
Ungnadia speciosa / Mexican Buckeye  
Bismarckia nobilis / Bismarck Palm  
Brahea armata / Mexican Blue Palm  
Phoenix canariensis / Canary Island Date Palm  
Phoenix dactylifera 'Medjool' / Phoenix Date Palm  
Citrus sp.

### Accents

Adenium obesum / Desert Rose  
Agave 'Blue Flame' / Blue Flame Agave  
Agave colorata / Mescal ceniza  
Agave geminiflora / Twin Flowered Agave  
Agave ovatifolia / Whale's Tongue Agave  
Agave parryi var. truncata / Artichoke agave  
Agave 'Sharkskin' / Sharkskin Agave  
Agave sisal / Sisal Agave  
Agave weberi / Weber's Agave  
Aloe striata / Coral Aloe  
Aloe saponaria / African Aloe  
Asparagus densiflorus 'Myers' / Myers Asparagus  
Aspidistra elatior / Cast Iron Plant  
Canna 'Tropicana' / Canna Lily  
Cereus hildmannianus f. tortuosus / Twisted Cereus  
Cereus peruvianus 'Monstrosus' / Monstrosus cereus  
Cleistocactus strausii / Silver torch cactus  
Cycas revoluta / Sago Palm  
Dietes bicolor / Fortnight Lily  
Dracaena marginata 'Tarzan'  
Euphorbia antisiphilitica / Candelilla  
Euphorbia rigida / Gopher Plant  
Fouquieria splendens / Ocotillo  
Hesperaloe funifera / Giant Hesperaloe  
Monstera deliciosa / Split-leaf Philodendron  
Muhlenbergia capillaris 'Regal Mist' / Regal Mist Muhly  
Opuntia basilaris / Beavertail Cactus

### Accents Cont.

Opuntia basilaris / Beavertail Cactus  
Pachypodium lamerei / Madagascar palm  
Pedilanthus macrocarpus / Slipper Plant  
Philodendron 'Xanadu' / Winterborn Philodendron  
Yucca pallida / Pale Leaf Yucca  
Zantedeschia aethiopica / Calla Lily

### Shrubs

Anisacanthus quadrifidus 'Mexican Flame' / Mexican Flame Anisacanthus  
Brunfelsia pauciflora 'Floribunda' / Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow  
Buddleia marrubifolia / Woolly butterfly bush  
Calliandra californica Baja fairy duster  
Cestrum nocturnum / Night Jessamine  
Cordia parvifolia / Little Leaf Cordia  
Cuphea ilavea / Bat-faced Cuphea  
Russelia equisetiformis / Coral Fountain Plant  
Dodonaea viscosa / Hopseed Bush  
Duranta erecta / Sky Flower  
Duranta erecta 'Alba' / White Sky Flower  
Eremophila hygrophana / Silver emu bush  
Eremophilla maculata / Emu Bush  
Fallugia paradoxa / Apache Plume  
Gardenia jasminoides / Gardenia  
Ilex vomitoria 'Nana' / Yaupon Holly  
Ilex vomitoria 'Will Fleming'  
Justicia brandegeana / Shrimp Plant  
Justicia californica / Chuparosa  
Justicia candicans / Red Mexican Honeysuckle  
Justicia spicigera / Desert Honeysuckle  
Leucophyllum candidum 'Silver Cloud' / Violet Silverleaf  
Leucophyllum frutescens 'Compacta' / Texas Ranger  
Leucophyllum langmaniae 'Lynn's Legacy' / Texas Sage  
Leucophyllum laevigatum / Chihuahuan sage  
Ruellia peninsularis / Baja Ruellia  
Rosmarinus officinalis 'Prostratus' / Rosemary  
Rosa 'White Carpet' / Rose  
Salvia chamaedryoides / Mexican Blue Sage  
Salvia clevelandii / Cleveland Sage  
Salvia gregii / Autumn Sage  
Salvia leucantha 'Santa Barbara' / Mexican Bush Sage  
Tecoma stands angustata / Yellow Bells  
Ziziphus obtusifolia / Greythorn

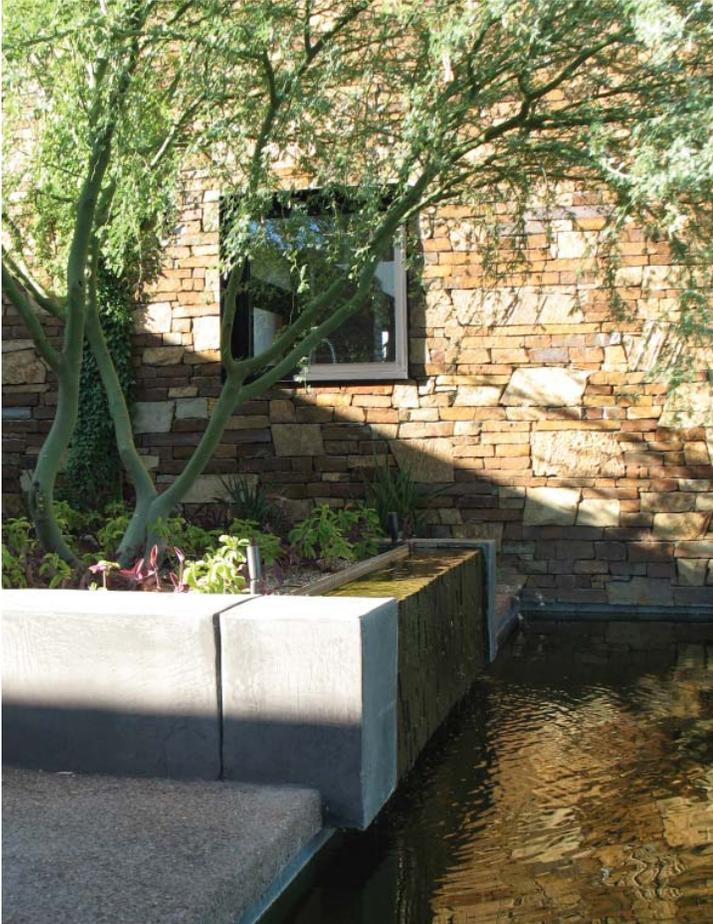
### Groundcovers / Vines

Antigonon leptopus / Queen's wreath  
Artemisia 'Powis Castle' / Powis Castle Artemisia  
Bougainvillea 'Rosenka' / Bougainvillea  
Campsis radicans / Trumpet vine  
Convolvulus cneorum / Bush Morning Glory  
Dalea capitata 'Sierra Gold'  
Dalea frutescens 'Sierra Negra' / Dalea

**Groundcovers / Vines Cont.**

Dyssodia pentachaeta / Golden Dyssodia  
Ericameria laricifolia / Turpentine Bush  
Eupatorium greggii 'Boothill' / Gregg's Boneset  
Ficus pumila / Creeping fig  
Gazania 'Sun Gold' / Trailing Gazania  
Hardenbergia violaceae / Lilac vine  
Hedera helix 'Needlepoint' / Ivy  
Hymenoxys acaulis / Angelita daisy  
Lantana hybrid 'Gold Mound' / Hybrid Lantana  
Lantana 'New Gold'  
Lantana 'Radiation Red'  
Lantana montevidensis 'Purple'  
Jasminum sambac / Arabian Jasmine  
Jasminum nitidum / Angel Wing Jasmine  
Melampodium leucanthum / Blackfoot Daisy  
Penstemon ambiguus / Sand Penstemon  
Penstemon eatonii / Eaton's Penstemon  
Penstemon strictus / Rocky Mountain Penstemon  
Plumbago auriculata / Cape Plumbago  
Bulbine frutescens / Orange Bulbine  
Setcreasea pallida / Purple Heart Plant  
Thymus praecox arcticus / Creeping Thyme  
Thymus vulgaris / French Thyme  
Teucrium chamaedrys / Trailing Germander  
Tradescantia zebrina 'Purpusii'  
Verbena rigida / Prairie Verbena  
Wedelia trilobata / Wedelia  
Zephyranthes candida / Rain Lily  
Zexmenia hispida 'Devils River' / Devil's River  
Zinnia acerosa / Desert Zinnia  
Ixora maui 'Sunset' / Yellow Ixora

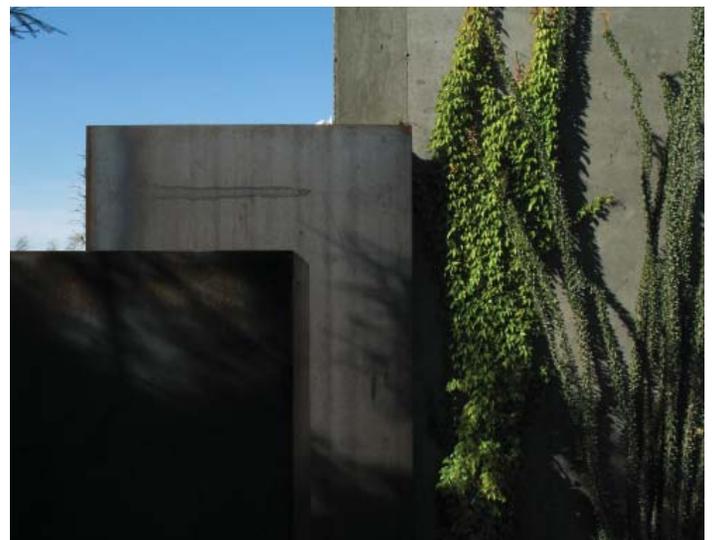




The Martori residence is the dream home of a successful couple created to spend time with several generations of their family. The goal was to create a courtyard garden on a hillside site that provided a series of outdoor rooms for the enjoyment of the company of children, grandchildren, friends and pets.

#### **Significant Features**

- The project is significant to the owner because they were intimately involved in the creation of a home and garden to share with their family that represents the culmination of a lifetime of hard work. The project repaired a damaged site and replaced an incongruous building with updated architecture and landscape.
- Glass panels on stainless steel pivots create a movable screen that is used to mitigate wind in the inner courtyard and provide varying levels of privacy and screening depending on season and use.
- A backlit plinth was created for a special jade sculpture purchased at the Beijing Olympics.



## Planting Design

Planting was zoned to reflect site location, micro-climate and use. The hillside was restored with native plants. Spaces such as drives and building entries were planted with native and arid adapted species that provide transition from restored landscapes to oasis gardens. Courtyard spaces within the building envelope were planted with a combination of native and exotic species suited to an oasis environment.

### Trees / Palms / Citrus

Bambusa sp. Buddha Belly / Black Bamboo  
Caesalpinia mexicana / Mexican Bird  
Chilopsis linearis / Desert Willow  
Ebonopsis ebano / Texas Ebony  
Prosopis velutina / Native Mesquite  
Olneya tesota / Ironwood  
Parkinsonia sp./ Palo Verde  
Tecoma sp. / Orange Jubilee

### Accents

Agave bovicornuta  
Agave desmettiana  
Agave weberii  
Aloe daweyi / Daweyi's Aloe  
Aloe ferox / Tree Aloe  
Aloe striata / Striated Aloe  
Aloe X / Blue Elf Aloe  
Asclepias subulata / Desert Milkweed  
Bulbine frutescens / Bulbine  
Dioon edule / Dioon  
Euphorbia antisiphilitica / Candelilla  
Hesperaloe funifera / Giant Hesperaloe  
Pedilanthus macrocarpus / Lady's Slipper  
Setcreasea pallida / Purple Heart  
Cleistocactus strausii / Silver Torch  
Echinocereus sp. / Hedgehog  
Echinopsis pachanoi / San Pedro  
Lophocereus sp./ Totem Pole  
Mammillaria sp. / Pincushion  
Opuntia ficus indica / Indian Fig  
Opuntia robusta / Camuesa  
Opuntia santa rita / Purple Prickly Pear  
Trichocereus sp. / Argentine Giant

### Shrubs

Calliandra californica / Baja Fairy Duster  
Dasylirion quad / Toothless Desert Spoon  
Dodonea viscosa / Hop Seed  
Encelia farinosa / Brittlebush  
Fouquieria splendens / Ocotillo  
Gaura lindheimeri 'siskiyou pink' / Pink Gaura  
Justicia californica / Chuparosa  
Justicia spicigera / Mexican Honeysuckle  
Larrea tridentata / Creosote  
Penstemon sp. / Penstemon  
Salvia clevelandii / Chaparral Sage  
Vaquelinia californica / Arizona Rosewood  
Viguera deltoidea / Golden Eye  
Zephyranthes candida / White Rain Lily

### Groundcovers / Vines

Parthenocissus sp. / Hacienda Creeper  
Jasminum polyanthum / Pink Jasmine  
Jasminum Sambac Arabica / Arabian Jasmine



**2012 Arizona ASLA Award of Excellence**



Arcadia, at the foot of Camelback Mountain, has long been a desirable neighborhood for its views, its central location, and the pastoral quality of its large green lots interspersed with citrus groves. The neighborhood has undergone many negative changes in the last decade due to the loss of historic homes and green spaces; hence, its community character has suffered. This one-acre site features a home and landscape renovation that ventured to honor the historic essence of Arcadia that has made the neighborhood so unique and livable for several decades.

**Significant Features**

- The contemporary landscape and hardscape integrates the architecture representative of the original 1950s Modern, ranch-style home with the texture of the land's historic agricultural use as a citrus grove
- The “strong bones” hardscape provides the framework to amalgamate existing structures and spaces in such a way that allows informal – and at times, formal – living to unfold.
- A long, white fence and gate fabricated from contemporary materials evokes memories of Phoenix's old manor estates, directing the visitor toward the front door while providing a semi-transparent view to the side garden courtyard
- The walkway to the front door is demarcated with “events” such as a water feature embedded into a board-formed concrete wall and a cast-in-place concrete bench that is suggestive of an outdoor foyer or waiting area for guests.
- This project demonstrates that by respecting existing integrity and scale, coupled with a critical utilization of materials and detail, design can elevate the cohesiveness and legibility of the neighborhood.



## Planting Design

The preservation of lawn and a fifty-year old grapefruit grove maintained through existing flood irrigation bespoke of its relevance and appropriateness to Arcadia and served to stimulate the children's healthy play out-of-doors and amongst the neighborhood community. Simple monochromatic plantings were used to sustain a pastoral atmosphere and gracefully unify the two levels of the site. Approaching from the street, the visitor is greeted with the front yard garden – a space that connects the public space of the street to the semi-private zone of the main entry. Closer to the house, gardens of drought-tolerant native and adapted species with vibrant blooms, as well as a procession of lemon, lime and orange trees absorb the tension between the linearity suggested by the agricultural landscape, the free forms of the Sonoran Desert and domestic family life. The central courtyard adjacent to the home's living areas was designed to accommodate various functions, from formal outdoor entertaining to informal play area; it's minimalist design balances the garden spaces on the south and west sides of the house.

### Trees / Citrus

Citrus sp.  
Fraxinus velutina / Arizona Ash  
Olea europaea 'Swan Hill' / Swan Hill Olive  
Prosopis thornless hybrid 'azt' / 'Azt' Thornless Hybrid Mesquite

### Accents

Agave attenuata  
Dasylirion wheeleri / Desert Spoon  
Euphorbia antisyphilitica / Candelilla  
Pedilanthus macrocarpus / Slipper Plant  
Yucca pallida / Pale Leaf Yucca

### Groundcovers / Shrubs / Grasses

Asparagus densiflorus 'meyers' / Foxtail Fern  
Chrysactinia Mexicana / Damianita  
Dichondra  
Encelia farinosa / Brittlebush  
Euphorbia rigida / Gopher Plant  
Hymenoxys acaulis / Angelita Daisy  
Justicia spicigera / Mexican Honeysuckle  
Leucophyllum langmaniae 'Lynn's Legacy' / Texas Sage  
Penstemon sp.  
Salvia clevelandii / Chaparral Sage



