

Green
Giant
Arborvitae
hedge

LANDSCAPE CONCEPT PLAN

Spenden & Keller



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PRIMARY DESIGN IDEAS:

- 1. SCREENING:** The need for privacy from road and driveway is paramount in your landscape. Screening will be a mix of appropriate evergreens such as 'Green Giant' arborvitae, upright junipers, and flowering trees, planted in such a way to insure protection where needed but allowing for adequate light penetration to windows. Preserving sunlight and open sky is also an significant consideration on a small lot.
- 2. COHESION:** It is important in a landscape of this size to unify the gardens through repetition of plant material--this provides a flow from area to area that helps increase perceived size of space and allows the landscape to feel like a cohesive space. It provides a sense of order and peace in all landscapes, and especially in "tight" spaces.
- 3. HARDSCAPE SOFTENING:** The pool paving, the guest parking area, the driveway, and the pool enclosure/ privacy fencing are essential practical elements to this landscape, but need to be softened by appropriate planting and not dominate views.
- 4. YEAR ROUND INTEREST:** With the right selection of plants, interest can be assured in all seasons. Tree branching, bark, evergreen foliage, seasonal flowers, deciduous foliage color, and plant form all provide interest, structure, contrast, and appeal.

SPECIFIC DESIGN IDEAS (see drawing for corresponding numbers)

Area #1: This area defined by the stonewall that parallels the road is where the preponderance of house-screening will occur. There are two options here: use both sides of the wall—with mostly evergreen screening on the outside and ornamental planting on the inside—or use just the inside. This will cut down on the size of the lawn inside the stonewall, but will allow you to retain the unobstructed look of a classic New England stone wall. In either case, the planting bed will include a mix of flowering material seen elsewhere in the landscape—hydrangeas, lilacs, rhododendron, dogwoods, and grasses—that will be seen clearly from the front windows and relate to planting elsewhere.

Area #2: Guest parking, walkway to front door, and front foundation. Surround parking area with planting of boxwood (medium-sized variety) and nepeta (catmint), continue planting along front entrance walkway with smaller english hedging boxwood punctuated by larger sculpted boxwood and "Fairy" roses/or similar ground cover roses and nepeta. This planting would open up to main front house foundation planting, which would be anchored by specimen boxwood flanking the front doors, architecturally planted containers at front door, flowering cherries to soften house corners and partially obscure windows for privacy, a star magnolia along the drive to block sightline down driveway—all underplanted with hydrangeas, azaleas, and grasses to tie planting together. Parking area paving - belgian block curb, belgian block apron, oil and stone surface. Side note: gas lights for front porch? <http://carolinalanterns.com>



boxwood and nepeta



block curb and apron



boxwood as punctuation



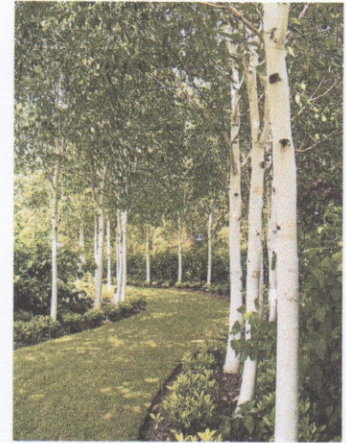
architecturally planted
containers

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Area #3: Planting along driveway. Let's discuss the existing planting bed depth, suggested planting depth, and depth noted on Lecher's drawing. The design concept is to create a strong sense of front entrance to the residence by screening off back driveway entrance while additionally screening from driveway. We are suggesting a specimen tree off front corner of house, then a dense planting of azaleas, hydrangea, perennials, and grasses punctuated by 5 white birches along the garage. The depth of the bed will determine what is possible here.

Area #4: Rear parking area also to be curbed with belgian block, paved with belgian block apron/surround and oil & some surface. Bordered with 6' privacy fence (noted in black on drawing) and gate off driveway (see photo of gate, but disregard plantings). We've pushed fence into back lawn about 6 feet to allow a bit more room when backing out of garage. Let's discuss further the gate entrance into back yard, which relates to the bed layout in back pool patio. Drawing shows our concept, but we can discuss Lecher's gate concept for comparison and revert to that plan if you prefer. We think a set of double gates possibly with arbor centered on back driveway will read as more welcoming. We would create a very narrow planting strip along fence for vines and, if feasible, a small planting bed between garage doors (see photo). We could create a more formal hedge behind the fence abutting back lawn if that's appealing (see photo) and transition to looser plantings in area 6. Seasonal option: place planted containers at gate or garage/driveway corners.



underplanted white birches



privacy fence - color, gates, arbor? softening with plants



block surround, planting bed



option: formal hedge behind fence near driveway

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Area #5: Beds near house and in pool paving. Mixed borders will provide structure and color during summer — structural shrubs, summer blooming perennials and annuals for color when the pool area is used most. Small evergreens in borders will relate to larger evergreen plants used elsewhere. Boxwood and deciduous shrubs will relate to plantings along the driveway and the front foundation planting.

Let's discuss the planting bed/path off driveway gate; if it is retained for additional screening, it should be planted with hedge of yew, cephalotaxus, or privet. If a fire pit element is desired, there are areas off pool or in back lawn near pool that would work. Paved patio areas as previously laid out will allow for grill, seating, and planted pots (including vegetables/herbs). Let's discuss further your grilling needs to make sure ample space is allotted. See side image for grill inspiration.



Area #6: This large sweeping planting bed will back up to 6' solid wooden privacy fence on east side (marked in black on drawing) and surround a 4' wire mesh fence threading through plants and set back 4' from stone wall on south side (nubby black line in drawing). The bed will create a sense of buffering enclosure and drama with elegant massed plant selections including a mix of evergreens as seen elsewhere and large flowering shrubs — viburnums, hydrangeas and rhododendron, azaleas once again repeating the forms, flowers, and textures from the rest of the landscape with some additions for variety and color. Various photos below chosen to show feel - not the specific plants.



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Area #7: Screening and protection for master bedroom windows and porch. Again, a selection of evergreens--'Green Giant' arborvitae, dogwoods, peegee hydrangeas and rhododendron, will shield this area from the road and reduce the prominence of 6' privacy fence. Gate sited for best path to avoid rock outcrop. Planting on fence exterior to be slightly more formal than interior fence planting (see photo).

