

Connecticut COTTAGES & GARDENS

COTTAGES-GARDENS.COM | JULY/AUGUST 2012



INNOVATION
IN DESIGN AWARDS 2012



LANDSCAPE

OUTDOOR SPACES ARE ELEGANTLY DEFINED BY USING STRONG AXES AND A SERIES OF OUTDOOR ROOMS

DOYLE HERMAN
DESIGN
ASSOCIATES

A YOUNG COUPLE WITH CHILDREN

purchased a relatively new Greenwich stone mason house with lots of Old World charm and then called upon Doyle Herman Design Associates, a firm known for classic design, to create the perfect garden to fit family and home. Doyle Herman pulled it all together tidily with a grid of garden spaces defined by creative hedging and softly flowering perennial beds. There is a disciplined rhythm to the plantings, beginning at the front of the house.

The approach to the home is bordered by a regular alley of white flowering magnolia set in matched square, boxwood parterres. This double line of

10 trees directs attention to the entrance of the rambling, Tudor-style house. The house, in fact, forms a giant "C," open to the front, with two large arms wrapping up to either side and dotted with an asymmetrical assortment of bays, balconies and bump-outs. Doyle Herman lends order to and enlivens the gravel yard inside that giant "C" with three *kozunai*—planters imported from the United Kingdom, then refilled with spouts—to add the element of sound to the area.

Tour de force trimmed box hedges—a signature of the firm—punctuated with taxa pyramids and domed box mullion tops lend a feeling of formality near the house. But this formality falls off as you move into the backyard, with its patchwork of gardens and outdoor living spaces.

Refined Design The driveway opens up to a formal parking area (above) with three lead water features—recouped planters imported from England, which lend the element of round to the courtyard. The landscape at the back of the house (opposite page) contains a generous walk, with a sitting bench by Barthelemy, the Lavender Pavilion in the walk, raised stone beds, tall hedges and striped purple fence boxes of blue, pink, white, champagne and silver (shown in narrow strip). The designers refilled an existing pool (shown in narrow strip) to allow for more seating and the addition of a terrace furnished with traditional Italian pots containing miniature date palms. See Resources.

For more, visit cottagegardens.com



CLOCKWISE FROM OPPOSITE TOP: PHOTOGRAPHS BY NEIL LANDRO, JR., JAMES DOYLE, JAMES DOYLE, NEIL LANDRO, JR.