

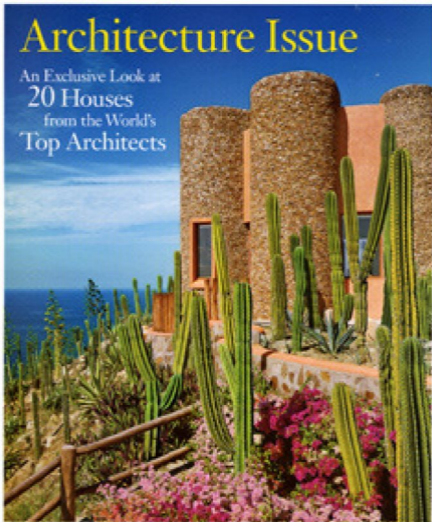
ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

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Architecture Issue

An Exclusive Look at
20 Houses
from the World's
Top Architects



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One of the enduring myths about Southern California is that, in its endless pursuit of the future, the place has no use for the past. As if the old and the new were mutually exclusive. Like many people with roots in the area, Dwight Stuart, Jr., whose great-grandfather founded the Los Angeles-headquartered Carnation Company, has a strong feeling for its history. In his case the sentiment finds expression in a superb collection of paintings by early-20th-century California plein air artists. And the paintings, as much as anything else, are responsible for Stuart's new but eminently backward-looking home.

When his father passed away several years ago, Stuart took possession of his house—a traditional Tudor-style residence on a corner lot in Beverly Hills. Stuart, who'd been keeping most of his art in storage, had in mind a Mediterranean-style backdrop for the paintings, and he set about interviewing architects. He settled, perhaps inevitably, on Marc Appleton, whose own family ties to Southern California go back a few generations and whose career draws on the time-honored traditions of vernacular architecture. "Dwight was collecting Mission furniture and was heavily into plein air,



Grounded in Tradition

IN BEVERLY HILLS, A NEW HOUSE EVOKES THE SPANISH COLONIAL REVIVAL WITH A FEEL FOR TODAY

"He wanted a 1920s Spanish Colonial Revival house reminiscent of ones designed by George Washington Smith," architect Marc Appleton says of the residence he and designer Mark Enos created for Dwight Stuart, Jr., in Beverly Hills. LEFT: A stair tower marks the entrance. ABOVE: Plein air artworks, including *Glads and Riders* by Edgar Payne, at right, hang in the entrance hall. Mansour tapestry.

Architecture by Marc Appleton, AIA
Interior Design by Mark Enos, ASID
Landscape Design by Sean Knibb
Text by Peter Haldeman
Photography by Mary E. Nichols



The stone walls, beam ceiling and stainless-steel shelving "give the kitchen the look of a European farmhouse that's been updated with modern appliances," Appleton says. Enos modeled the center table after a Sir Edwin Lutyens design. Edelman leather on barstools. Range from Wolf.

had to do was create beautiful galleries for the astounding art collection," he says. "The paintings set me off on a color direction for each room. I'm a lover of antique rugs, and I put together a collection of Sultanabads that played off the art without stealing its thunder." Enos searched for Spanish antiques at the more refined end of the spectrum

and, when he couldn't find the right piece for the right spot, used old documents to make faithful reproductions.

The grounds of the house are no less convincing than its architecture when it comes to conveying a sense of history. Pull into the olive tree-shaded gravel courtyard, and the only reminder you're in Southern California rather than south-



ern Spain is the din of distant car traffic. Landscape designer Sean Knibb transported the 100-year-old olive trees from Northern California, layering in mature peppers, magnolias and cypresses to suggest that the trees have been in the ground for decades, if not centuries. Lush gardens flank the house, and a formal layout of the loggia, pool and pool

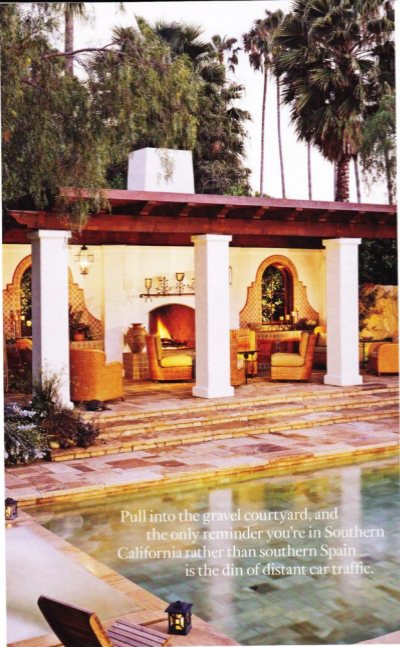
pavilion extends the monastic elegance to the backyard. (The pool is paved in limestone, which gives the water a mellow gray-green cast.)

Collaborators on large-scale productions—Hollywood movies, Beverly Hills houses—are always congratulating themselves on their teamwork, but in this case the back-patting is clearly heartfelt. “It was a wonderfully intense and productive project,” says Appleton. “I’ve got to hand it to Dwight, because he wanted to make sure whatever we did was top class, and he would not compromise on anything.” Stuart returns the compliment. “I’ve seen too many houses that are brand-new and look brand-new. I’ve had tradesmen come in here and think it was a restoration of a 70-year-old house.” Now that’s high praise. □



“I played off early California style but didn’t duplicate it,” says Enos. **ABOVE:** The master bedroom. Rossville Pottery vases top the console, the night table and the Therien side table, in foreground. Mansour rug. **RIGHT:** Wicker pieces, with cushions covered in a Larsen fabric, are in the sunroom. “It looks as if it had been an outdoor loggia,” says Appleton.





Pull into the gravel courtyard, and the only reminder you're in Southern California rather than southern Spain is the din of distant car traffic.



Orbourn: The pergola was added to block the view of the neighboring house. Plants: Martin chairs, Grant Gibson fabric ottoman in front of hot fireplace, *Arctostaphylos*, *Perennials*, *Tony Puzo*; Landscaping designer Sean Kishly planted pepper trees around the pool terrace. *Janet et Cie* chairs; *Perennials* fabric.

