

2006 WBA Remodeling Awards

Project Category:
Specialty

“Photogenic Features”



DEGNAN
DESIGN BUILDERS
INC.



We were asked to create several back yard features for this client who is a professional photographer and planned to use the flower garden for senior photos and other outdoor settings. The client had two magazine plans from which we changed the scale only slightly for actual construction of the arbor & trellis.



The arches were cut from cedar dimension lumber.



The top members are carefully notched to fit over the cross beams.



The side lattices were ripped from dimension lumber and precisely dadoed to fit.



The trellis and arbor are placed near the back of a large neighborhood lot, in an existing flower garden. Colorful flowers and tall plantings hide neighboring homes.





Copper pipe was cut to fit, and the cedar uprights were precisely drilled to receive the pipes. Through only one summer, the pipes have already begun to show their natural patina.



The width of the trellis was expanded slightly from the plans to provide the size and scale preferred by the client.





Left: The pergola top provides several layers of interest and a distinct ceiling character over the patio, while maintaining enough filtered light to keep the kitchen and dining area bright.

Final Assessment & Results:

We have successfully met the clients needs with the four pieces of these projects. The arbor and trellis create a photographic backdrop taking advantage of the flower garden. The pergola and new patio door continue to bring adequate light into the kitchen and dining room, while managing heat gain and glare. The pergola adds an attractive feature to the outdoor space and helps mitigate the impact of the large walls, while defining an "outdoor room" around the patio seating area. All of the projects were created with artisan craftsmanship, and the ordinary materials are made beautiful through their application.



The pergola helps to break up a series of walls that have little glass. The south exposure collects much sunlight and heat. The new pergola shades the patio door and window, allowing filtered light while minimizing glare and excess heat gain into the house.



Above: A detail of the completed pergola shows the improved edge detail of the lattice, and the extra character created by spacing the main beams apart sandwiched over the 6x6 support post.



Left: The pergola was modeled after another pergola built years ago for another client of this Remodelor™. A handful of modifications and refinements were realized in the new version pictured above.

