

## San Francisco-based architect Andrew Mann breathes new life







he homeowners of this beautiful 8,000-squarefoot shingled manse had years worth of wonderful memories in it. "But," notes architect Andrew Mann, "it was in need of serious updating. Several quirky additions by previous owners had left the seven-bedroom home with a choppy feel. There were strange volumes and complicated floor plans. My clients wanted to create a more classic, traditional version of their much-loved house while still accentuating the shingle-style vernacular. They also wanted a home that was simultaneously casual and sophisticated."

By carefully removing many of the extraneous additions and thoughtfully incorporating new ones, Mann reorganized the house inside and out. The exterior façade and roof were stripped to sheathing and replaced with new western red cedar shingles for a more natural look. The rooflines were improved and gorgeous dormer windows added.

Mann made sure to improve sightlines throughout the home. Half of the home's interior spaces were brought down to the studs and new windows and doors installed to create a stronger relationship to the gardens. Tuscan order columns and classically designed window trims now provide a layer of depth and crispness to the exterior design.

The garden, with its bevy of mature trees and flowering bushes, is a major key to this wonderful home and as such, Mann wanted to ensure that it was celebrated inside and outside the home. By cleverly adding elegant trellises at the corners of the home, he created gracious new entry points to the house and delightful outdoor rooms that double the home's entertaining space.

The original front door was one of the elements Mann's clients loved most. "It was key to take cues from its marvelous 1920's feel. Inside the door, Mann added skylights to visually open the space and highlight the home's classical bones. Upstairs, the master suite had been a rabbit's warren of small spaces with an awkward fireplace and an odd balcony. By removing the fireplace, balcony, and small closets, Mann was able to create a master bedroom on a grand scale with a terrific new bay window and window seat that added richness and dimension to the room. That bay window is continued downstairs as a new light-filled breakfast area off the kitchen.

"Stephen Suzman and his team did a marvelous job on the garden giving it classical balance and order," said Mann. Interior designer Joyce Yokimozo added warmth to the interiors using a beautiful blend of neutral and deep accent colors," adds Mann, "I like to think we brought the old beauty back to life." ◆