

2015
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LANDSCAPE
AWARDS

Category	Design/Build/Installation: Residential
Project	Smith
Company	Ed Castro Landscape
Award	Grand & Judges' Choice



Smith – Ed Castro Landscape (before)

After purchasing the undeveloped 2.8 acre lot adjacent to their home to avoid over development in their neighborhood, our client wanted to restore the environmental health of the overgrown property while providing an inviting space for the entire neighborhood to enjoy. With removal of invasive species, re-grading, development of trails, orchards and meadows we were able to transform the property into a healthy, park-like green space for the homeowners and their neighbors.



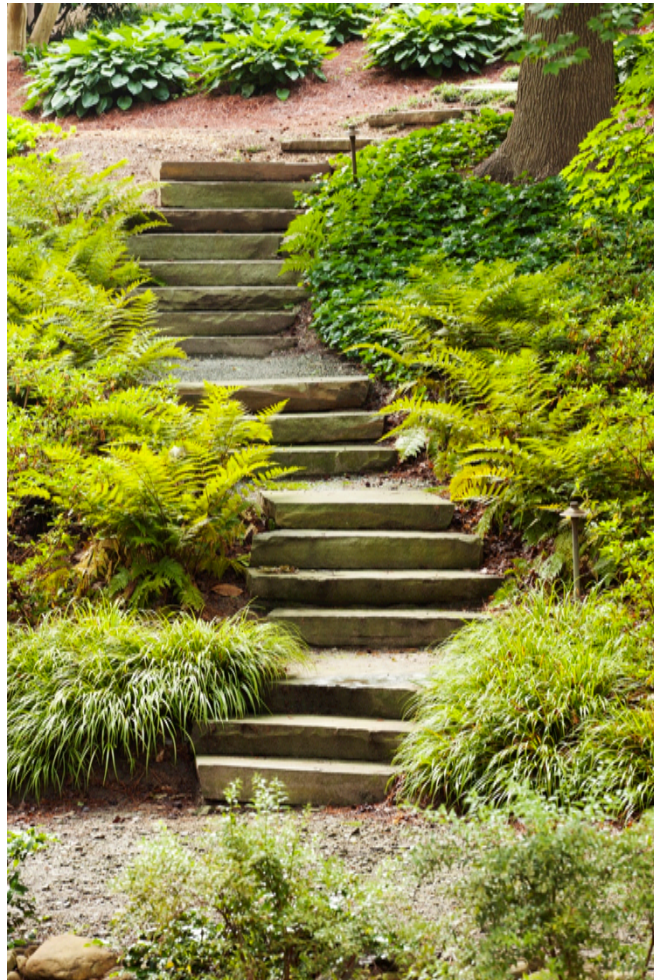
Smith – Ed Castro Landscape

The area was repopulated with native species and attractive wildflowers to create a beautiful meadow.



Smith – Ed Castro Landscape

Gravel-based trails meander through the woods and along the lake edge, connecting the residential property, meadow, and historic fireplace gathering area.



Smith – Ed Castro Landscape

Natural face, crab orchard slab steps help transition down steep slopes on the property.



Smith – Ed Castro Landscape

This stone bridge provides an architectural accent where the creek meets the lake, allowing for pedestrian access along the water's edge.



Smith – Ed Castro Landscape

An antique granite millstone detail pays homage to the history of the site.



Smith – Ed Castro Landscape

Stone steps guide visitors through an herbaceous shade garden.



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Wooden seating benches along the fescue trail through the meadow provide a quiet spot to rest overlooking the lake.



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The existing stone fireplace was refurbished and incorporated into a stone seating area that overlooks the lake.



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The large amount of water coming into the site was redirected through carefully designed “dry creek beds” into an underground catchment area and wetland rain garden, turning what was once a problem into an asset for both humans and wildlife.

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JUDGES' COMMENTS:

The meadow is timeless; the story is told through the photos. Impressive project, with a keen sensitivity for the environment. This ain't easy, folks, to create an "effortless" natural setting on 2.8 acres with drainage, topography and other challenges. Very well done.