

**LET'S HEAR
IT FROM
DAVID STEVENS**

**STONE
ON SHOW**

SLOPE MOWERS

ARUN LANDSCAPES

DUE SOUTH

Transformation of a tired garden with wooden structures and herbaceous planting



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The clients' existing garden was tired, lacking in both practical and aesthetic interest – Arun Landscapes transformed the space using wooden structures, and scented, colourful planting



The Association of Professional Landscapers Awards 2013
Commended: Overall Design and Build



Project details

Cost: up to £60k

Size of project:
approx. 40m x 20m
including house

Timeline of development:
three months



The clients were doing some major renovations to their home and wanted to upgrade their garden to suit the changes. We worked with the architects throughout the design process and build.

Whilst most of the existing planting was up for grabs, the clients were keen to keep an area of perennials and the vegetable garden as is, so the design had to incorporate this. The existing garden was pretty tired – with old conifers and lawn, and a very open feel with no surprises. An old brick seating area had no shade and was open to the neighbour's garden. The views were great once you looked beyond the existing garden.

CONSIDERATIONS

- To create a summer garden that blends into the countryside at the bottom of the garden.
- Provide a level lawn area big enough for a game of badminton.
- Use materials suited to the house and reclaim materials from existing garden where possible.

- Provide a shaded seating area – the garden faces south and gets hot.
- Make use of the whole garden. At present there is nothing at the bottom of the garden to go to.
- Planting should suit a dry and sunny south-facing sloped garden.
- Retain some areas of the planting and keep the vegetable garden.
- Design a beautiful shed that suits its situation.
- Design a log store that is easily accessible from the house.
- Provide support for climbing roses.

THE PLAN

Reusing the existing brick paving and Sussex saddlebacks near the house suited the character of the property.

The tall oak pergola gave much needed shade and the added detail of the chamfered posts and beam ends also suited the property. The pergola was designed to frame the views over the garden



and countryside and to support our clients' love of climbing roses. We used reclaimed Yorkstone here as it was felt the cost was acceptable given the importance of the area. For the other paved areas we used irregular Yorkstone which will age and suit perfectly at a much reduced cost.

The shed was designed to sit within view of the pergola so we used oak with cedar shingle roofing. The chunky sawn posts also link visually to the pergola whilst the wavy edged cladding will age to a lovely silver. A bench here also gives great views down the length of the garden.

A seating area at the bottom of the garden provides the reason that the clients needed to walk down there. It is surrounded by scented colourful planting and grasses that catch the evening light. All the plants have been chosen to suit the existing conditions in order to reduce watering and maintenance.



- 1 Secluded seating area.
- 2 Pergola during construction.
- 3 Soft planting of grasses and poppies.
- 4 Reclaimed Yorkstone paving.
- 5 Steps to dining terrace.
- 6 Herbaceous border.
- 7 Brick path detail.
- 8 Bespoke oak workshop.
- 9 Soft planting under pergola.
- 10 View across main lawn to workshop.
- 11 Workshop under construction.
- 12 The completed garden.



REFERENCES

Design and build
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Oak and reclaimed clay pavers
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Reclaimed York flags
Woodlands Farm
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Aggregates
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ABOUT ARUN LANDSCAPES



Arun Landscapes has been designing and building gardens for over 20 years. Headed by James Steele-Sargent – former chair for the APL – they have built a reputation for quality and excellence in the industry. They undertake projects all over Sussex, Surrey, Kent, London and the South

East of England, including contemporary, formal, Mediterranean, small town and large country gardens. Arun Landscapes are regularly contracted by other designers to construct their designs, be it private gardens or show gardens and have a great record at RHS shows.

www.arunlandscapes.co.uk

DESIGN PLAN

