



# *The Essence of* COASTAL LIVING

—HILL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

THE OWNER'S  
VISION IS  
ACCOMPLISHED  
BY THE TEAM  
OF HILL  
CONSTRUCTION  
COMPANY  
AND MATRIX  
DESIGN STUDIO

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**I**N THE HILLY SEASIDE COMMUNITY of La Jolla, Wayne Green and Alison Huxford had the vision to transform their home into a sleek contemporary design framed in the charm of Mediterranean influence. To achieve their dream home they relied on the wisdom and talent of a dynamic team of experts, consisting of Hill Construction Company, and Matrix Design Studio under the guidance of Fred Gemmill and Lauren Williams, AIA. The project was started in July 2010 and completed in December of 2012.

“With the transitional architectural style, Hill Construction Company was able to utilize our experiences in contemporary construction as well as more traditional and period-correct homes to see the exquisite details come together. It is rare to see walnut in-set face frame casework adjacent to backlit granite walls with a floating basin... a true testament to the project designer and construction team who were able to make these details appear seamless.” – Ryan Hill, Hill Construction Company.

The home's tranquil setting has spectacular views of the La Jolla coastline. The vanishing edge pool seems to replicate the spectacular unobstructed ocean views. “The greatest challenge was the pool moving to the edge of the property which required some major structural foundation work but was so worth it once the pool was filled and the vanishing edge blended into the ocean beyond.” – Fred Gemmill, Matrix Design Studio



**ABOVE** Designers Fred Gemmell and Lauren Williams worked with the clients to select rugs for the home that would bring out the pallet but added a splash of whimsy with animal print pillows on the sofa. The warm and comfortable browns and creams make the room very inviting. Behind the sofa is original artwork by Fred Gemmell. Additional artwork in the home was furnished by Nico Gemmell Gallery.

The tranquil setting has spectacular views of the La Jolla coastline. In the backyard, the vanishing edge pool seems to replicate the spectacular unobstructed views of the Pacific. "An ocean blue lava stone was used for the deck as we wanted the French gray of the ocean to run into the pool and the deck as a continuous form." – Fred Gemmell with Matrix Design Studio. The setting's landscape by Justin Williams of La Jolla Landscape and Design frames the backyard providing an almost post-card perfect panorama. The construction of the vanishing edge pool is fully supported on 45-foot caissons, with the edge of the pool sited to help crop the roof top view of the downhill homes. "The greatest challenge was moving the pool to the edge of the property which required some major structural foundation work (caissons) but was so worth it once the pool was filled and the vanishing edge blended into the ocean beyond." – Fred Gemmell with Matrix Design Studio.

In order to be in compliance with Coastal Commission regulations, 50 percent of the

exterior walls of the existing home remained intact since the shape of the existing home worked with the new design concepts.

The 3625 square foot home is situated on a 15,024 square foot hillside lot. The exterior of the home is traditional with a Santa Barbara influence while the inside of the home is very open and contemporary. The same footprint of the home was maintained however the space was opened so that the home would not feel compartmentalized. In the rear of the home, a wall of glass was added removing the former tiny windows. The remodel focus is on a wall of windows that takes full advantage of the view. Regarding the remodel of his home Wayne Green commented, "Alison and I wanted the design to be functional and to get the best use out of the tremendous views that we have. It was a pleasure working with Hill Construction and Matrix Design; it was a lot of hard work but the finished product was well worth it."

An important element in the remodel of the home was the roof. The remodeled design was able to retain part of the existing



The kitchen and family room have large lift and slide doors that open up each space to the outdoors. Walnut hardwood flooring was used throughout with a light Jerusalem bone limestone used for the kitchen and bathroom floors.



**LEFT** In the central courtyard of the home is a massive Donna Karan designed reclaimed teak wood table that the homeowner felt was ideal for the space. The exposed trusses extend from the interior of the home into the courtyard. **ABOVE** Matrix Design Studio selected exquisite granite in a neutral tones for the kitchen. Accenting the kitchen space is a barrel vault ceiling with a Venetian plaster finish with a light reveal which makes the ceiling appear higher. All of the ceilings in the home are low because the remodeled home retained the existing roof-line.

roof and install a new roofing material. The roof tiles have kiln flash marks, which provide a distinctive look. Because of the hillside location, the roof is an important feature of the home.

In the great room, the ceiling was vaulted; previously it was an 8-foot ceiling and gave the room a very low and dark look. Opening up the space and exposing the structure of the roof gave a different feel to the home.

The kitchen features Venetian Plaster and a Barrel Vault Ceiling. The kitchen is multi-functional and was designed to cater to both the interior and outdoor living space. In the prep area of the kitchen, the entire window slides into the wall and the granite counter top extends outside and becomes a serving bar.

Walnut hardwood flooring was installed throughout the home with light Jerusalem bone limestone used for the kitchen and bathroom floors. The powder room was designed with a rare back lit vintage granite from Brazil.

Lauren Williams of Matrix Design Studio commented, "We like to let our architecture and interior design have a neutral pallet. It becomes a timeless design that can add pops of color with arts, rugs and fabric."

The art for the home was provided by Nico Gemmell Gallery. In the living room is an original work by Fred Gemmell, "Tinnea II," and in the family room is the work by the same artist titled, "Morning". The striking driftwood birds that rest on the coffee table in the family room are from the David Alan Collection and the wood pulp piece over the fireplace in the great room is Puebla Folk art.

The features of the newly designed home that the owners enjoy include: The fantastic views, the vanishing edge swimming pool, the massive amount of outside decking, the ceilings with the wood beams, the exotic stone in the master shower and the beautiful walnut flooring.

This home combines timeless and contemporary elegance that enables the owners to enjoy the breathtaking ocean view from their seamlessly blended indoor and outdoor living areas. **CH**