



Redwood Done Right

by Terrence K. O'Rourke

When our clients purchased their Hollywood Hills home, they wanted to transform it into a quintessential California contemporary, with California coastal redwood used for all of the exterior elements. Hence, the redwood deck, fences, and pergola shown here.

The deck itself is fairly basic, with clean lines that lead out of the living room and wrap around the back of the house. Fencing is one of the key design elements we used to connect the differing grade transitions while maintaining a continuous flow between the house and adjoining spaces. The 1x6 redwood slats of the hillside fence are supported by stained 4x4 PT posts, and the fencing around the house is supported by 3-inch-by-3-inch welded steel tubes, powder-coated to match the stain used on the PT posts. The tubes are fitted with

1/8-inch-thick tabs that we used to attach the fence's redwood slats and translucent fiberglass privacy panels.

The idea for the pergola came from a picture our clients showed us to illustrate how they wanted to help shade and define a sun-drenched area on their hillside-canyon property. Also made from square steel tubing, the frame was welded and powder-coated before it was assembled on location. We then added support footings and clear redwood rafters for the canopy infill. Finally, we chased wiring through holes pre-drilled in the structure to add down-flood lights to complete the project. ♦

Terrence K. O'Rourke owns TKO-Structure, a landscaping and deck construction firm in Los Angeles, Calif.