

## SITE ANALYSIS

Address - 1834 16th Str. Santa Monica, CA 90404  
Latitude is 34° 1' 8.724" N. Elevation 130 ft.

Bad views - a) Woodlawn cemetery and alley views to the southeast and southwest, and b) blocking views due to adjacent neighborhood two story residences to the northeast and northwest.

Good views - a) the open sky and cemetery trees (not the tombstones) looking out from the house backyard, b) Sky and 16th str views, and c) the *Quercus agrifolia* in the backyard of the property.

Noise from the cemetery and nearby Interstate 10 the Santa Monica freeway to the northwest.

Existing point of interest is the *Quercus agrifolia* in the backyard to the southwest of the property. Potential new points can be a water feature in the front yard to the northeast, and in the backyard a vegetable garden, play and meditation areas.

Existing plants on site and on adjacent parcels - Inside the property, one the south side, there is one tree, a *Quercus agrifolia*, coast live oak. Lot is completely bare other than the oak tree. Outside the property on the north east side, there are existing trees on the 16th street parkways, most likely *Cedrus deodara*, deodar cedar and couple of *Phoenix canariensis*, canary island date palm. There are no identified shrubs on 16th street and green parkways are covered with grasses.

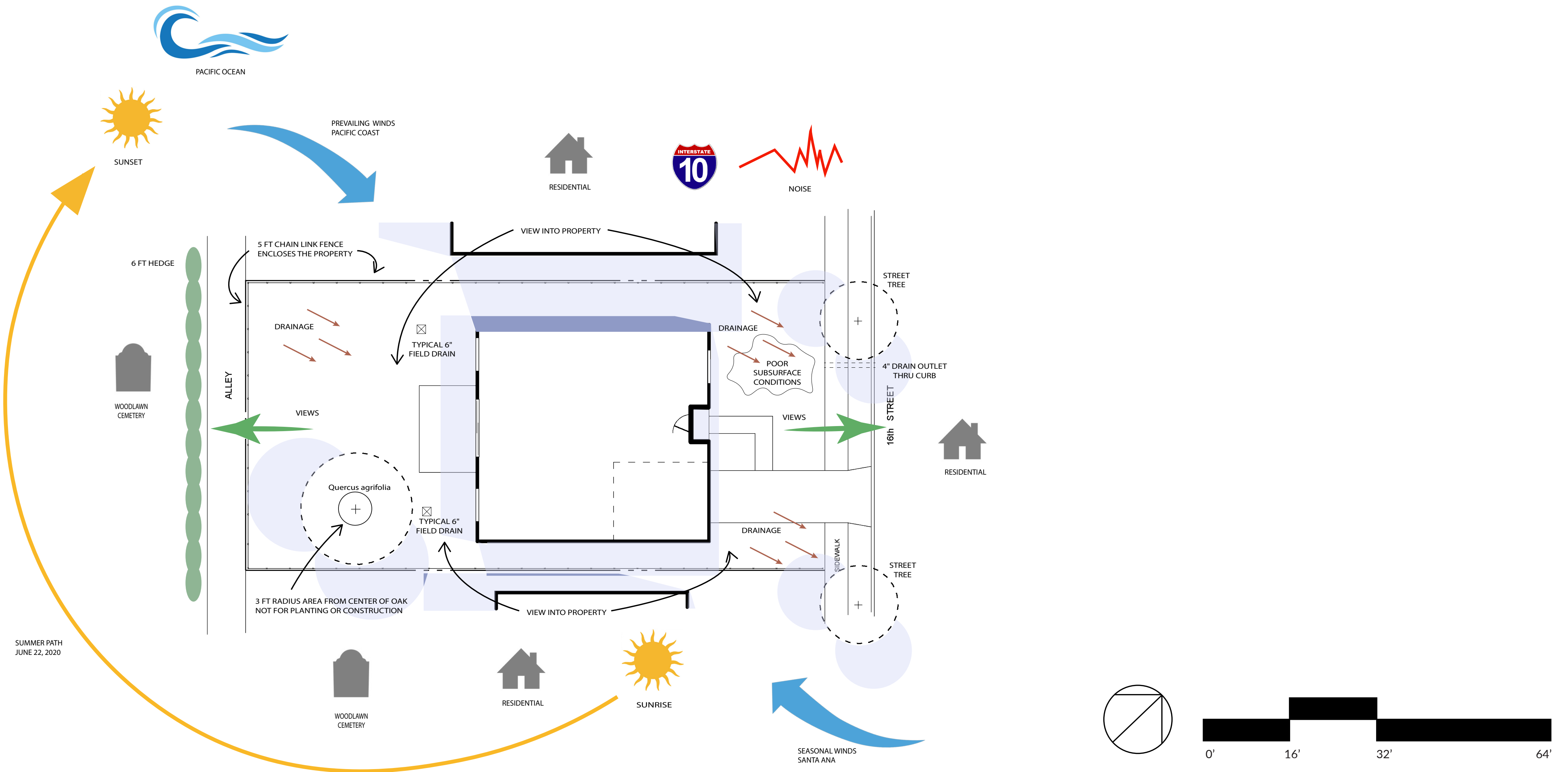
Sun / Shade patterns - Summer sun from the morning until the evening hours cast shade in the property at different places. There is no deep shade. Sun path shown during summer solstice June 22, 2020 at sunrise 5:43 AM and sunset 8:08 PM.

Prevailing and seasonal winds - Seasonal Santa Ana winds, strong, hot and dry, blow from the east and prevailing winds of marine air, mild and moist, blow from the Pacific coast in the west.

Drainage - The lot slopes approx. 1.5 feet from west to east providing a good drainage, and critical to plant health. There is no problem with the site drainage.

Soil conditions are sandy loam. The scant rain in the region drives the soil to the alkaline side and the moisture due to its coastal location drives the soil to the acid side. Both factors balance the soil pH to a neutral and slight alkaline side.

Sunset Western Garden Book climate zone 24  
Temperatures range from 45F in the winter to 75F in the summer. Growing season is all year round.



## DESIGN NARRATIVE

The idea behind this project was to create a Mediterranean garden with climate-appropriate plants – including subtropical and California natives – with different colors, textures, and seasonal interest. This relaxing and inviting residential garden is designed for a small family and is meant to be safe for young child and small dog.

The planting design consists of four areas: the 16th street parkway, the front of the house, the adjacent residence side yards, and the back yard. Because the front and rear of the house are the largest areas, they are divided into several smaller design programs.

The front of the house includes a fountain and seating area with a bench, with shade from the house and a *Punica granatum* (pomegranate tree) creating a shade garden. The fountain is placed on top of the area that had poor surface conditions which now they have been removed. Complementing the tree are a variety of shade plants with moderate watering needs, which together create a welcoming and cooling entrance to the property. To the east of the front yard, a rain garden collects storm water at the lowest level of the property. Two new paths at the north and east of the property create quiet walkways to the back yard, with plants appropriate for partial shade.

A pergola wraps around the southwest side of the house – where the hottest and brightest sun exposure exists – as well as the northwest side, obscuring views from adjacent residences. The southeast side of the house does not require views to be obscured, given that there are no windows and it receives sufficient shade from the adjacent property.

The back of the house includes the most design program areas, with plants suitable for sunnier and hottest conditions. Curved lines divide the space into an active area, with distinct child and dog play areas, as well as a relaxation area, which includes the kitchen garden, bench rest and meditation areas. The child's area was placed in the center to maximize visibility and accessibility from all other areas. The existing oak tree is left untouched, with only oak companion plants placed outside a six-foot diameter from center of the oak.

Overall, fragrant plants, such as *Jasminum polyanthum* (pink jasmine vine), as well as those that attract birds and butterflies, such as *Eriogonum arborescens* (Santa Cruz island buckwheat), create a relaxing and pleasing scene. These plant choices also help preserve California's special ecosystem and biodiversity by inviting wildlife and beneficial pollinators.

Following are the conceptual plant design and plant palette, organized by these different program areas and including all plants selected based on aesthetics, size, sun and water needs.

## AREA USE PLAN

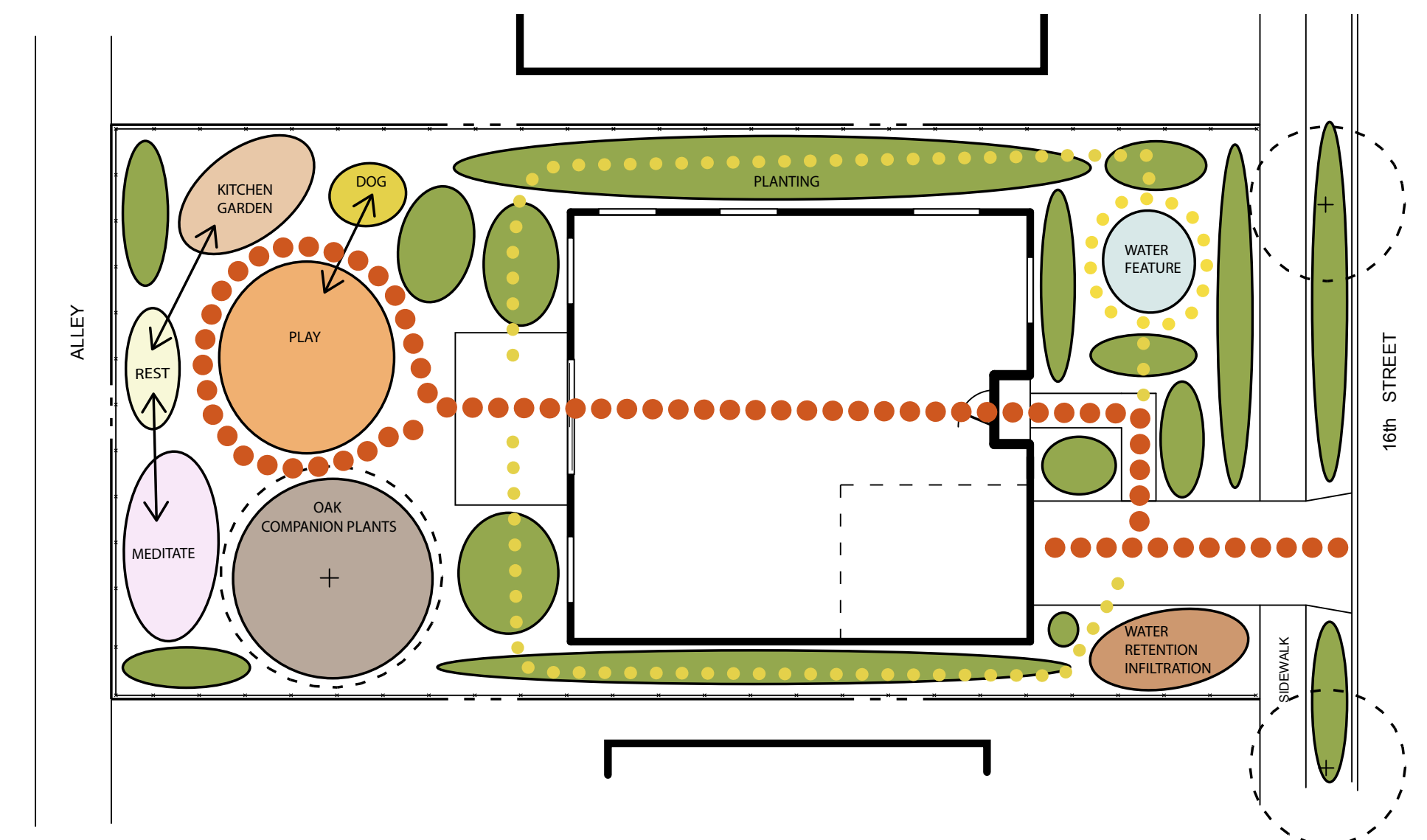
Front yard and parkway proposed program areas:

- a garden with a water feature including plants and seating area,
- plants appropriate near existing paths and driveway,
- planting area that extends all the way around the perimeter of the property,
- parkway planting, and
- water retention infiltration area that extends to the backyard.

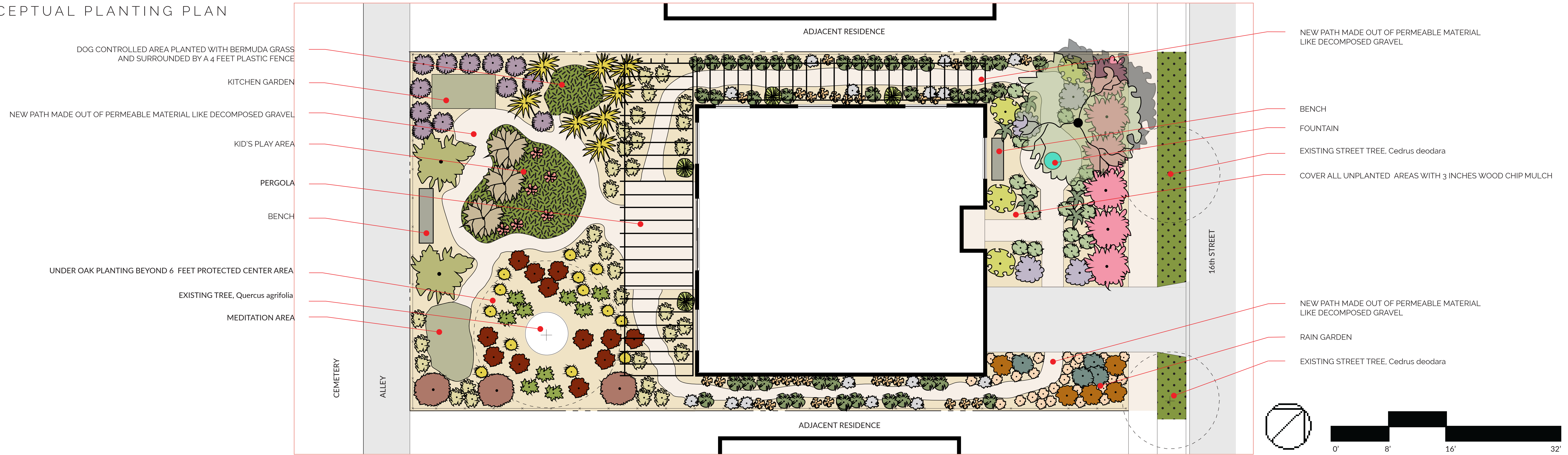
Back yard proposed program areas:

- controlled space for dog (dachshund),
- play space for 8 year old daughter and dog,
- kitchen garden plot, c) seasonal interest garden,
- quiet place under the oak for parents to read, meditate and practice yoga,
- planting area that extends all the way around the perimeter of the property, and
- water retention infiltration area that extends to the front yard.

There is not enough deep shade for a shade garden. Tree will be planted in the front yard to provide shade.

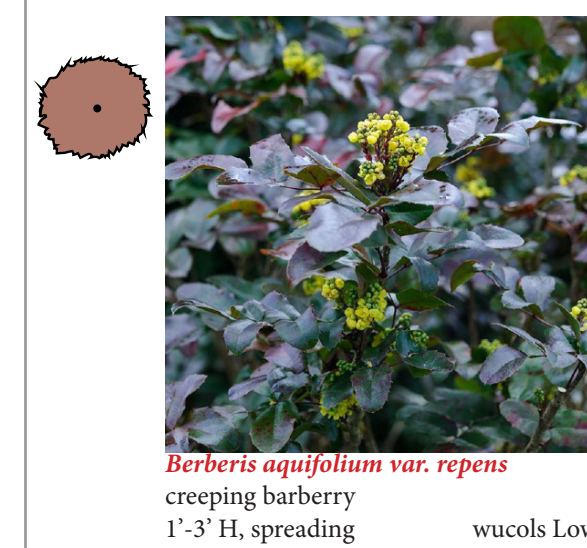


## CONCEPTUAL PLANTING PLAN



## PLANT PALETTE BY AREA

### MEDITATION



### UNDER OAK



### KID'S PLAY AREA



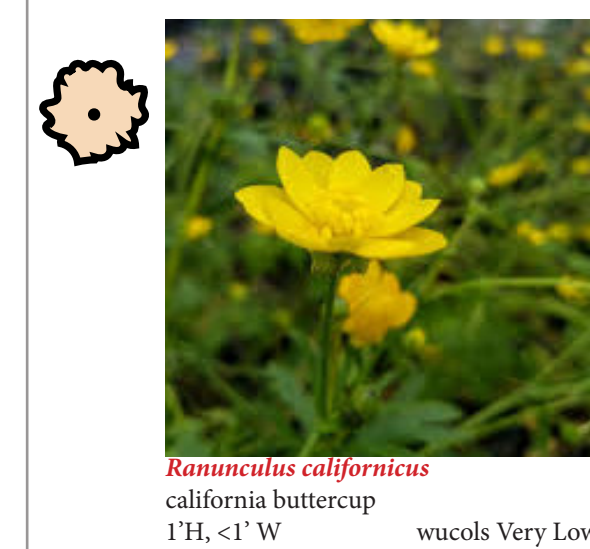
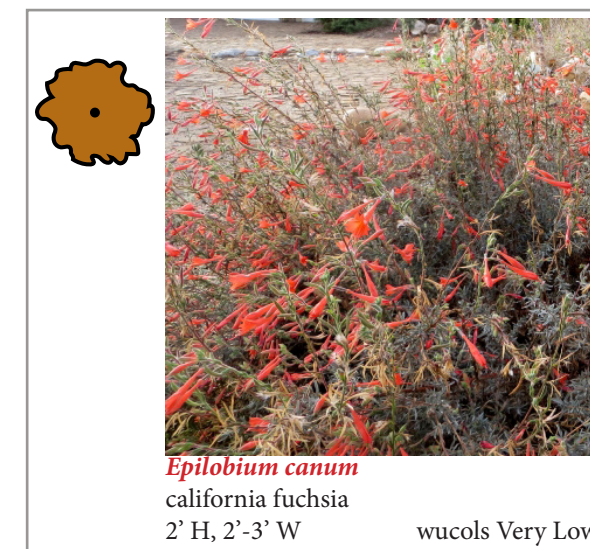
### PERGOLA & KITCHEN GARDEN



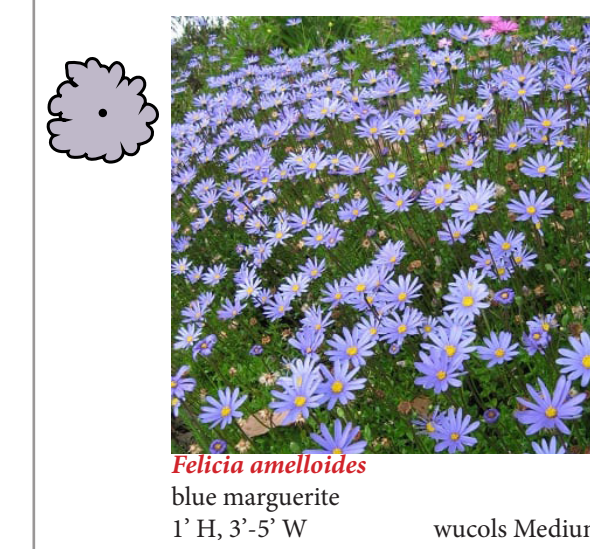
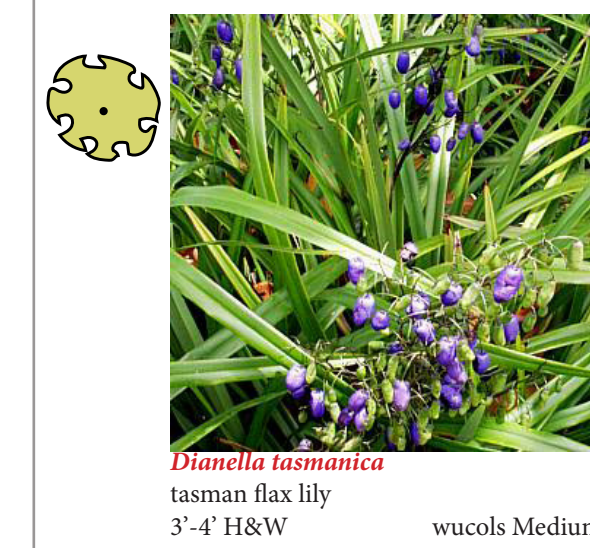
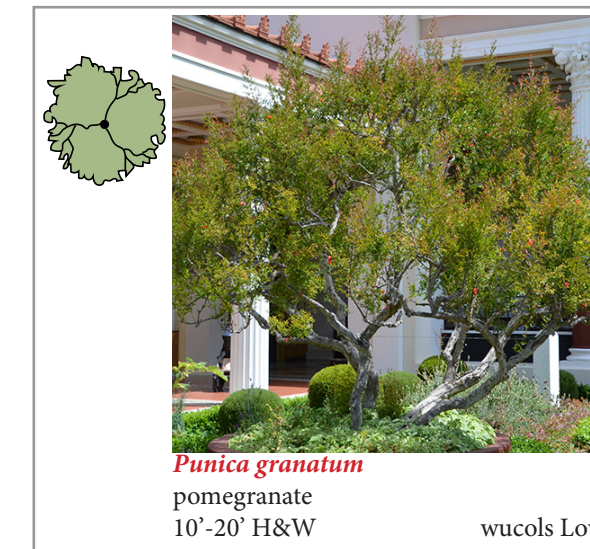
### ADJACENT RESIDENCE SIDE YARDS



### RAIN GARDEN



### FOUNTAIN



### 16TH STREET PARKWAY

