

THE GOOD YARDS

A Circle, a Drive, and a Boulevard.

There's one property unique in Magnolia Point in that it borders one of each: Belfry, Colonial, and Pebble Beach. It's officially 1692 Belfry Circle, though what Dimple and Peter Wish call their 'pork chop' yard neatly combines many

DIMPLE & PETER WISH

The plantings throughout the property are understated, a variety of native species with a palette of verdant hues dominant, interest raised by the numerous plantings' varying textures, heights and luminance.

And now the elephant in the room: how idyllic can it be sharing what Peter calls the long side of their



familiar elements in an inviting and special habitat.

(Welcome, reader. *The Magnolia* now combines here 'OutSide' and 'The Good Gardens' into 'The Good Yards', elements of soft and hardscapes with those of a third: 'lawnspace'.)

A neat ornamental aluminum fence marks off the just part of the backyard, the eastern side offering glimpses of the cart path of the Red Nine. Looking out from the back patio, over the baronial arc of a stone knee wall, the landscape blending into one restful setting, that fence subtly knitting the yard into the larger, albeit decamped Golf Club enterprise, cart path included, the whole effect warmly nostalgic just the same. The fence which in any other yard would mark the end, in theirs is really a beginning. And the yard beyond goes on. And on. And on. To Pebble Beach, Wish family solar landscape lights decorating the neat plantings all along the way. The expanse, seeming worthy of its own zip code, is St. Augustine front to back.

property a 'runway' along Colonial? (My question exactly, sharing some frontage with that thoroughfare myself.) Truth is, thanks to a nearly



filled-in perimeter of Viburnum, not only is the din of the Drive's motorsport rendered completely benign, but hushed just enough to emphasize the visual interest of vehicles are glimpsed through gaps in the wall of green.

Continues Next Page



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What were the main improvements you'd done to your yard?

We added the fence to the backyard, a patio with pavers and added electrical landscaping lights around the front and side yards. We also put up patio lights in the backyard.

What was your first "success" with it?

The fence. We gotten numerous compliments from our neighbors on how it added a lot to the home and property.

What do you enjoy most about your yard?

The size of our yard, and the privacy. When we were looking to buy or have one built, we wanted something close to an acre. We love looking out from the back patio and listening to the sounds of nature and realizing how lucky we both are to have found such a nice neighborhood and beautiful home.

What are your plans or ideas for it?

We just had the home completely repainted on the outside. Our goal is to maintain it and keep it as nice looking as possible. I can see us adding a little bit more color, plants and flowers, in the back yard come spring.

Where do you buy or find items for plantings?

The usual local stores and nurseries.



Where do you buy your hardscape materials?

Once we have an idea, we will touch base with our handyman and see if he has any suggestions. We do a lot of searching on the internet to get the best price and quality product.

Do you work with a landscaper on design ideas?

We've been using Landscape Customs for several years and they do a great job. We also ask their advice if we have an idea on what we are trying to do.

What advice would you give someone planning (any or all) of the features in your yard?

Get at least three estimates. Also, prioritize which things you want done first. They don't all have to be done at the same time and projects like a fence or having a patio built with pavers can cost between \$5-10K. You'd be amazed at the different prices you'll get. Check with friends and neighbors that may have had similar work done. You can save yourself a lot of headache and money by doing the necessary research first before signing any contract.

