

Urbic patio

Embracing history, *planting for the future*



Situated in the heart of Arcadia, the Hulburd's northern view includes an unobstructed view of Camelback Mountain.

By Suzanne Pickett Martinson
Special for The Republic

Shall I show me your garden and I shall tell you what you are," said English Poet Laureate Alfred Austin (1835-1913). If Austin were to walk through the gate to Jon and Carrie Louis-Hulburd's Arcadia garden, he could immediately tell that the couple is passionate about gardening; that they embrace the history of the land while planting for the future; and that they like to experiment with creativity and whimsy.

"Our home and garden are a work in progress," said Jon, a former attorney and current co-owner of a pottery manufacturing company. "Carrie and I are continually thinking about our next phase. Each year we add more ideas to our master plan. It's great fun, but never

ending!"

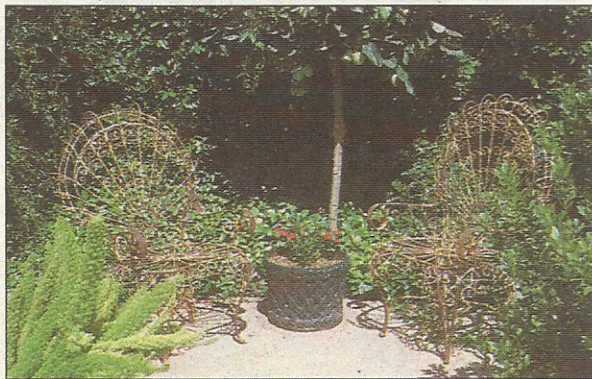
The Hulburd's property was originally a 24-acre orange orchard and winter home owned by Carrie's grandparents, John and Henrietta Louis. They

purchased three acres from the estate when her grandmother died in 1991. Of nine grandchildren, only Carrie and Jon were living in the Valley and interested in saving part of the history that had

been in the family since 1937. While the rest of the acreage was sold and developed into custom homes, the Hulburds created a warm and inviting home with lush gardens for family, friends and treasured pets.

"The first thing I did was take a tape measure and calculator, and with a child on my shoulders, walked the property line figuring out where we wanted to start. Before moving, I had two very definite ideas: one, live in the house and on the property for one year before making any changes; and two, create a master plan for both the inside and outside. This has helped us focus on our phases as they come up," explained Jon.

The first outdoor phase to be completed was the creation of seating areas and courtyards



Secret gardens and lushly-planted seating areas are tucked away throughout the three-acre property.

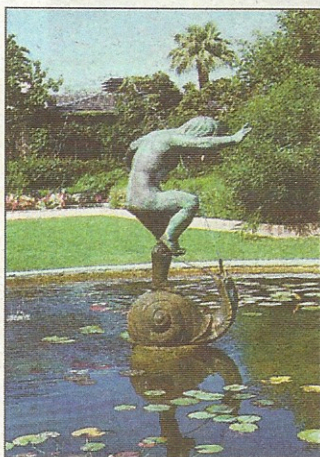


EMBRACING/from AZ10

throughout the property. With the help of San Francisco-based landscape architect John Long, the Hulburds created a master plan. They redefined the front door entry and designed a variety of seating vignettes on all sides of the main house and the two-story pool/guest house, including a roof garden. The Hulburds and their four children make full use of these outdoor rooms, which are great for entertaining or just relaxing with the family.

Sculptures and mosaics add a sense of fun and interest to the gardens as they peek out of colorful flower beds or highlight water features, such as the Italian bronze “snail boy” who commands attention in the pond at the front of the property. Discovered on the grounds, the piece was originally purchased by Carrie’s grandparents in the 1930s or 1940s. The whimsical mosaic overlooking the pool was created by two San Francisco artisans and the “frog man” was found while traveling in Laguna Beach, Calif. The most unusual sculpture is a ball or orb made of stacked stone designed by Long. Guests never fail to remark on the shape and purpose of the orb, which is placed in the hummingbird garden. Most insist that it is an outdoor pizza oven.

Although the Hulburds employ help for managing and maintaining the details of the master-planned landscape, both Carrie and Jon enjoy working in the gardens. Jon’s “job” is water gardening — taking care of the water lilies, fish and frogs in the pond. Carrie loves to putter in the hummingbird



Photos by
Ann Sanchez
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Potted geraniums (far left) lead the way up the stairs to the rooftop garden of the guest house. The Italian bronze sculpture (below left), lovingly nicknamed “snail boy” by the Hulburd children, is the focal point of the main pond. The family’s pets (left) include two potbellied pigs named Button and Pig. An antique iron gate (below) separates the Hulburd home from the former orange orchard.



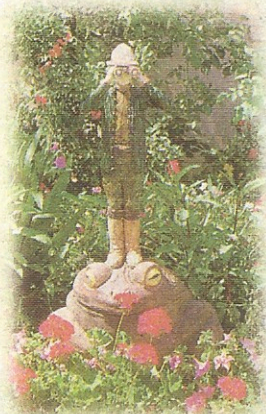
Growing phases, flourishing gardens

GROWING from AZ11

garden while experimenting with new desert plants and cacti.

The hummingbird garden was originally designed by local landscape architect Christi Ten Eyck after Carrie purchased her services as a live auction item at COMPAS (Combined Metropolitan Arts and Sciences) — an annual auction event that raises money for a variety of arts and science non-profits. It has now grown twice its original size as Carrie continually adds new and exotic specimens to the mix. Carrie, owner of a Scottsdale linen shop, relishes the time she spends in the gardens, gaining inspiration from her plants and animals.

The Hulburd's gardening "assistants" are four-legged: Charm and Eloise, the sister pugs; Miles, the Airedale; Guapo, the Australian

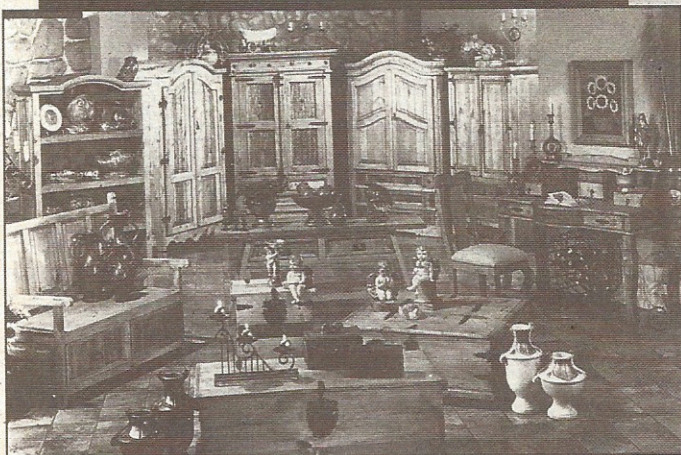


The Hulburd's property includes the original house plus the two-story pool house (right) which was renovated and now serves as a guest house.

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PHASES/page AZ13

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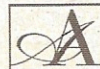
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shepherd, and Button and Pig, the sister potbelly pigs. According to Jon, the pigs don't eat everything in sight like the family's pet pygmy goats did, but they do like to take a dip in the pond and socialize with the frogs, particularly during the summer.

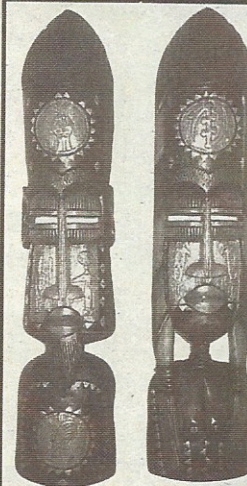
The next two phases will include the children's play area, complete with jungle gyms and trampolines, and a formal garden in the orange grove behind the home. The couple has visualized terraces with geometric strips of grass and stone with a series of rose-covered arbors leading from the back yard to the formal garden. At night, the trees will be lighted with small twinkling lights.

It goes without saying that Alfred Austin would be particularly impressed. ☺



Courtyards and seating vignettes (above) were created on all sides of the Hulburd home, including the entrance.

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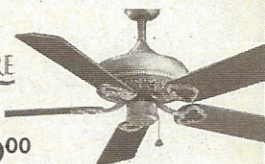


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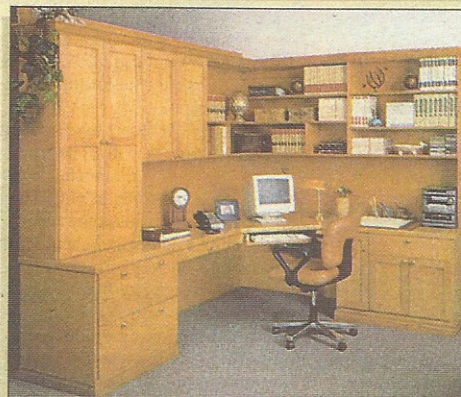
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