

Long Term Ideas

Eve Murto

Ivy replacement ideas – Bushes & wood chip



Bushes with color and variety



Lawn Option #1: Keep Main Lawn Green & conserve elsewhere

- Keep main lawn green & pristine
- Conserve elsewhere:
 - Replace pool side lawn with mulch (and some seagrass) or
 - Replace gazebo lawn w/mulch
 - Replace ivy with mulch on rim of property



Lawn option #2 : Zoned approach (carve up lawn into zones; keep some green; keep some mulch)

- The Oak (Sandhill Road condo/rentals)
- Also saw at Stanford (not pictured here)



Lawn option #3 – Meadow look, “au natural”

- Let lawn go (keep watering 2x/week)
- Minimal trim/cut
- Wildflowers



Comfortable/Lightweight Furniture

- Create flexible social spaces
- Place on ground (grass or mulch)
- Easily moveable (lightweight)
- Stackable (if possible)
- Indoor/outdoor cushions



Sectional Furniture / indoor outdoor living

Lightweight

Easily movable

In center of courtyard
(on paving)

Firepit is a nice option for
evening social time

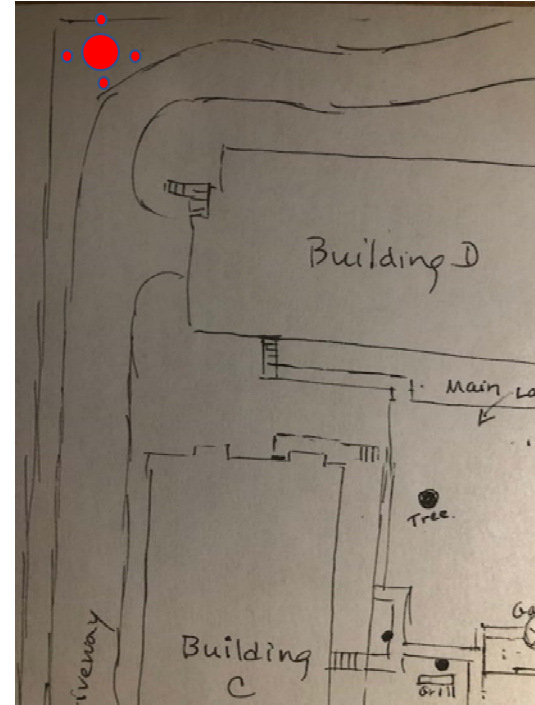


Table or fire pit (plumbed) might be
nice

Rim of property – use SW Corner?

Optional social zone?
Add table and chairs?

- Possible seating area or round table spot
- Replace ivy with mulch
- Keep all trees and bushes in place (not many)
- If desire another social space, add round table and chairs, or seating
- Place table on mulch



Summary – My Personal Input

- Overall, keep the same design “style” for the complex – (Pacific Northwest Look w/Palm Trees/bright plants)
 - Replace a few plants with more water wise choices
 - Not change design style – not change to primarily cactus/desert look or rock garden looks
- Abide by all Menlo Park or California mandates (currently set at saving 20%)
- Options to Conserve
 - Cut the ivy and replace by mulch
 - Plant mid density grasses and small bushes (more of what we have) in new brown mulch areas
 - Poolside lawn – replace with mulch and green creepers if we must
 - Rim: eliminate ivy
 - Front of complex: remove ivy
 - Main lawn: add mulch circles at base of trees
- Main lawn:
 - Keep main lawn green; soothing to be surrounded by nature; overall psychological benefit; sacrifice water in other places
- Keep existing trees and bushes well maintained (with arborist advice) – high priority
- Planter Boxes: Keep colorful plants; seek plant choices that use less water ; keep drip irrigation in good condition
- Install Awning near Commons Room – Add one for water protection; add water capture if possible
- Explore water capture (gutters/ storage) around complex
- Install drip irrigation instead of sprinklers (explore cost effective options)
- Water meter – Find way to measure total outdoor/landscaping gallons vs Household (indoor) unit gallons (if feasible and cost/effective) for better water management going forward