

New in Homes



PHOTOS COURTESY LAND EFFECTS

A tall hedge of pyramidal hornbeams, above left, add some privacy to this redesigned backyard. The barbecue area, along with comfy seating, make the low-maintenance yard a great place to sit back and relax.

Yard is fit for a garden party



Elaine Carey
Lessons in Landscaping

The owners of this property wanted to turn their small backyard into a private, low-maintenance entertainment space — and they gave landscape architect Keith Evans lots of leeway to do it.

To add privacy to the east side, Evans used a tall hedge of pyramidal hornbeams, which end at the barbecue area. There he installed a wooden screen with sandblasted glass in place of lattice to give the garden a more contemporary look. That was complemented by a built-in barbecue area with a surprisingly affordable and maintenance-free stainless-steel countertop.

Evans likes to leave the view of the garden from the upper deck unobstructed so he used tem-

pered glass in the deck railing. "The glass really comes to life at night when the garden lighting is on and reflections and plants behind the glass are uplit," he says.

Warm clay-brick paving stones were used with an eight-inch Owen Sound black flagstone banding around the edges and as an inset detail in the grassless yard.

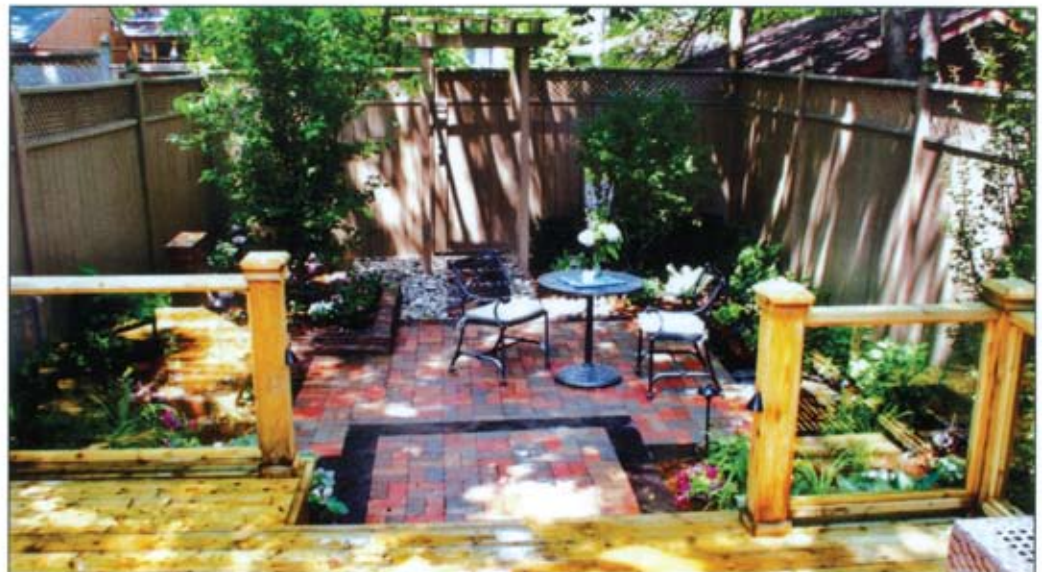
Evans used Wiarnton stone curbing to add some elevation at the rear of the garden where a flowering dogwood tree rests elegantly.

A free-standing water feature (from Beyond the Veranda — www.beyondtheveranda.com) was added and installed for under \$2,000 and "is a cinch to maintain," he says.

The owners are thrilled with their new entertainment space, which was just recently completed.

Source: Keith Evans, Land Effects, 416-919-3826, www.landeffects.ca.

If you have an interesting landscape project, email ecarey@thestar.ca.



Tempered glass used in the railing for the raised deck provides a clean, unobstructed view of the rest of the updated, modern backyard.