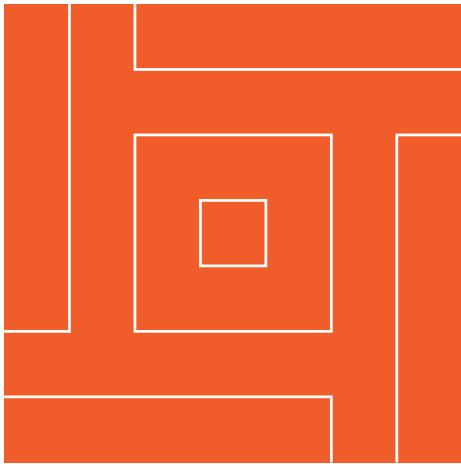


T H E G A R D E N W A L L



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THE STATE OF THE HOUSE SPRING 2005

A charming ruin no longer. The much anticipated garden path is laid, wisterias grow in the planter boxes and the perfect red linoleum is acquired.

Mr. Wright's house plan defined a brick walking path that paralleled the garden wall. The path separated the main garden plot from a smaller strip of plantings and the lawn. The walk in plan, ran straight into the foliage at the termination of the wall. The drawing however did not take into account any of the existing trees on the site. One of the largest Burr Oaks grows dead center on the projection of the path. It wasn't going anywhere for the next hundred years so we elected to run around the tree rather than dead end at its roots.

The bricks used match the terrace bricks. However they are laid on edge in a bed of sand rather than on a cement slab. The path follows the sloping grade of the site to the end of the wall where it ends. The garden space is now beautifully defined even before planting of any sort has begun. 🏠



The garden prior to the path.

Following is a photo essay on spring restoration accomplishments at the Willey House.



Staked out lines define the path.



Sod being removed from the staked area.



Master bedroom terrace.



Master bedroom terrace after bricks laid in place.



Making the turn around the oak.



Sharp masonry sand being screed flat and level.



Stafford smiling knowing that the end is near.



Finished path with sand swept into the joints.



Path projecting out from bedroom terrace.





Path circles the oak tree.





Joshua holding his wooden mock-up.

RETURN OF WISTERIA

The planter boxes on either side of the living room had originally held wisteria vines. The foliage can be seen as somewhat abundant in vintage photos of the house. Their extreme vigor may have lead to their eventual banishment.

The zone 3 hardy varieties we have selected are Aunt Dee and Blue Moon, both pale blue in hue. This time around the vines will be trained to grow only on the outer fringe of the trellis so they do not interfere with rain water drainage.

A small ladder trellis was designed for each planter to assist the new vines up to roof level. A wooden prototype was first constructed and approved before Josh committed the final forms to powder-coated steel. 📸



Mock-up in place (left). Steel trellis powder-coated Cherokee Red (right).





Wisteria vines growing up the new trellis.





Battleship linoleum being laid in the storage room

CHEROKEE RED LINOLEUM

Wright was not yet referring to the color as Cherokee Red but the linoleum flooring is most certainly a variant of that elusive color. A very nearly lost source of battleship linoleum was rediscovered this spring. Armstrong sold a red battleship linoleum in the U.S. market. It was manufactured by Uni-Walton in Germany. We acquired samples 2 years ago and at the time decided to wait and order it when we were ready to use it. In the intervening time, Armstrong stopped distributing the color in the US. Weeks of persistent nagging phone calls elicited a response in the form of a small cache of the material located in a domestic warehouse. Enough was purchased to complete the kitchen and the storage room above the garage. The former location was laid this spring.

The product color is Deep Red, Uni-Walton 19288-281. It is a dead ringer for the original linoleum used in the kitchen, on the counters and floor. 🍷



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