

RED • TILE • STYLE



AMERICA'S SPANISH REVIVAL ARCHITECTURE

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In October 1991, a devastating wildfire destroyed nearly three thousand homes in the hills above Oakland and Berkeley, California. Among the few positive aspects of this catastrophe was the rare chance to rebuild the destroyed neighborhoods under comprehensive planning and design guidelines. The results, while uneven at best, nevertheless produced many fine homes, including some superb examples of Spanish Revival design. This house, designed by architect Ann Maria Celona and completed in 1994, incorporates traditional Mission-style elements such as subtly sloped buttresses, stout wooden corbels, and simple gable roofs. The deep reveal of the balcony arch and the softly rounded corners of the stucco yield an exceptionally convincing rendition of adobe, while the quatrefoil window, clay pavers, and vine-draped pergola evoke the romantic image of the missions that so appealed to the style's early proponents.