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Pacesetter Awards
One Thomas Circle, N.W. Suite 600
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Our firm, Hart Howerton, had the pleasure of working with Jim Murphy Associates on the construction of a few homes in Sonoma County California. My own experience with JMA, our two firms' first collaboration, was on a private residence on a 19 acre estate home lot. Introduced to us by this particular client, **we then introduced JMA to the other clients mentioned above.**

JMA's scope of work on this home encompassed all site work, landscaping and architecture which included approximately 7,200 s.f. of built space: a main house, a guest house, separate garage and significant additional covered areas. Significant site and landscape work included a formal drive and stone retaining walls, a gated auto-court, a courtyard with pool, verandas and terraces.

In my 30 years as an architect, in which I've been involved with all types of residential and commercial building types including several estate homes, I've never had a better experience with a general contractor. In a project very much colored by highly demanding and challenging clients, who were well experienced from building other homes, I know **JMA exceeded their expectations.** JMA's effort was well beyond my own expectations, those shaped from years of working with contractors of all types and capabilities. From early in the design process through property management after construction completion, JMA embraced the process with **quiet but effective leadership,** and **forward thinking** in regards to both client and architect needs and desires.

JMA provided great performance at all levels:

- **Budget management** from design through construction completion,
- **Schedule** “ “ “ “ “ “
- **Responsiveness and follow-through** to client and architect alike
- **Creative thinking** to construction methods, processes, alternatives, etc.
- **Concierge-like mindset** regarding customer service and delivery

Our firm's strong **multi-disciplinary approach to design**, involves a very team oriented mindset by which we provide complete architecture, landscape architecture and planning to our large scale planning projects, and we approach our individual private homes no differently. We pride ourselves on working responsively, strategically and meaningfully with our clients and **we seek other design consultants and contactors who share our mindset and values, and those of our clients.** Jim Murphy reflected this approach as he took a strong personal role on this project, he clearly provided an "A-Team" from his firm, and rounded out the effort with a superb team of sub-consultants. I would highly recommend JMA for Pacesetter Award based on the performance on this home alone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. Maassen', written over a diagonal line.

Werner H. Maassen
Senior Associate