

SECOND CHANCES

This Santa Monica Mountain home managed to survive two tragedies—abandonment and fire—only to emerge more beautiful than ever.



Interior designer **Interior Archaeology** / writer **Hadley Mendelsohn**
photographer **Tessa Neustadt**



POOL PATIO
“Views of the Santa Monica Mountains dominate the horizon,” designer Tammy Randall Wood says of her family’s backyard vista.
Tables: Formations. **Chair:** Four Hands. **Tile:** Saltillo from Mexico. **Pillows and throws:** Shoppe Amber Interiors.

LIVING ROOM
Wood was inspired by the idea of a caravansary, “a roadside inn where travelers would rest and recover, from the day’s journey along routes like the Silk Road.”
Chairs: Wicker Works, with Rose Tarlow fabric. **Coffee table:** vintage. **Tray:** Made Goods. **Sculpture:** Picasso. **Pendant:** Formations. **Tile:** Walker Zanger.



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LAUNDRY ROOM

Everyday tasks take place against an elegant, serene backdrop. **Wall tiles:** [Zellij Gallery](#). **Backsplash and countertop:** soapstone, [Walker Zanger](#). **Sink and faucet:** [Rohl](#). **Accessories:** designer's own collection. **Hardware:** via [Interior Archaeology](#).

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FAMILY ROOM

Simple, comfy, and perfect for cozy gatherings. **Sofa:** [Suzanne Kasler](#). **Coffee table:** [Shoppe Amber Interiors](#). **Chairs and ottomans:** [Little Petra](#), via [Interior Archaeology](#). **Fireplace tile:** [Zellij Galleries](#). **Shades:** [Hunter Douglas](#).

WILD CARDS RUN IN THE FAMILY.

RAISED BY A SECOND-GENERATION Hollywood stunt man, Tammy Randall Wood fell in love with set design early in life. “I wanted to be involved in the creation of spaces because they really do help us tell our stories,” says Wood, who, newly married, went into interior design rather than film so she didn’t have to move on location for every new project. “We manifest the story of our lives.”

After two decades in Connecticut, that meant moving her family back to Southern California. A foreclosed Spanish Colonial in the Santa Monica Mountains, right next door to the mansion featured on *The Bachelor*, was “an LSD nightmare,” the designer recalls. “They had painted the floors black, and every room a different electric color. But I said to my husband, ‘Let’s buy it.’”

Where others saw an abandoned eight-bedroom money pit, Wood saw potential. “I always have huge visions, and everyone around me shakes their head,” she explains. “We refurbished the gardens with beautiful olive trees, redid the floors, and ripped out the kitchen. It was featured on a magazine cover—and then the 2018 Woolsey fire destroyed most of it five months later.”

Ever the optimist, Wood, the principal and founder of Interior Archaeology, saw this as an opportunity: “We fixed everything we couldn’t get to the first time around.” Using a neutral color scheme and quiet yet rich materials like limestone and zellige tile, she sought to “bridge the traditional architecture with a more modern sensibility.” The family follows “a Medical Medium protocol, with food as healing,” so the kitchen

features two islands and extensive closed cabinetry (painted a soothing natural green) so that all her smoothie and juice-making gadgets can be quickly stowed. The swimming pool and sprawling gardens inspire the family to spend a lot of time outside, another design for healthy living.

For the furnishings and accents, “We created juxtapositions that make sense,” Wood says: nubby bouclé chairs across from a roll-arm sofa,

easygoing woven Roman shades against patterned drapes, and refreshing white paint that makes the beams pop. Several bedrooms were converted into guest suites, decorated to make loved ones feel at home while visiting.

So what’s it really like to live next to the *Bachelor* mansion? “People find out and are lined up at the wall [separating the two properties],” laughs Wood. “Luckily, it’s a really tall wall.” 🏡



DINING ROOM

A patterned [Zimmer + Rohde](#) curtain fabric plays into the more formal side of the Spanish Colonial. **Ceiling accent:** antique panel. **Roman shades:** [Hunter Douglas](#). **Pendants:** [Currey & Company](#). **Table:** custom, [Interior Archeology](#). **Chairs:** [Noble Souls](#).



BEDROOM

Bed frame: [Hickory Chair](#). **Bedding:** [Raoul Textiles](#) via [Shoppe Amber Interiors](#). **Sconce:** vintage. **Bench:** [Interior Archeology](#). **Rug:** antique.



KITCHEN

Wood designed the space as a cross between English scullery and a hacienda. **Paint:** Winter White, [Benjamin Moore](#) (walls and ceiling) and custom, [Interior Archeology](#) (cabinetry). **Ovens:** [Wolf](#). **Counters:** terrazzo (left) and marble (right), [Walker Zanger](#).



COURTYARD
A trickling fountain and outdoor fireplace set the scene. **Dining table** custom, and **chairs:** via, [Interior Archeology](#). **Light fixture:** custom, [Dana Creath Designs](#). **Floor tiles:** [Tabarka Studio](#).

TILE PATIOS AND PATHS
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SQUARE FOOTAGE.