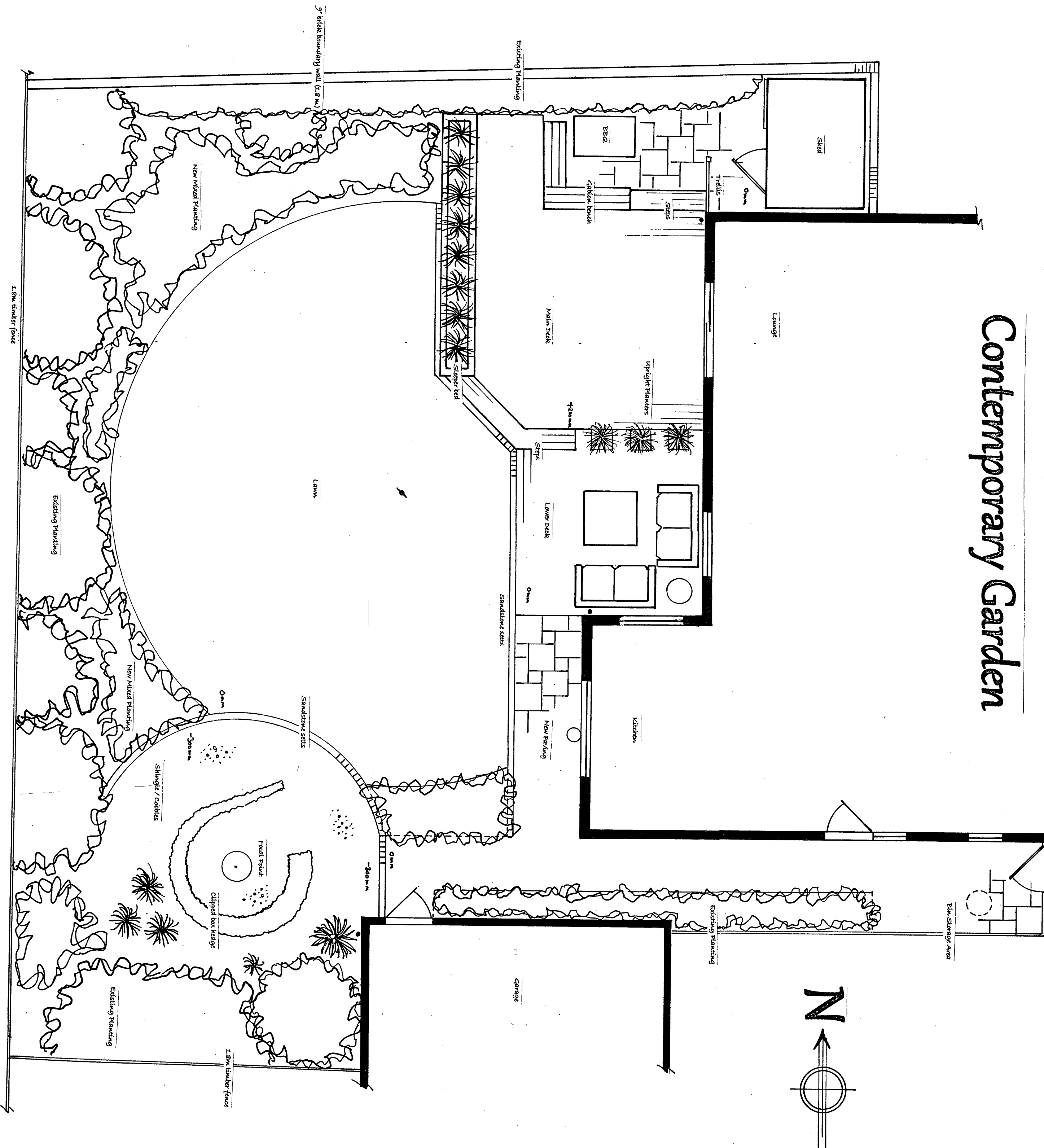


Contemporary Garden



Overview

"We want a nice big deck for entertaining & to replace the old paving" - that was the gist of the initial request for this rather tired Bishop's Stortford garden. Following the design consultation our brief was to bring the garden back to life & right up to date.

Benefiting from a favourable aspect (W), not being overlooked & having a fair few established plants we had a good starting point.

Hard Landscaping

The tired old paving will be replaced by a level access (to the lounge) deck using modern composite materials - the grey boards blending with the new grey carpet in the lounge. A smaller deck at ground level will accommodate an outdoor lounge area. Steps will lead down to the lower deck & across the diagonal of the garden to a contemporary focal point feature.

Gabion baskets filled with cobbles & topped with decking boards will provide occasional seating for the new BBQ area, which will be screened from the new shed by 2 x half slatted trellis panels. A sleeper planter will delineate the edge of the deck.

The remaining old paving will be replaced with a fresh new sandstone. A sandstone sett edge will extend along the house side of lawn & deck & also along the top of the block wall that will retain soil from the focal point area (300mm below). The finish here will be 20mm shingle & cobbles.

Planting

With simplicity & unity being the criteria for contemporary planting the existing boundary planting of mainly evergreen shrubs will be retained & a limited palette of ornamental plants used to add texture & form & enhance the scheme.

For the planters around the deck a Carex & a Panicum grass cultivar will be used for the freestanding & sleeper planters respectively.

Clipped box will be used for the rising curved feature "hedge" in the focal point area along with some upright grasses.

For the remaining planting a mix of (maybe 4 or 5) evergreen groundcover, grass or ornamental species & maybe some clipped box will be used.

Lighting

Small LED lights will be used in the deck to highlight steps, planters & gabion baskets. An outdoor standard lamp would make an interesting feature in the outdoor lounge.

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