



Project Profile from  
Norman Sanchez,  
Architecture, Inc.

### La Beaute, Orinda, CA

When Dr. Bayat, DDS retained Norman Sanchez Architecture Inc., her vision was to create an upscale cosmetic dentistry office in the Lamorinda area. The new dental office was to complement and augment her existing general dentistry practice in Berkeley. The designated space was located within an existing building nestled in the rolling hills of Orinda. And, even though the views were breathtaking, the space itself needed to be stripped down to the studs. This created the opportunity to fully implement the client vision and the challenge to stay within budget.

Mr. Sanchez met with Dr. Bayat and her husband – who served as the project manager and interior designer – to understand the functional requirements of the business and the desired aesthetic, as well as to discuss strategies for maximizing the spatial layout and making it code compliant. During the initial phase of the design, the owners expressed a strong desire to provide their patients with the latest treatments in cosmetic dental care in a state-of-the-art facility without conveying the institutional feeling of a medical facility or laboratory.

The challenge of meeting the programmatic requirements while creating the desired design aesthetic was achieved by: building a custom reception desk with matching cabinetry in the treatment rooms; utilizing shoji screens to store patient records and the custom cabinetry to discreetly house medical equipment while allowing it to be readily accessible when needed; using glass doors and transoms to create a feeling of openness and to allow for natural light to enter every space; and installing bamboo flooring in the treatment rooms and high commercial grade carpeting in the office and reception areas. The finished project resulted in an elegant reception area, three state-of-the-art treatment rooms, a laboratory, private office, and consultation room.

The firm highly values fostering strong relationships and open dialogue with all its clients and this project was a wonderful example of how collaboration between the architect, owner and contractor yielded a finished product truly reflective of the client vision within budget. 🍷

Photographer: Heidi Sledge  
Contractor: Alex Matthews & Sons  
Interior Design: Jamie Aguinado

## Contents

Chapter Reports	2
Codes	4
Green	5
Calendar	6
In the News	7
Profiles	8
Sizzling Green	10
Integrated Practice	11
Convention	13