



BEST IN SHOW RESIDENTIAL NEW

PATIO

The Story

Colorco Ltd., located in Merrimack, New Hampshire, is a custom fabricator of ceramics, glass and stone. The company works on a wide variety of projects utilizing jet-cut and hand cut fabrication techniques, with materials such as stone, ceramic, glass, VCT, Marmoleum and rubber. Much of the excess material from various projects is saved for possible future use. Over the years, a large amount of stone waste from jet-cutting projects had accumulated. In 2009, a client who desired a pool patio installation approved the use of scrap stone as the patio surface material. By the end of summer 2010, a 2,200 square foot patio of various shattered stone blends was completed. In addition, various lighting and entertainment elements were fabricated from scrap stone and glass.

The Process

To begin, Colorco Ltd. created an overall plan of the area, establishing the location of the pool, pool house, bar area and lounging areas, in a way that would ensure optimum functionality and flow of traffic. The overall design concept was to have a pool area that was a self-sufficient entertainment area. This meant that once a party had begun, there would be no need for guests or hosts to enter the main residence.

An important element of the patio concept was that it must engage guests' imaginations. From afar, the patio may appear to be a normal installation, but once inside, it should make each guest feel as though he or she has entered an oasis from everyday life. With this overall theme decided, a shop drawing of the patio was given to the artist and designer Nancy Yusko, who completed a series of design sketches over printouts of the shop drawing. After choosing one of the designs, the homeowner worked with Yusko to create a final design. This design consisted of sweeping waves that connected to the pool and pool house. Wave elements on the pool floor completed the overall theme.

With the final design complete, the client was presented with the available materials. Scrap stone from Colorco had been organized into separate colors and the approximate square footage was calculated. Of the proposed colors, the client chose creams, whites, grays and blues. As the client had no strict time frame for project completion, the various stones were left in the sun for a summer. On hot days, the client and Colorco staff would feel the stones for heat absorption. Stones that absorbed the least amount of heat were arranged into cream, white and blue/grey blends. The pooling of various materials into color blends allowed for efficient use of the various scrap stone.

The client chose the cream blend as the field color and the white and blue/grey blends to create the waves. From these color placements, a theme of earth and sea emerged.

COMPANY: Colorco Ltd.

PROJECT LOCATION: Bedford, NH

PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS:

Designers: Nancy Yusko and Jim Burnard, Colorco Limited

Pool and Patio Concrete Builder: Andrews Gunitite

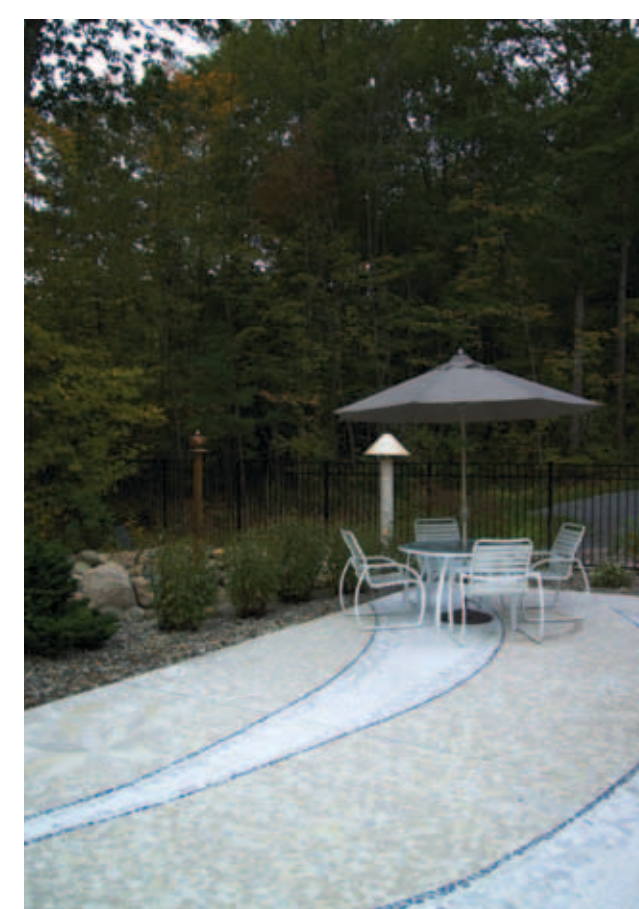
Pool House Builder: PM Mackay

Mosaic Fabrication/Mosaic Installation: Colorco Ltd.

Site Work: Steve Sarette & Son Excavation

USE OF TILE/STONE:

In this patio project, stone scrap saved over the years was organized by material and color into crates, and the approximate square footage was calculated. The client chose from the various stones to create cream, white and blue/grey blends. The cream blend consisted of Crema Marfil, Botticino, Jerusalem Gold, Lagos Gold and French Vanilla. The white blend consisted of Calacatta Gold, Bianco Carrara and Thassos. The blue/grey blend consisted of Blue Macuba and Blue Celeste. The scrap stones were shattered and unusual jet-cut scraps were turned into flora and fauna-themed medallions. The resulting shards and medallions were used to fabricate the surface of the patio and of 24"x24" concrete patio blocks. The total square footage of the patio blocks and patio combined is 2,200 square feet. Additional stone from the cream blend was used to create lamp pole coverings and as decoration for the bar table base.



coverings
THE ULTIMATE TILE + STONE EXPERIENCESM
PROJECT: Green



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Colorco shattered the scrap stone in preparation for patio fabrication. Jet-cut scraps of interesting shapes were combined to create hundreds of unique medallions. In keeping with the theme of earth and sea, the medallions were made to resemble stylized flora and fauna, ranging from squid to birds to flowers. During fabrication, these medallions were incorporated into the stone field.

Additional mosaic was mounted onto 24"x24" concrete blocks, which were strategically placed to hide elements of the patio drainage system. This drainage system was incorporated under the patio to reduce water under the patio, which could otherwise swell and cause damage during the winter months.

Wave elements created from scrap stone and banding from excess glass were fabricated as well. These design elements were inlaid into the gunnite by the pool contractor.

Once the horizontal surfaces were finished, the remaining stone was used to create pole coverings for the light fixtures and as decoration for the base of the bar table. Excess stained glass from previous projects was used to create the bar table mosaic and lamp shades.

The Finished Patio

With large sweeping waves of white, blue and grey stones, and a vast cream field, the southern New Hampshire patio more than achieves an other-worldly feel. Although the design is unusual, the large size of the patio and choice of classic colors add a sense of sophistication. The application of shattered stone has meant that there has been no problem with guests slipping. The testing for heat absorption before creating the stone blends has prevented scorched feet, even during the hottest and sunniest days of the season. To the added delight of the client, the inclusion of flora and fauna medallions has been a hit with parents and children; children enjoy the challenge of counting and identifying the scattered medallions.

Through the creative use of shattered scrap stone, Colorco Ltd. has been able to turn material that would otherwise end up in a landfill into a beautiful and unique work of art.

Judges' Comments:

- "This project wonderfully incorporates salvaged materials into a beautiful design. The 'medallions' scattered throughout the design add an extra nice touch to the sweeping elements of the stone inlay."
- "Amazing salvage of scraps. Expanding stone use beyond floor and wall onto furniture and fixtures. Insight regarding choice of stone color to limit heat gain. Added safety of using a layout pattern such as trencadis to create a more non-slip installation."
- "This is one of the best and most unique uses of recycled tile material I have ever seen. This project is an inspiration to our industry."

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