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SOURCES+DESIGN

Premier Industry Publication for Designers, Architects, Landscape Professionals and Builders in the West

MARCH/APRIL 2008

CELEBRATING THE LANDSCAPE

Recent Projects in Arizona
and Colorado
National ASLA Award Winners
in Our Region

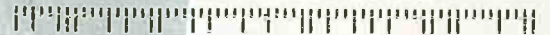
RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE
The Gerrity Group, Las Vegas

TESTING HIS METAL
New Mexico's Diego Velazquez
Santa Fe Metal Design

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Eschewing conventional stormwater-management systems of culverts and piping, the team configured an innovative, environmentally friendly and aesthetically pleasing system for water conservation, irrigation and drainage using reclaimed water. They structured the entire course with an underlayment of eight inches of sand and a natural filtration system of bio-filter swales and constructed wetlands. The course also benefited the land by buffering and protecting wetlands, opening up cor-

ridors for migrating wildlife, creating firebreaks and clearing away underbrush that could fuel forest fires.

The master plan for the Glacier Club's residential areas also incorporates more than eight miles of hiking and mountain-biking trails, which integrate with the golf courses' cart path system.

Design Workshop scored a hole-in-one with this project. They brought it in \$500,000 under budget, and after it opened, the new Glacier Nine course was named one of America's Top 100

Golf Courses by *Golfweek* magazine. Design Workshop also won a 2006 Honor Award for the Glacier Club from the Colorado Chapter of ASLA.

Jury Comments

"Just beautiful—a great example of this type of project done well. Golf courses are a significant part of the practice, and this could have broad environmental impact for the entire industry. We applaud the landscape architect's light hand."

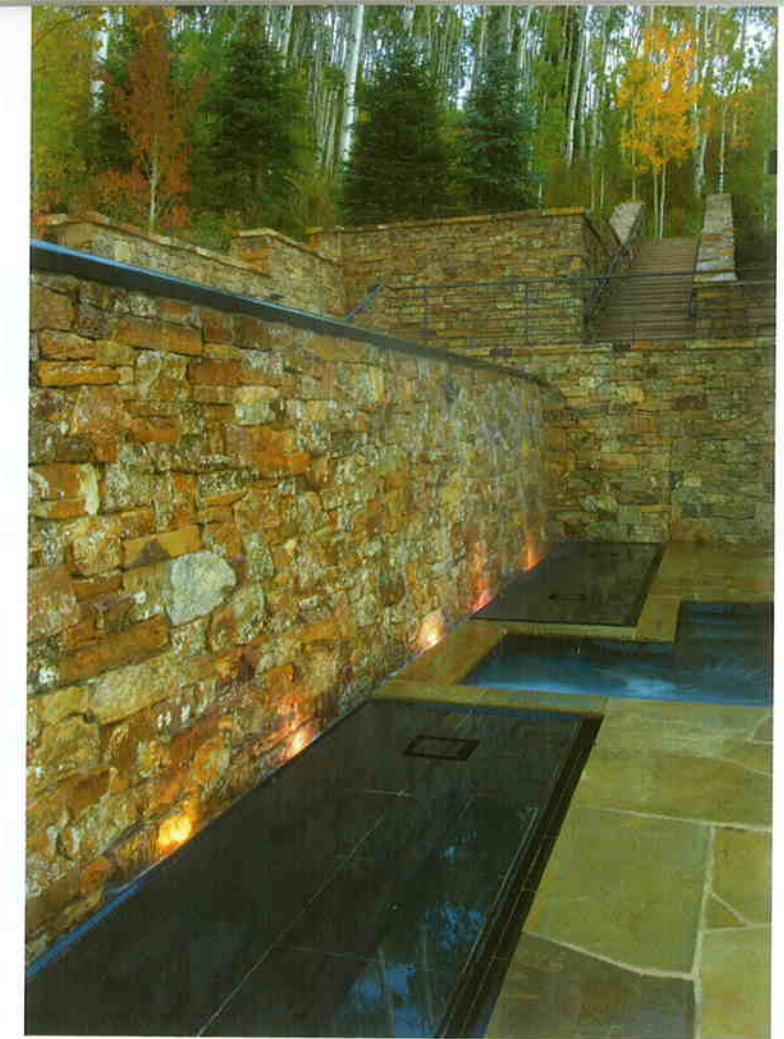
RESIDENTIAL DESIGN HONOR AWARD

Woody Creek Garden Pitkin County, Colorado

Design Workshop, Inc., Aspen, Colorado

Photography by Dale A. Horchner/
Design Workshop

Located in the Roaring Fork Valley near Aspen, Woody Creek Garden is a residential landscape situated on a sloping site at an elevation of 9,000 feet.



The Aspen office of Design Workshop was charged with achieving the client's desired spaces for outdoor entertaining, relaxation and reflection, as well as integrating the landscape with both the home's interior design and its spectacular Rocky Mountain setting.

In this ecological zone, stands of conifers and aspen support a rich undergrowth of grasses and wildflowers. To assess design strategies and minimize disturbance to the fragile site, the architects first conducted a climate study to determine how best to shelter outdoor spaces from the wind and capture sunlight.

The overall design encompasses two interlinking courtyards, with terraces and stone retaining walls delineating various spaces and separating the built landscape from the native landscape,

which remains preserved beyond. Water is the unifying element, with mist, single rivulets, cascades and still pools portraying water in its various states. The garden serves as a functioning "green roof" over part of the residence, with the added insulation resulting in energy savings for the homeowner.

A walled entry garden features granite slabs arranged in a horizontal pinwheel, punctuated vertically by quaking aspens. The slabs function as sculptural seating benches and tables. Rough-hewn Colorado sandstone walls and columns contrast with interlocking sandstone walkways. Native lichen growth and patterns of natural streaking from water and air exposure embellish the walls. A centrally located misting fountain adds to the ethereal ambiance.

The second garden is an expansive entertainment promontory designed to accommodate large gatherings. A cascading wall of water forms the backdrop to the garden, disappearing into quiet reflecting pools, one of which also functions as a recreational spa. Because of frequent afternoon rains, the design

Left: The residence and garden are contained by retaining walls to avoid disturbing the ecologically fragile site. Terraces emphasize the elevated feeling and celebrate the dramatic views at 9,000 feet. Above: The courtyards feature rough-hewn sandstone walls and sandstone walkways, with water as a unifying element.



allows for the possibility of tenting the entire yard.

From a sustainability point of view, the patio, water features and retaining walls all were crafted with local stone. The landscape design utilizes native plants, some of which were specifically grown for this site. Selections of plant materials, soils on the site and revegetation methods to establish native plant communities and enhance wildlife habitats ensure the garden fits into its high-altitude setting. Maturing canopies of aspens not only provide shading, but contribute to sensory appeal by casting visually interesting shadows. Other sensory experiences include the aroma of pine and the pink and white visual accent of columbine blossoms.

Clearly, this project meets its design objective of a garden in harmony with its high-country environment.

Jury Comments

"A stunning example of how the landscape can complement the architecture without being a slave to it. The colors, distinctive detailing and striking stonework are beautifully appropriate to the site."

ANALYSIS AND PLANNING HONOR AWARD

Wildhorse Ranch Steens Mountain, Oregon

DHM Design, Carbondale, Colorado

Wildhorse Ranch is a 5,000-acre parcel in the heart of the Steens Mountain area in southeastern Oregon, part of the Northern Great Basin. Bisected by Wildhorse Creek, the land sits within the Pacific Flyway, 30 miles from the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. As is the case with many former ranching properties in the West, the current owner was seeking a stewardship and land-use plan that would consider the site's unique surroundings, maintain ranching operations and allow for the introduction of new building in a manner that respects the land's history and ecology.

The mandate for the landscape architects at DHM Design was that any intervention not only meet these goals, but also be appropriate, sustainable and have lasting benefit. So they undertook a thorough exploration of the land and similar ranch properties in the area. The result was a three-pronged

approach encompassing ranch management, grazing operations and definition of agricultural activities; construction of a main residence, barn and outbuildings; and extensive restoration of eroded drainageways to re-establish wildlife habitat.

The landscape architects evaluated the ranch's past grazing operations, which had led to substantial erosion, and came up with a new grazing plan that is more sustainable, designating areas for agricultural activity and areas where native habitat and grasses could be restored. One side benefit is that the entire ranch no longer requires fencing.

Historic water patterns indicated that early settlers had diverted water from Wildhorse Creek into manmade irrigation ditches, which caused once-active side streams to stop flowing. The plan calls for developing a more efficient irrigation system that creates small reservoirs and restores water to the dry streambeds, reconstructing lost riparian habitat. Marsh habitat attracts small mammals, frogs, egrets, cranes, herons and other migratory birds, which in turn attract raptors such as eagles and hawks.