



OUTDOOR  
SPACES

# Connecting with the outdoors

*The homeowners of a historic stone ranch wanted a way to reconnect with the outdoors, while making it look like it belonged*

by Jason Kamery



The homeowners thought the stone lodge lacked a meaningful connection to the outdoors and asked Brantley Hightower, AIA, and founding partner of HiWorks located in San Antonio, TX, to solve this issue by creating a more direct way to experience the surrounding hill country landscape.







The 570-square-foot building used 24 tons of cream limestone and five tons of pink granite and gray granite, all from Coldspring's quarries in Marble Falls, TX.



Because matching the stone of the existing lodge was so important, Hightower reviewed several mock-ups, as well as several tests Duecker Construction did of the staining of the stone to replicate 80 years of weathering.

Located near Hunt, TX, a 1930s historic ranch featured small windows and a dark interior. The homeowners thought the stone lodge lacked a meaningful connection to the outdoors and asked Brantley Hightower, AIA, and founding partner of HiWorks located in San Antonio, TX, to solve this issue by creating a more direct way to experience the surrounding hill country landscape. Hightower came up with the design of an outdoor pavilion.

"In response, we designed a stone and concrete structure shaded by a wood-framed butterfly roof that defines an area for family gathering, grilling and dining," said Hightower. "To tell the story of the client's connection to the ranch, we worked with individual family members to create