

HARDSCAPING: A one-time project that's great for referrals

Hardscaping projects, whether done in-house or by a sub-contractor, are stylish add-on services.

■ If your company has the resources, you might want to tackle a hardscaping project this summer.

Besides being a good one-time project—and one that you don't have to water and weed afterwards, hardscaping, in this case, paving stones, can really lead to referrals in the right neighborhoods.

The surface earth should be well-compacted before you lay the stone, advises Phil Walters, a production manager for Ruppert Landscape's Chantilly, Va. office. "Place pavers with drainage in mind," says Walters. "Have a way for the water to run off, and tamp the material as it's installed."

Walters also suggests that easy access to the site is important due to the weight of the materials. It should be an easy in and out pathway.



These Terra-Pavers, from Wausau Tile, can be installed over bituminous sand or mortar beds. They hold up well under pedestrian and moderate vehicular traffic.

Hard construction includes a wide variety of materials. Selecting the proper materials while balancing aesthetics and cost effectiveness requires skill and ingenuity. Paving materials can be made of asphalt, brick, concrete, stone, tile or wood.

- Brick is easy to manufacture and is easy to find in a variety of sizes, shapes colors and textures. Brick pavers are made specifically for outdoor walkway and floor surfaces. They are sized to permit a wide variety of paving patterns (some of which are shown at right).

Their thickness ranges from 1-1/8-inches to 2-1/4 inches. Thin pavers are a cost-effective choice when specifications call for brick walks to be set in a mortar bed.

- Turf blocks are a type of concrete paver with openings or slots for growing turfgrass.

- Glass block is available in a range of styles and functions.

- Adobe, a kind of mud brick, is also a good choice for decorative use or special effect. Many concrete materials can be used for paving and other landscape applications. Concrete toppings or coatings are presented by manufacturers as solutions to problems generated by certain uses or conditions.

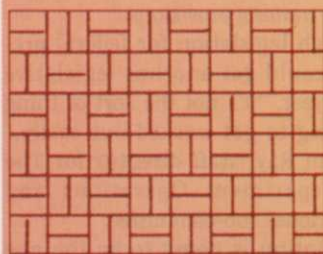
Patterned concrete may be cast in place by a number of proprietary systems in the industry. One is Bomanite, a specially finished concrete paving system. Concrete pavers can be formed in a wide range of textures and finishes. Interlocking concrete pavers can be formed in a wide range of textures and finishes.

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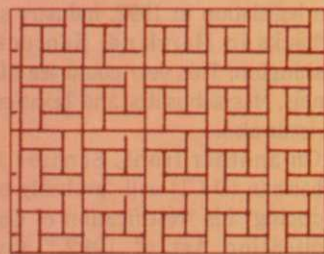
BRICK

PATTERNS

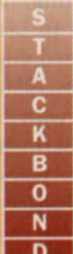
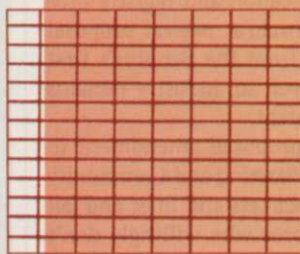
HERRINGBONE



BASKET WEAVE



BASKET WEAVE, VAR.



courtesy The Brick Institute, Reston, Virg.

Granite pavers give authentic look to racing monument

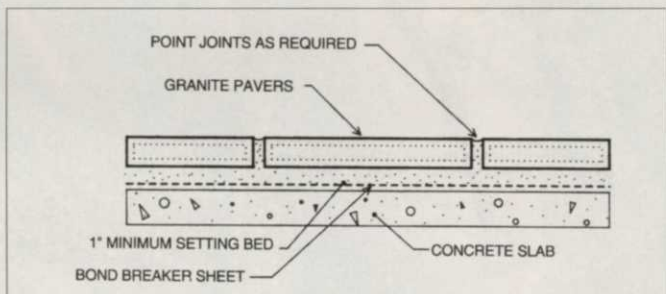
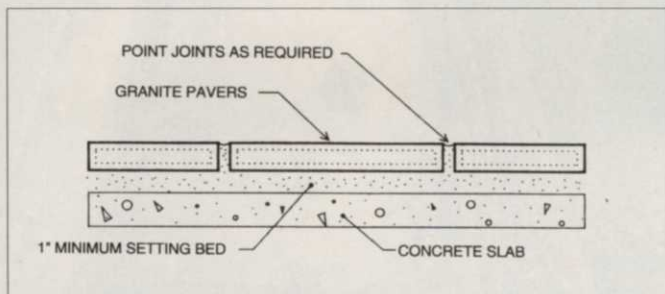
■ Thoroughbred Park, a new public park in Lexington, Ky., includes detailed and ornate design elements of granite and bronze which are meant to capture the spirit of racehorses, owners and breeders. But creating the park required unique design, technical and fabricating capabilities from a variety of product suppliers. Cold Spring Granite Co. provided the paving and other granite details for the project.

The park is divided into five areas representing an aspect of the world of horseracing. Highlights include bronze statues depicting champion racehorses and jockeys. The center of attention is a simulated granite racetrack featuring seven life-size bronze thoroughbreds and jockeys barreling down the home stretch.

"The entire racetrack is created from granite. We worked with the project architects to select the appropriate color of granite and cut the stone at just the right angles to replicate an actual horseracing track," according to Jodie Moore, structural sales representative

for Cold Spring. Carnelian, a mahogany-colored granite, matches the reddish-hued earth found on racetracks. Cold Spring fabricated thermal-finish, split-faced pavers and set them side by side to create the rough surface on which the bronze statues stand. "Having a split-faced showing is very unusual," says Moore, "but it was the unique design element that allowed us to create just the look we were after."

The project required 9000 square feet of 1-1/2 inch thick, and 12,600 square feet of 3-inch thick thermal Carnelian paving.



Installing granite pavers on slab, left and on slab with bond breaker. Courtesy Cold Spring Granite Specialties.

1. A dry pack mortar bed is laid on a concrete slab and granite pavers are tamped into the bed.
2. The mortar may be hydrated with a latex additive in lieu of water to increase bond strength and add moisture resistance.
3. In this system, the expansion joints in the concrete must be carried through to the granite pavers at the same locations.
4. The joints may be pointed dry, fogged with water, or pointed with wet grout.

1. A bond breaker is placed on a concrete slab to separate from the setting bed.
2. The setting bed is applied on top of the bond breaker sheet.
3. Granite pavers are tamped into a dry pack setting bed.
4. Latex additive may be added to mortar in lieu of water. This will increase bonding strength and provide moisture resistance.
5. In this system, the expansion joint pattern in the concrete does not have to be duplicated in the granite paving pattern breaker allows the paving system to "float" on the concrete slab.

Some paving material suppliers

Cold Spring Granite Specialties, 202 South Third Ave., Cold Spring, MN, 56320.	300
Hanover Architectural Products, Inc., 240 Bender Rd., Hanover, PA 17331.	301
Pave Tech, Inc., Advanced Paving Technology, P.O. Box 31126, Bloomington, MN, 55431.	302
Stonwurks, Inc. 314 Lincoln Ave., Clay Center, KS 67432-2806.	303
Vespro, Inc. 40 Belvedere St., Suite 2, San Rafael, CA 94901; makers of Control-A-Root, a barrier which prevents roots from growing up into hardscaping.	304
Wausau Tile, Inc., Terra-Paving Division, P.O. Box 1520, Wausau, WI 54402-1520	305