



Family Oasis

Parker Construction and Landscape Creations help realize a couple's dream retreat fit for multiple generations.

Architect: Andrezzi Architecture
Builder: Parker Construction Company, Inc.
Landscape Architect: Mather & Page Landscape Architects
Landscape: Landscape Creations, Inc.
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The homeowners of this waterfront property in Newport, Rhode Island, recently embarked on an extensive renovation and expansion of what was originally a spec house in the hopes of customizing the residence to their needs. The couple's children and grandchildren often visit, so creating spaces with family entertaining in mind was a must. To help with this transformation, the homeowners called upon David Andreozzi of Andreozzi Architecture, general contractor Parker Construction, landscape architecture firm Mather & Page, and landscape construction company Landscape Creations.

Parker Construction oversaw the renovation, which touches nearly every aspect of the home, and introduced

a 2,000-square-foot addition. "The original house was nice and very well made, but the finishes totally lacked warmth and character," recalls Senior Project Manager Scott Herlihy. The clients agreed to upgrade materials throughout, replacing the narrow strip oak flooring with wider black walnut planks and rebuilding the main staircase to accommodate intricate wood railings.

"These clients were wonderful to work with because they were really engaged by the idea of creating an exceptional space for their family," says Adam Parker of Parker Construction. "They were always open to shifting away from traditional architectural paradigms to pursue unique and exquisite details like the custom stairway, fireplace

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Top left and right: The entrance door to the addition picks up on an existing stone arch in the garden. Masonry veneer on the exterior completes this visual association to the landscape.

Bottom: A rebuilt custom stairway and fireplace mantle feature distinctive fretwork.

Opposite: A custom-designed leaded glass ceiling in the kitchen brings in natural light and enhances the home's connection to the outdoors.





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—Jonathan Zeyl

Inset: A classical courtyard framed by curvilinear stone walls now welcomes visitors at the front of the home.

Top: A view from the pool shows the range of inviting outdoor spaces at the back of the home, including a custom pergola with an outdoor kitchen and dining area.



mantle, and the glass ceiling in the kitchen.” Perhaps the biggest interior change is the new kitchen, which features skylights designed by Architect David Andreozzi that run the entire length of the space and are wired to cast an ambient glow at night. “That was the single most considered piece in the entire property,” notes Herlihy. According to Parker, installation required a massive team effort among various tradespeople, since there were glasswork, lighting, framing, and structural issues to sort out.

Managing the complex logistics and multi-team collaboration required on a construction project of this magnitude are not new to Parker and his team. “Our firm is regularly asked to ‘bend time’ on behalf of New England homeowners who want to enjoy home and property renovations in time for summer months, but the pandemic took our typical challenges to a new level,” says Parker. Hit with lockdown orders, labor shortages, pre-vaccine safety requirements, and supply chain disruptions, the project required high levels of creativity and teamwork to hit the date. “Throughout the project, each subcontractor stepped up when they needed to and helped push it forward.”

The final pièce de résistance on the project is its new landscape, which integrates the home with its natural environment and introduces a front courtyard, gardens, and several outdoor living spaces including a pool, covered outdoor kitchen, dining terrace, and fire pit. Among Landscape Creations’ tasks were final grading of the site, drainage work, a new driveway, architectural stonework, paving, pool coping, planting, lawn installation, and the construction of stone walls, terraces and pathways.

The site’s stonework is a mix of fieldstone, granite, and limestone—the latter of which is the most predominant. “We had five overseas containers of limestone that came in from Portugal early on during the pandemic,” recalls Jonathan Zeyl, president and co-owner of Landscape Creations. “To protect ourselves from the rampant supply chain issues at that time, we ordered extra stock and custom milled it as needed on site to produce the different thicknesses and design patterns specified.” Zeyl also notes that a critical piece of the puzzle was maintaining consistency with the existing on-site masonry. “There were certain features that we needed to preserve, so we had to match the style and technique for everything to appear cohesive.”

Aside from the extensive masonry work throughout the site, Landscape Creations sourced and installed a mix of native and nonnative plants, perennial shrubs, and larger trees, with a color scheme that incorporates lots of pink, purple, and yellow. “Our overarching objective for this project was to better connect the home and the landscape,” says Zeyl. “The new pathways and gardens create a nice flow from the front of the house to the back.” And as for the collaboration with the clients, Zeyl says it couldn’t have gone better. “These homeowners were so appreciative and fun to work with. Their intention was to invest in future memories with their family, which is something that resonates with us as a company.”