

Using Reclaimed Materials in Hardscape Projects

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ABSTRACT

The presentation covers the use of reclaimed bricks and cobblestones as paving or in hardscape or landscape projects. That their durability is self-evident in the many brick and cobble roads that still exist today. A brief overview of the historic manufacturing processes and stone sources is provided. The reclamation of these products offers an opportunity to increase the sustainability of construction and reduce the consumption of additional natural resources. Information is provided on how these products may contribute to LEED points. Both historic and modern installation methods of bricks and cobbles are outlined including permeable pavements. Options for ADA compliant installations are reviewed. Unique requirements for installing this sometimes non-uniform material are also reviewed. Additional reclaimed materials such as curbing, stone sidewalk slabs, stone building elements and large stone block are also discussed. Options for cutting and shaping of this unique material with specialized equipment and techniques are presented. Samples of materials are circulated to understand the characteristics of the materials. Images are shown of installations including creative non-typical uses and combinations of various reclaimed materials which produce spectacular results.

BIOGRAPHY

Scott Smith, a professional Engineer, founded Experienced Brick & Stone in 2009 to prevent street bricks and other usable materials from being dumped in landfills.

Scott has been involved in numerous projects reclaiming street bricks, cobblestones, curbing and stone building elements. These archaeological digs have created a wealth of knowledge about historic installation methods, available materials and their history. He also provides advice on material selection and installation methods to support other design professionals.