

photography by Ray Kachatorian

Stone Age

From Texas limestone to Idaho quartzite, the West is obsessed with architectural stone



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1 Farnese Gallery in Los Angeles, which specializes in reclaimed stone and wood from Europe, mixes limestone with different types of Italian marble to create Odorico, a decorative border used for floors, backsplashes and wainscoting. **2** Burgundy limestone is among the most durable kinds available at Malibu Stone and Masonry in Southern California. This variety comes from Utah and has a naturally split, rather than sawed, top. According to vice president Joe Nolan, clients love its thickness and bold color. **3** The golden granite at Rhodes Architectural Stone in Seattle is extremely versatile. It hones nicely, says CEO Richard Rhodes, and can be applied as pavers, retaining wall blocks, drain grates (shown here) and just about any kind of carving from tubs to countertops. **4** Malibu Stone & Masonry carries a type of Kansas Sandstone called Malibu Moss. Its rich color and distinct mossy coating make it popular for landscaping, especially stacked walls, cobbles and pavers. **5** Pine's Stone Company, based in Glenwood Springs Colorado, has a colorful type of sedimentary sandstone, which they call Iron Mountain Flag. The stone, harvested in large slabs, comes from Montana and is used for floors and walls. *see Resources*



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1 Malibu Stone & Masonry's Idaho quartzite is "very hard, very dense and very durable," says Nolan. Because it retains its color over time, it's primarily used for patios. "The mica in the stone gives it sparkle," he adds. "And although it's hard to cut, it's extremely user friendly." **2** Among Farnese Gallery's inventory is a vast stock of reclaimed terra-cotta from villas throughout Italy. Their breadstick-pattern bricks, usually from Tuscany and Rome, are used as wall finishes for wine cellars, vaulted ceilings and columns. Clients are drawn to the rustic appearance and variation in color. **3** The Southwest Farmers at Pine's Stone Company is a sedimentary quartz sandstone from Oklahoma. It's quarried in large slabs and then broken down into smaller, irregular shapes. Southwest Farmers is mostly used for wall veneers, but it has a number of landscaping applications as well. Deposits of Iron give the stone a unique variation in color. **4** The Pavus Grey limestone at Farnese Gallery is taken from centuries-old structures in France. Far less porous than other French limestones, it's suitable for countertops and sinks. For borders, backsplashes and wainscoting, the company can have a number of patterns hand carved, including Corinto (shown here). **5** Pine's Stone Company's, Saratoga Moss is a lichen-covered sandstone from Wyoming with a unique marble-quartz appearance. It's most often used for wall veneers and fireplaces. **6** Rhodes Architectural Stone has a range of finishes for its Silk Road sandstone, including a chisel cut. "This stone is easy to carve, so its uses are endless," says Rhodes. "The color is a favorite because it's a fine-grained sandstone." *see Resources.*



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