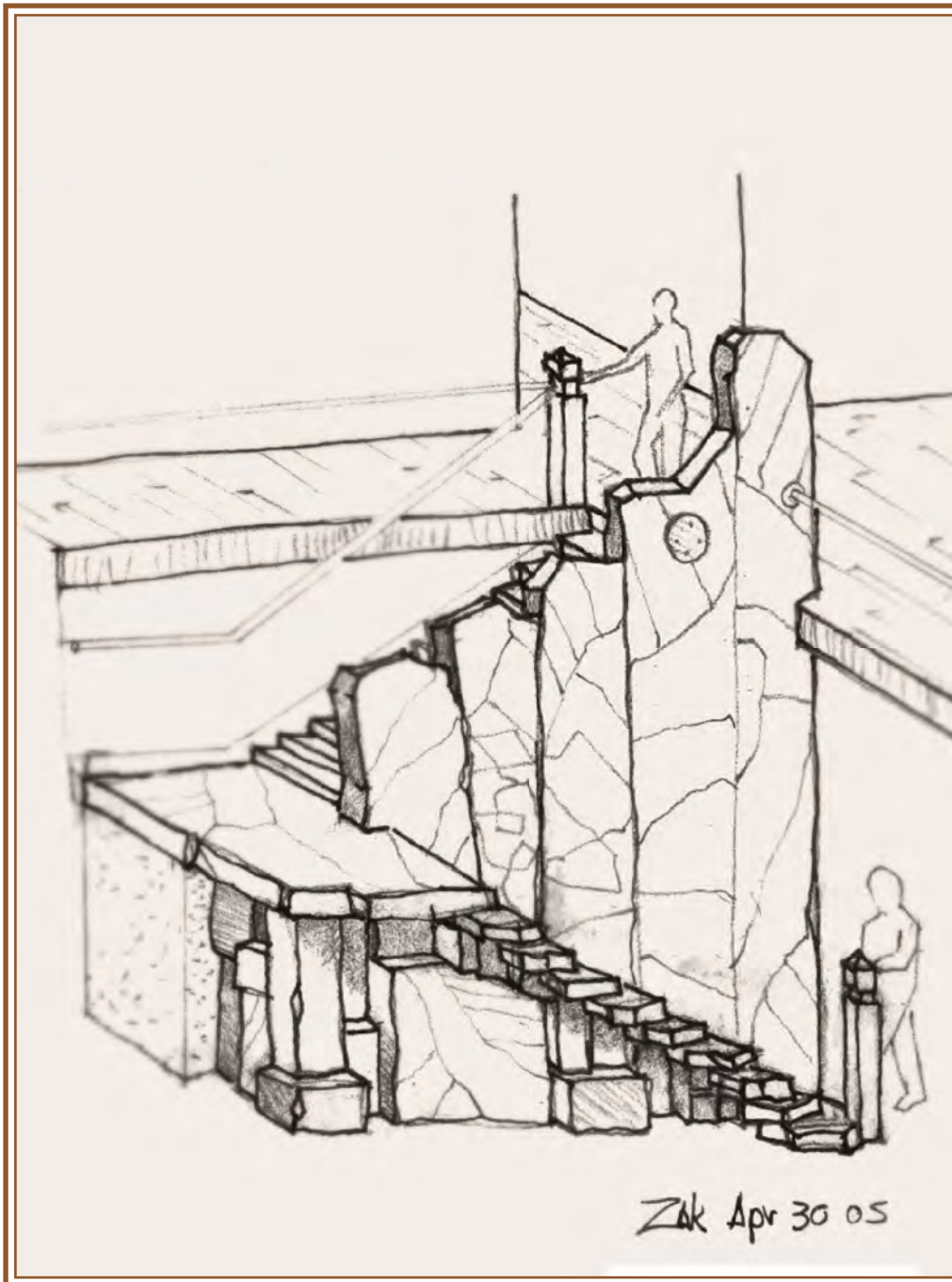


STONE STAIR CASE ESSAY

A COLLABORATION BY ZAK H ZAKOVI AND FRANK CIKAN—2005



The design of the Stair Case is a collaboration between Zak H Zakovi, Sculptor – and Frank Cikan, Architect. Frank took the role of sounding board and subtle director, while I plied my mountainous energy and knowledge of building/stone work. The result of our listening to each other and caring about the finished piece gave the Stair Case more than either of us alone would have.

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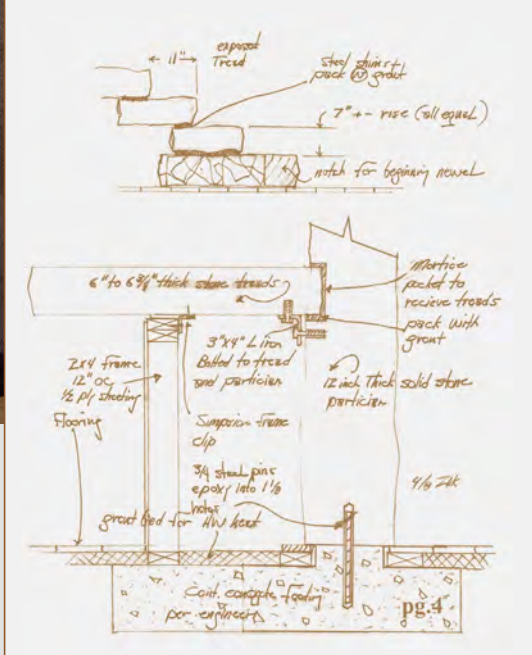
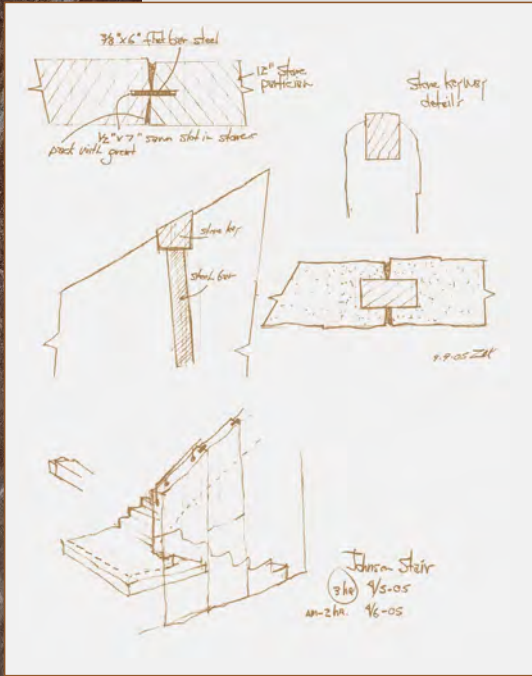


The Pillar is embellished with the fundamental spiral culminating in a folded arrow. The large emerging shape is a seed form. It is oriented towards the main entry patio and the first thing you encounter when entering house.

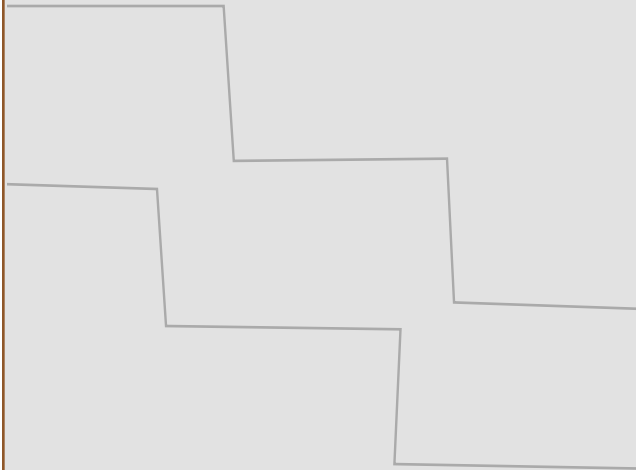
The Beginning Newel has a complementary emerging form that rises from the floor onto the steps. It is a disk form with the edge polished to an 800 grit sheen and sides delicately textured.



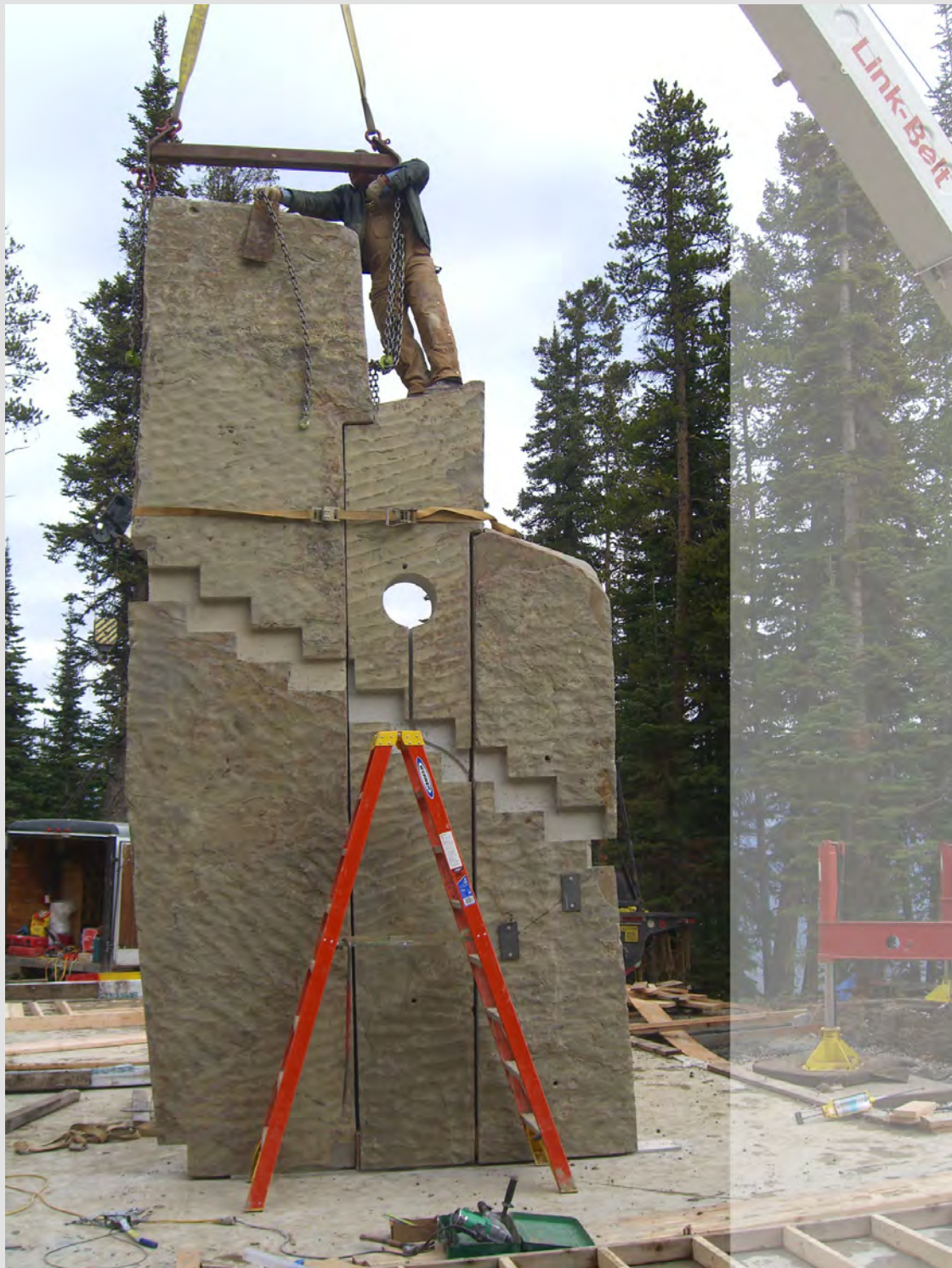
These two sculpted stones add a refined and controlled rhythm to the random broken and natural surfaces. The rugged Montana look tempered with a touch of class.



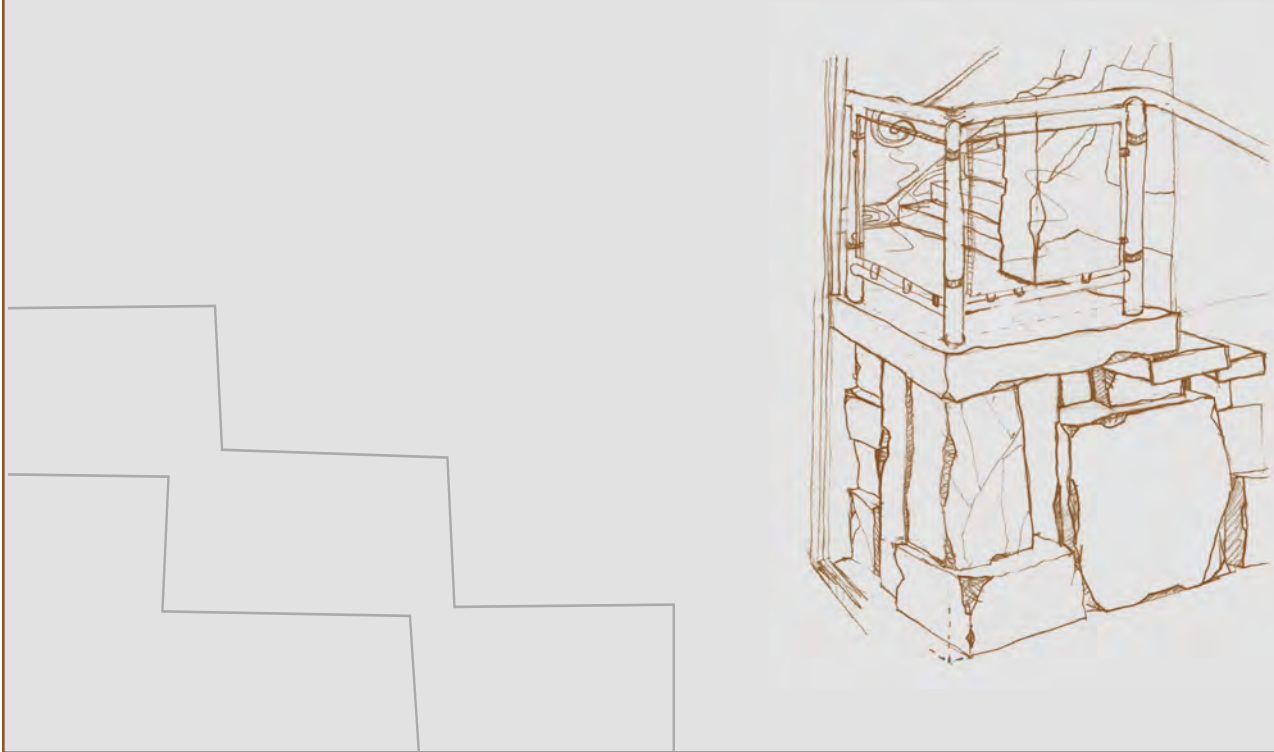








ZAK H ZAKOVI





The Stair Case is built of stone with the natural surfaces that have been pulled from the ground, exposed broken ends, exposed sheared rock face and calcified seam faces as it breaks under ground. The stairs turn around a 18 foot x 12 foot long solid stone wall that is made of 3 huge stones. These characteristics give the stair case a rugged Montana look, it can endure the harsh winters and wear well through time.



25 tons of very strong durable stone is classified a sedimentary rock but composed of fine sand and clays, compressed to an exquisite hardness that allows it to be polished to a steely sheen. The only sedimentary stone I know of that can do that.

Using combination of connections: stone to stone joints, mortared joints, steel brackets bolted to stone, large steel pins epoxy set, and embedded steel blades. The Stair Case speaks of the arduous effort, giving a lasting sense.

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EUREKA! The completed stair case as seen from the Foyer. A two year endeavor from concept to sealer, the staircase is the central Architectural feature of this fine home in the Yellow Stone Club at Big Sky Mt.

Many thanks to the outstanding Architect- Frank Cikan; the quality builder- Wade and Associates; the understanding owner Michael Johnston. One of the best jobs I have ever worked on.

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