

# TWO SCULPTURES



The  
STONE DOOR



and a  
MEDITATION  
GARDEN

by  
**ZAK H ZAKOVI**





**A stone door from a 12 foot x 1 ton slab of stone!** What a gaseous idea. Having been a custom wood door maker and builder I know my way around doors and thought "I can pull this off."

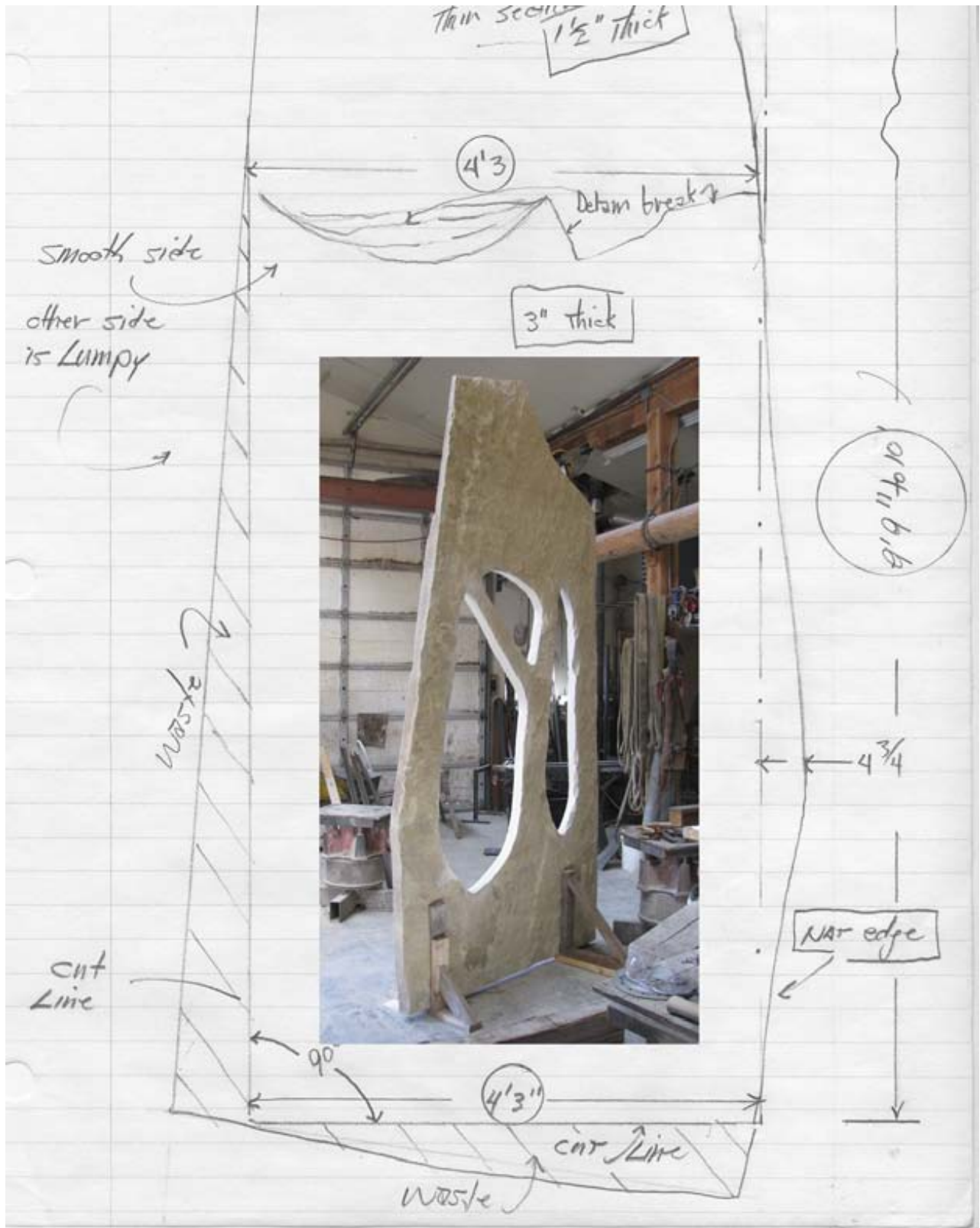
I found the stone in 2006; bought the hardware in 2007 (\$1800); began stone cutting in 2008 and in 5 months finished the project, 2009

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After studying the stone and hardware I knew I had to reduce the weight of the stone 400 lbs. to meet the limits of the hardware. I decided to cut 3 large windows into the stone and was certain if I could do that without breaking the stone the rest would follow.



The hoisting dynamics got serious, moving the door from laying flat with holes cut, to on edge, to standing required most of the lifting equipment in my studio.









It was hard work sawing and hand bending steel plate and bar stock. Then the endless drilling and setting of bolt anchors into stone and threading steel for bolts. But what a thrill to open the door the first time. Wow! It worked, this phase of 1 and 1/2 months of steel work. The last phase of work was to make the wood jamb liner and make the push plate and door pull. That work took one month.

# My view of the Stone Door

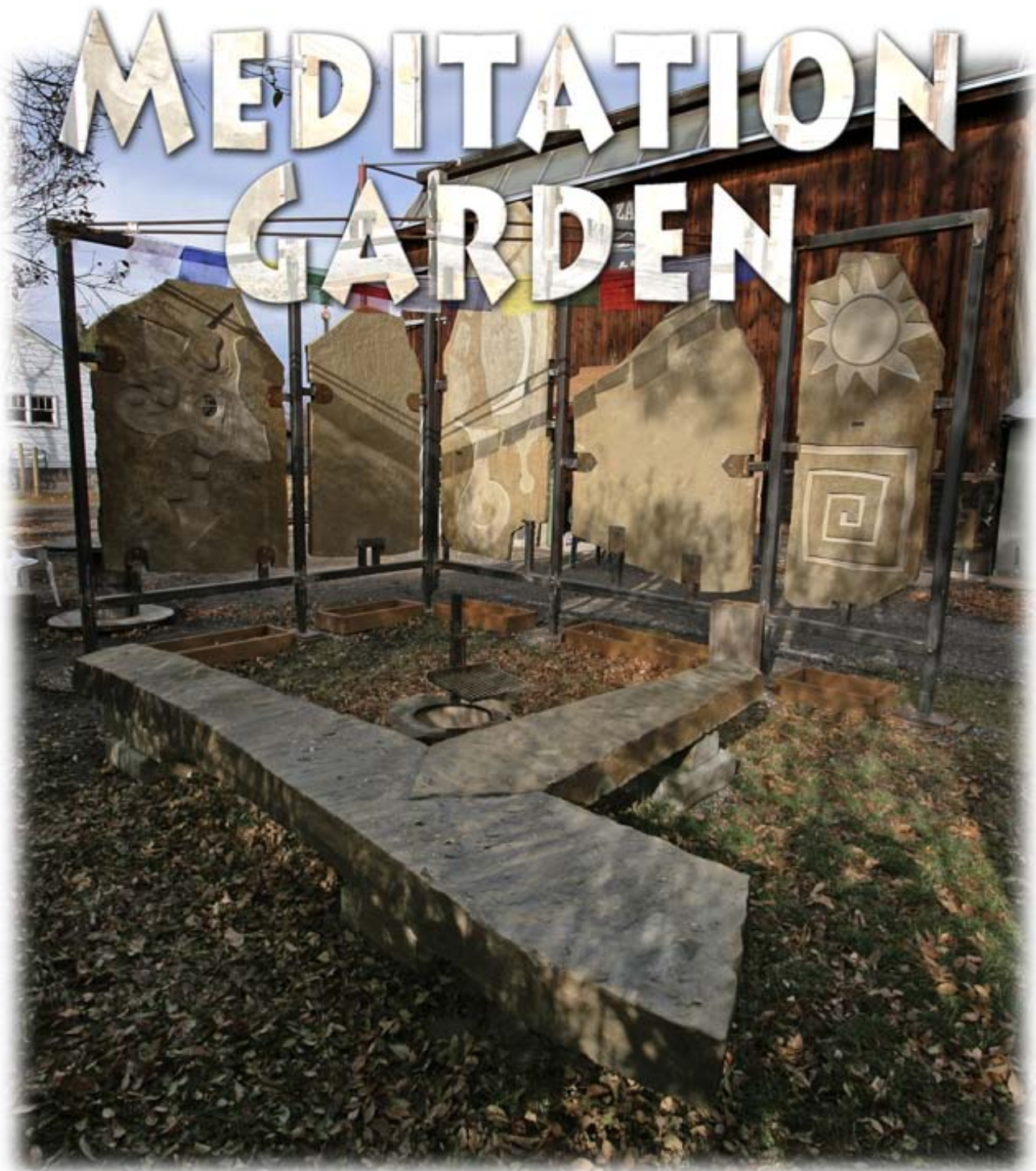
Opening a 12 high stone door the weighs nearly a ton is a grand experience, I love to watch people do it they are pleasantly shocked and laugh.

The door is intended to be a vestibule door as stone has no thermal value and would be covered in frost in minus 0 temps. In addition it would be more of a grand experience to find it in the entryway and make entering the building a treat.

This Door is for Sale

The glass panels need to be 'art glass' to meet UBC regulations, it will be fun to work with a client on the colors and texture of glass when that happens. I see the interior wall surfaces coming right up to the wood jamb liner so that the rugged stone will stand out in the finished surface. I engineered the steel buck to fit into a standard 2x6 stud wall, it will drop 4 inches into the floor so that only a ½ inch threshold is needed to transition floor surfaces. The finished surfaces of the walls can come right up to the jamb liner so that the rugged stone surface stands out in the finished wall. The floor closure can be changed when worn (they usually last 10 to 15 yrs. in public bldgs.) by lifting the door off the mechanism. I have done it and recommend using a seasoned commercial door man for the task.





THE MEDITATION GARDEN was built over 11 months in 2007 & 08, the stones are flagstone slabs that average 2 inches thick and weight 1000 lbs. +- . It is a place for our Sangha to meditate and have guests over to visit and cook out.







## **The Outside View**

The stone fence concept lends itself to property screens and privacy areas. The open corner is accentuated with a newel post to further thrust it into the sky. The use of rugged 3 inch steel tubing and steel plate mounting brackets makes a permanent and durable installation.



# PANEL 1



“KORU” is a vegetable spiral, fat and voluptuous with a sand blasted rectangle. The actual plant grows exclusively in New Zealand.





## PANEL 2



“ENCHANTED IV” is a magical forest scene, the trees have spiral form roots. The 10 different textures reflect light differently causing 10 different tones of light ... and sound.



## PANEL 3



“SALTIRE” is St. Thomas’ cross and more. The X is found though time, this one is lively and has movement. A great new symbol to my vocabulary.





## PANEL 4



“CHAOS FLOWER” this is my version of what the Chaos Symbol should look like. The universal symbol has 8 short equal arms with arrows pointing out – to me each arm and texture ought to be unique. The pentagram form is also a conscious choice.



## PANEL 5



“SUN & SPIRAL” is a combination of southwestern symbols. The spiral is Hopi meaning four directions and 4th dimension of mind. The sun has a polished corona halo. Jogs my desert memories.







The fire pit is brick lined for a hot coals bed with a thick steel plate top cut in the four cardinal direction signs. An adjustable grill (seen on the cover page) can move up and down and swings partially or fully off the fire for turning, seasoning and serving.



# FIREPIT AND BENCH



Bench Joint Detail



The bench is two 6 inch thick stones on 3 stone piers; combined they weigh 1 and  $\frac{1}{4}$  tons. The bench seats 6 people meditating and several couples for dinner.

Once inside the enclosure it becomes a warm and friendly environment screened from the rest of the grounds yet part of the studio grounds. During parties a changing group of guests





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