

Close up of the all three layers in place, tied off with different colors of mason's line.



2011/12/17 14:44:46



2011/12/17 14:44:53

I placed the first GFRC shell.

Close ups of the glass fiber mat extending beyond the shell. Used this to get a bond between adjacent shells.



2011/12/17 14:45:14



2011/12/17 14:46:15



2011/12/17 15:23:19



2011/12/17 15:23:33

Propped the shells with dowels supported from scaffold.



2011/12/17 15:23:39



2011/12/17 15:38:24

View of the propane burner I used to cure oven.

View of an individual shell.



2011/12/18 14:10:56



2011/12/19 20:36:48

First curing fire. Held a huge party on New Years Day. Wildly successful.

Was buried in work the next year until August. Had to finish the rest by a Sept 15th party for a fundraiser for my daughter's school.



2012/08/02 17:24:31



2012/08/04 10:32:44

Got both 4 inch nominal and 2 inch thin veneer Aqua Grantique stone from www.krukowskistone.com
This is a Gneiss that is unusually beautiful and dark for the midwest.

I bought a MK Diamond BX-4 lightweight 14 inch saw www.mkdiamond.com www.acetoolonline.com
I should have bought this from the beginning but rented from Home Depot. I initially cut the 7-1/2 inch tall stones on their side before realizing the it was much easier to cut them upright.



2012/08/04 10:34:17

Yes. Each piece of stone on the base was cut with a taper. Lots of work.



2012/08/06 07:06:57

I made a temp table to hold firewood, tools, and peels for a few parties held while work was in progress.

I fretted way to much about moving the 350lb oven landing stone. It came on an A frame pallet. I flipped it over onto a bed of fire brick dust and sand. It landed gently.



2012/08/07 07:04:26



2012/08/07 17:39:57

We rolled it off onto 6 inch diameter pvc pipe.



2012/08/07 17:40:34



2012/08/07 17:43:06

Rolling, rolling,.....

In the end, after considering many Rube Goldberg contraptions for lifting, three people lifted the stone into place.



2012/08/10 06:47:50



2012/08/10 17:20:16

I used left over foam glass to insulate around the arch. Single layer of two inch.

I also extended and insulated the flue. All Heat Stop mortar with 2 inch foam glass.



2012/08/10 19:25:03



2012/08/11 07:23:20

After completing the foam glass insulation. Foam glass is serviceable to 900F.

Test fire with the foam glass in place.



2012/08/11 17:38:26



2012/08/12 10:40:21

The inevitable crack showed up, going all the way up the flue from the keystone. I declared this benign after reviewing Forno Bravo forums. Just too much movement with the delta in temps.



2012/08/12 10:41:33



2012/08/18 14:58:15

I then made an arch template for a row of cement boards laid in mortar. The cement boards allowed for a screwable surface for the soon to come sheet metal.



2012/08/19 07:50:26



2012/08/19 11:17:05

I trimmed the bottom of the GFRP shells to fit tightly to the upper course of stone.



2012/08/19 15:57:06



2012/08/19 16:49:48

I wished I used the Angle-iser sooner. This made cutting the outer voussoirs and surrounds simple.



2012/08/19 18:26:45



2012/08/19 18:26:52

Laying out the stone arch.