

GOLD AWARD

Southern Botanical Rio Roca Chapel on the Brazos River Residential Installation over \$100,000

The private chapel and adjacent Chapel House, designed by Maurice Jennings, are located on 2,500 acres near Palo Pinto. The chapel sits on a bluff overlooking the Brazos River Valley below. The landscape team worked on exposed stone bluff, fighting high winds. Hundreds of cubic yards of soil, excavated from within the ranch, were trucked to the chapel site.

Landscape plantings provide focus areas and draw the eye to the buildings, framing one's approach. The views of the Brazos River are hidden until visitors descend stone stairs to find the chapel nestled within, enhanced by native plantings. Art and sculpture were placed to enhance specific site views. Due to the steep terrain, boulders, excavated during foundation work, were placed by manpower alone. Following 6 months of landscape installation, the landscape appears as though it has existed naturally. The chapel and site have recently won the national Steel Award.



