

Triangle

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# LAVISH BACKYARD EVOLUTION

BY BEN STROPE



THIS TRADITIONAL CARY HOME'S UNASSUMING BACKYARD WAS TRANSFORMED INTO A LUXURIOUS, HARMONIOUS HAVEN.

The homeowner said it best: “One of my favorite parts of this project is that from the front yard, it looks like a traditional home. Then, as soon as you walk into the backyard, you are blown away with the resort-style oasis Old North State Landscape Development, Inc. designed and installed.”

This project is the epitome of an evolution—one that was started by the homeowners as they sketched their dream backyard on a slip of paper many years ago. It then morphed throughout the design and installation phases as an entire team of people contributed their creative ideas and skills to the project.

The homeowners first approached us with an idea for a backyard pool, cabana, outdoor kitchen, and firepit. Taking

their hand-drawn sketch, our in-house designers created 2D and 3D renderings of what their backyard could look like, and began work after the approval process. As the project progressed, our creative team collaborated with the homeowners on an outdoor bathroom and storage building that would be entertainment-friendly. As we worked this building into the master plan and continued conversations with the homeowner, it became clear that more “dry” space was needed. So we once again tweaked the design plan to add a covered breezeway connecting the cabana to the bathroom along with other walkways that completed the backyard haven.

The homeowners are thrilled with the final project, including the high-grade materials that make the structures shine. The family and their guests can enjoy either the expansive L-shaped pool that includes a raised tanning ledge and infinity edge spillover decorated with cobalt-blue



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glass tiles, or the coordinating spa. Another special feature is a swim-up dining table and bar nestled beside the outdoor kitchen. The kitchen under the cabana features a pizza oven, a prep station, a grill, two refrigerators, storage, and an icemaker. Cappadocia travertine tile laid in a French pattern adorns the kitchen floor while matching ledgestone on the walls completes the look.

Across from the spa, an expansive gas firepit topped with Tennessee teak stone provides another gathering place. Large 24-by-24-inch ivory travertine tiles tie the entire pool deck, firepit area, and surrounding walkways together, accented by complementary coping, stair treads, and wall caps. With so many entertaining spots and sitting areas in the new backyard, the hardest decision is choosing where to lounge for the festivities at hand.

This project is an inspiring example of what Old North State can achieve working collaboratively with homeowners. When you choose Old North State, you have an entire team of professionals taking your dream from sketchpad to reality. ♦



**BEN STROPE** is a co-owner of **OLD NORTH STATE LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT**. The full team can be reached at 919-384-1800, [ONSLANDSCAPE.COM](http://ONSLANDSCAPE.COM), or on Instagram @ONSLANDSCAPE.