Almost famous

Behind every world-renowned landmark or national treasure, there’s a product to repair, maintain or improve it. Collected here are some exceptional outdoor projects and some familiar home improvement brands.  

By Steph Kozman

1. Alcatraz (Quikrete)
   Cement we strong. Can withstand the nation’s most dangerous criminals? That might make for a perverse (and far-fetched) ad campaign, but Quikrete did actually play a hand in a 2012 restoration project on Alcatraz Island. The hundreds of seventy bulk bags of shotcrete were used to fill (and stabilize) a slope on the island—that’s almost half a million pounds of shotcrete.

2. Mount Rushmore (Trex Decking)
   Where the nation throws a deck party, it goes with Trex for its ability to withstand loads of foot traffic, and harsh winters in the Dakotas, all while setting a standard of environmental responsibility. As such, the Presidential Trail leading up to Mount Rushmore is made with Trex’s low-maintenance, eco-friendly composite material, which has the added benefit of providing a slip- and splinter-free walking surface for tourists.

3. Pinehurst Resort (Toro)
   Someone’s been tending the green at Pinehurst Resort (of Pinehurst, North Carolina) for 115 years. As far as anyone can tell, the Toro Company has—and will continue to—fulfill that role for years to come. Toro just signed a new decade-long commitment as the preferred supplier of golf course maintenance equipment and irrigation solutions to Pinehurst.

4. Wrigley Field (Benjamin Moore)
   In honor of its newest partnership with the Chicago Cubs and the 100-year anniversary of Wrigley Field, Benjamin Moore pulled off a spectacle not too far from home plate. The paint company employed its wares to restore (temporarily) the iconic Marquee to its original green and gold veneer of the 1930s.

5. Fisherman’s Wharf (GE Lighting)
   At Fisherman’s Wharf in San Francisco, an iconic crane wheel stands. Of course, someone’s working behind the scenes to keep the landmark brightly lit from within. Thanks to GE’s efforts, the wheel now sports 1200 LED sign lighting. Oakland-based Arrow Sign Company also lent a hand to “revive the wheel,” so to speak, with new aluminum, poly-carbonate and high-density foam materials.