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LOG CABIN

homes

PREMIERE ISSUE

Your Green Log Home Guide



The New Look of
TODAY'S LOG CABINS

50+ TIPS FOR GREENING
YOUR LOG HOME



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THE #1
MUST-READ MAGAZINE
FOR LOG HOME BUYERS

A Grand Cabin

BY LAURA STAPLETON

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROGER WADE STYLING BY DEBRA GRAHL

The logs and natural stone of a spectacular home blend seamlessly with its Wyoming setting.

With more than 15 years of vacation memories and two previously owned homes under their belts, it seems only natural that Jan and Bob would consider the wilds of northwest Wyoming their home away from home. "We fell in love with the area and kept going back every summer for vacation. Then we were back two or three times during the summer," says Jan. "Bob was still working and we decided to rent a house to see if he could be away from work. During that visit, we walked around the area and happened to walk onto this lot, which was for sale and was perfect."

CAPITALIZING ON THE VIEW OF THE TETON RANGE, THE SPACIOUS FLAGSTONE PATIO OFFERS AN OUTDOOR ESCAPE WITH VARIOUS SEATING ARRANGEMENTS THAT ARE COMFORTABLE FOR TWO BUT ALSO CONDUCTIVE TO GUESTS. OUTDOOR ELEMENTS, INCLUDING LANDSCAPING, WERE KEPT SIMPLE AND NATURAL, SO AS NOT TO OBSTRUCT OR TAKE AWAY FROM THE VIEW.



ABOVE: THE GAME ROOM IN THE BASEMENT INCLUDES A HANDMADE BILLIARD TABLE, FOOSBALL TABLE, AND BARSTOOLS. "AS A DESIGNER, I LIKE TO GROW THINGS FROM THE SITE. THE LOCAL ITEMS WE USED WERE VERY IMPORTANT BECAUSE LOCAL CRAFTSMEN TAKE A LOT OF PRIDE IN WHAT THEY DO," CATHY SAYS.

LEFT: ALTHOUGH THE ENTRYWAY IS WELCOMING, THE HIDDEN STORY IS IN THE LOGS. "WE CUT THE LOGS IN HALF AND ADD STEEL COLUMNS OR BEAMS INSIDE," GREG SAYS. "IT'S A TECHNIQUE CALLED 'CANOEING.' THE TETON RANGE IS IN A SEISMIC ZONE AND THAT REQUIRES OUR STRUCTURES TO MEET THE DESIGN INTENT LOADS FOR ANY EVENT THAT MAY OCCUR."

RIGHT: THE GREAT ROOM, WITH ITS 25-FOOT CEILINGS AND HUGE PICTURE WINDOW, CREATES A SENSE OF SPACIOUSNESS WITH AN UNPARALLELED VIEW OF THE TETON RANGE. ONE OF THE CONSIDERATIONS FOR THIS HOME WAS LIGHT FIXTURES. "I USE A LOT OF RECESSED CAN LIGHTS IN ARIZONA BUT THEY ARE NOT APPROPRIATE IN THIS COLD ENVIRONMENT BECAUSE CUTTING INTO THE CEILINGS CAN LEAD TO ICE ON THE ROOF. ALL OF THE LIGHTING IN THIS HOME IS DERIVED FROM FIXTURES, MOST OF WHICH WERE HAND-FORGED BY LOCAL AND REGIONAL CRAFTSMEN," CATHY SAYS.



GREEN TIP

DESIGNER CATHY SMITH SPECIFIED MOTORIZED SHADES, WHICH CAN BE OPERATED INDIVIDUALLY OR BY ONE SWITCH, TO COVER ALL THE WINDOWS OF THE HOME. THE SHADES PROVIDE AN EASY WAY FOR THE HOMEOWNERS TO CONTROL THE INDOOR TEMPERATURES AS THE SEASONS CHANGE.

GREEN TIP

THE HOME INCLUDES INSULATED, LOW-E GLASS WINDOWS, WHICH HELP REDUCE HEAT TRANSFER, THUS KEEPING THE WARM AIR OUTSIDE THE HOME DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS AND INSIDE THE HOME DURING THE WINTER MONTHS.



Two years after that serendipitous walk through the countryside, Jan and Bob enjoy unsurpassed views from each room of their 13,000-square-foot hybrid log home. "It was very important that all the rooms had great views. You totally get lost in the serenity of it all," Jan says.

The couple admits the dream became a reality because the team they chose to design and build their home worked together cohesively. "We chose two architects and let each architect select a general contractor to work with. Then we interviewed both groups and picked the one we felt most comfortable with," Bob says.

"Every home we design is absolutely site specific," says Arne Jorgensen, partner of Hawtin Jorgensen Architects in Jackson, Wyoming, the architectural firm the homeowners ultimately selected. "This site is relatively flat but offers a very dramatic mountain range as a backdrop. In this project, we were fortunate that we had the combination of a spectacular site and very engaged clients with particular desires."

Besides taking advantage of the view, Jan and Bob wanted to create a natural harmony between the home and its building site, as well as keep it family-friendly to accommodate their children and grandchildren.

"We wanted the home to be warm and inviting and one we weren't afraid to use," Jan says.

"Jan and Bob wanted the home to blend into the environment so that it did not disturb the fantastic views of the Teton Range and the abundant wildlife that share the space," says interior designer Cathy Smith, owner of Insite Expressions based in Scottsdale, Arizona. "But they also needed a guest wing that was comfortable and functional for the kids and grandkids. The design team laid out the guest suite complete with four bedrooms—each with its own full bathroom, a sitting area, a small kitchen, and a laundry room."

"The engineers working with Hawtin Jorgensen designed the home mechanically in four different pods. Each area has its own heating, cooling, and lighting but all parts of the home work together as one unit," says Greg O'Gwin, superintendent at Teton Heritage Builders in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

The four areas, or "pods," of the home include the guest suite, the master suite, the main living area, and the lower level. The master suite area comprises the master bedroom, master bathroom, Bob's office, a powder room, and a large gym; the main living area includes the kitchen, dining room, great



ABOVE: THE MASTER BATHROOM WAS CREATED AS A TRUE HIS-AND-HER SPACE TO GIVE JAN AND BOB A RELAXING AND REJUVENATING EXPERIENCE. EACH OF THEM HAS THEIR OWN SINK, COUNTER SPACE, TOILET ROOM, LINEN CLOSET, AND WALK-IN CLOSET. A LARGE WALK-THROUGH STEAM SHOWER, CUSTOM-BUILT CABINETRY, VERSAILLES TUMBLED TRAVERTINE FLOORING, AND GRANITE COUNTERTOPS COMPLETE THE EXPERIENCE.

RIGHT: USING LOCALLY CRAFTED AND HANDCRAFTED ITEMS WAS AN IMPORTANT GOAL WHEN DECORATING AND DESIGNING THE HOME. THE MASTER BEDROOM IS THE EPITOME OF HANDCRAFTED INGENUITY WITH A HAND-MADE LEATHER-COVERED BED, HAND-STACKED MONTANA STONE FIREPLACE, AND HAND-FORGED FIREPLACE DOORS.

TOP: JAN AND BOB WORKED WITH THEIR ARCHITECTURAL AND BUILDING TEAMS TO ASSURE THEIR HOME WOULD BE SITED IN THE BEST POSITION TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE BEAUTIFUL SCENERY THAT SURROUNDS THE HOME.



RIGHT: THE SIMPLICITY OF THE MATERIALS USED IN THE DINING ROOM CREATES A FORMAL FEEL, BUT ALSO OFFERS A TASTE OF EASE FOR ENTERTAINING FAMILY. A LIFE-SIZE BRONZE ELK STANDS NEXT TO THE MAN-MADE POND THE COUPLE DESIGNED FOR THEIR PROPERTY.

BELOW: THE BREAKFAST ROOM OFF THE KITCHEN PROVIDES ADDITIONAL SEATING AND ACCESS TO THE OUTDOOR PATIO. THE STONE FIREPLACE IS ONE OF SEVEN THROUGHOUT THE HOME.



Mountain Majesty

Designed in four pods—master suite, living area, guest suite, and lower level (not shown)—the spacious home was built with family in mind. The guest suite can be closed off when children and grandchildren are not there, which saves on energy costs. The flat site allows panoramic views of the mountains.

TETON HERITAGE BUILDERS, INC.
Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Log Work: Travis Karns Log Construction

Architect: Hawtin Jorgensen Architects, Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Interior Designer: Insite Expressions, Scottsdale, Arizona

1.5 story home | Square Footage: 13,000 | Bedrooms: 6 Baths: 8



room, mud room, utility room, and garage; and the lower level includes a game room, screening room, bunk house, full bathroom, and three mechanical rooms.

Overall, the home strikes a fine balance between the natural surroundings it's tucked into and its natural building materials.

"It was very important for the home to blend into its environment because the scenery was so beautiful," says Cathy. "We wanted it to be part of the environment, not in opposition to it, so we used natural colors and materials to make the home organic and it blends right in."

The home uses a combination of full logs for the log trusses, purlins, and ridges, as well as log accents and half-log siding on the exterior. The logs that carry the most character are the cedar logs used in the main entryway and master bathroom, which include 30-inch-plus-wide root systems at the base.

"The logs give the home a natural feel, like the home was built around them," says Mark Dalby, project manager at Teton Heritage Builders.

"The look of the logs adds to the home, really enhancing the warmth of it," adds Bob. "The home is large, but very warm, inviting, and comfortable."

One of the most unique design elements about the home is the below-grade basement, which was designed to capture the view of the Teton Range. "Even from the basement window, you can see the Teton Range. It's something the architect, designer, and homeowner worked pretty hard to achieve and it wasn't easy, particularly from such a flat lot," Greg says.

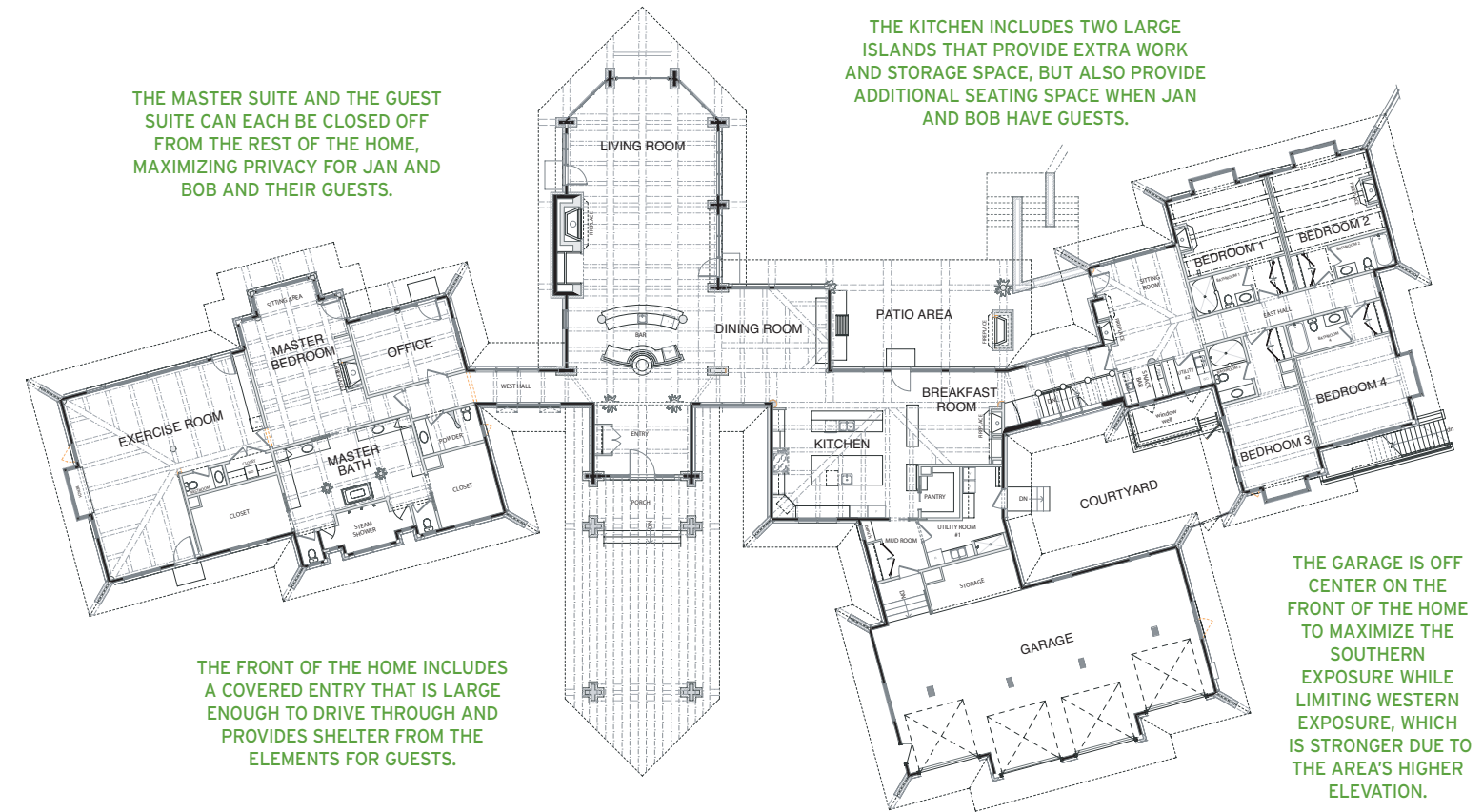
"Homes of this magnitude are a collaborative effort by everyone," says Cathy. "When you're all working together from the beginning, it results in a beautiful, well-built home, and most importantly, satisfied clients." ❁

GREEN TIP

RADIANT FLOOR HEATING IS USED THROUGHOUT THIS HOME (EXCEPT IN CARPETED AREAS), PROVIDING A MORE ENERGY-EFFICIENT OPTION.

THE MASTER SUITE AND THE GUEST SUITE CAN EACH BE CLOSED OFF FROM THE REST OF THE HOME, MAXIMIZING PRIVACY FOR JAN AND BOB AND THEIR GUESTS.

THE KITCHEN INCLUDES TWO LARGE ISLANDS THAT PROVIDE EXTRA WORK AND STORAGE SPACE, BUT ALSO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SEATING SPACE WHEN JAN AND BOB HAVE GUESTS.



THE FRONT OF THE HOME INCLUDES A COVERED ENTRY THAT IS LARGE ENOUGH TO DRIVE THROUGH AND PROVIDES SHELTER FROM THE ELEMENTS FOR GUESTS.

THE GARAGE IS OFF CENTER ON THE FRONT OF THE HOME TO MAXIMIZE THE SOUTHERN EXPOSURE WHILE LIMITING WESTERN EXPOSURE, WHICH IS STRONGER DUE TO THE AREA'S HIGHER ELEVATION.



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