

WESTERN RED CEDAR MODERN ARCHITECTURE SERIES

*the*  
**CEDAR**  
**BOOK**  
**XIII**



CELEBRATING WESTERN RED CEDAR  
ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN



*the*  
CEDAR  
BOOK  
XIII

# Intro— duction

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Designing and building homes is a process inundated with great care and responsibility. The magnitude of attention in creating a dwelling for shelter, inspiration and family experience is not to be undertaken without passion and fortitude. Every project at Birdseye represents the challenge of weaving a client's unique set of circumstances of program and site together to create a space which embodies the spirit of the whole. Birdseye designs and builds homes embedded with this intention. We are a hands-on operation. We are architects, builders and woodworkers. We are surrounded by materials in our processes of designing and making. We like to explore the possibilities and push the limits of our projects.

Our commitment to material is paramount in what we do. We pursue materials and form with the intention of finding the best way to reflect the properties of each choice.

My interest in cedar detailing was initially influenced by Shelburne Farms, a Vermont farm and country estate constructed from c.1886 to 1915. The National Historic Landmark consists of 1,300 acres of agricultural landscape designed by Frederick Olmsted. The architecture is an amazing collection of 16 buildings designed by Robert Henderson Robertson. The estate buildings and structures are unified by a combination of Queen Anne and Shingle style architecture.

The cedar shingled buildings and cedar clapboard exterior walls of the buildings are significant for their outstanding design and craft. They are beautiful. You can't help but be in awe of the architectural details of these gems. The amount of variation, texture and detail is very distinctive and reflective of

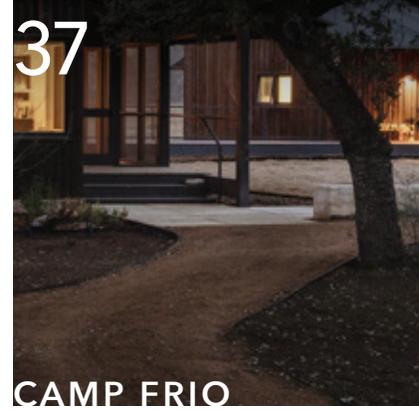
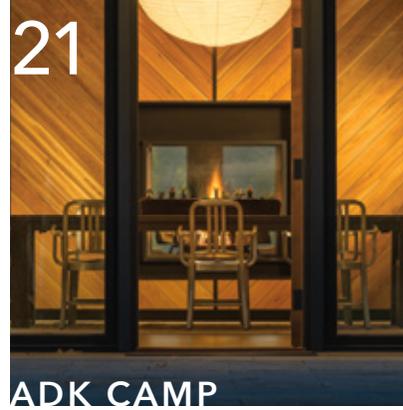
cedar's integrity and longevity. It seems the older the buildings get, the better they appear. The cedar clad structures are great examples of how to work within a materials constraint and how to best express its qualities.

We have made Western Red Cedar a constant in our project palette for many reasons. The inherent qualities of this wood species as an interior and exterior component have contributed greatly to the success of our projects over the last twenty years. Birdseye's commitment to sustainable design also makes WRC a favorable material of choice. WRC is a renewable and biodegradable material that can be sourced from sustainably managed forests.

At Birdseye, we are inspired by the architectural fabric of history and landscape. We embrace the heritage of place and instill familiarity in our projects, expressing a fresh vision in a unique way reflective of our time. Using Western Red Cedar has consistently given us the ability to explore unique finishes, create depth and shadow through layering, design unique edge detailing and select grades to best reflect and enhance our projects. We love the interaction and relationships we build in this process of discovery. ●

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**BRIAN J. MAC, FAIA**  
Principal Architect  
BIRDSEYE  
[birdseyevt.com](http://birdseyevt.com)



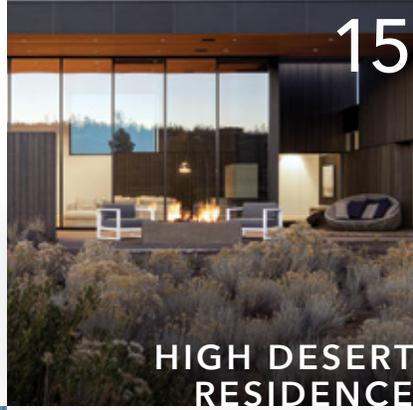
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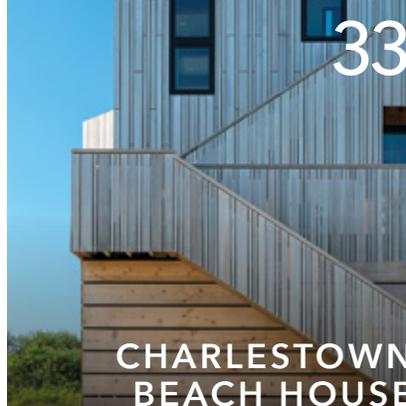
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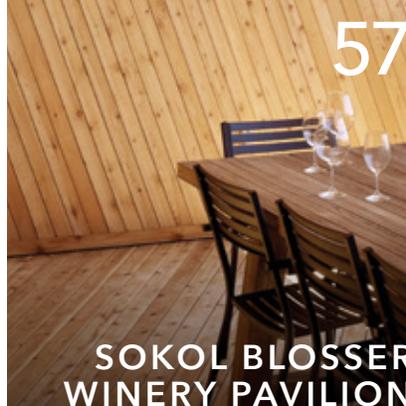
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SOKOL BLOSSER  
WINERY PAVILION

# 01

**ARCHITECT**  
CLB Architects

**CLIENT**  
Californian  
family with two  
teenage children

**GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR**  
Peak Builders

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Matthew Millman  
Photography  
& Tom Harris  
Photography



## CLIMATE CHANGER

To maximize efficiency and minimize heat loss, the house was super-insulated, outfitted with triple-pane glazing and clad in top-performing materials.

FAMILY RETREAT FOR EXTENDED FAMILY & FRIENDS

# Riverbend Residence



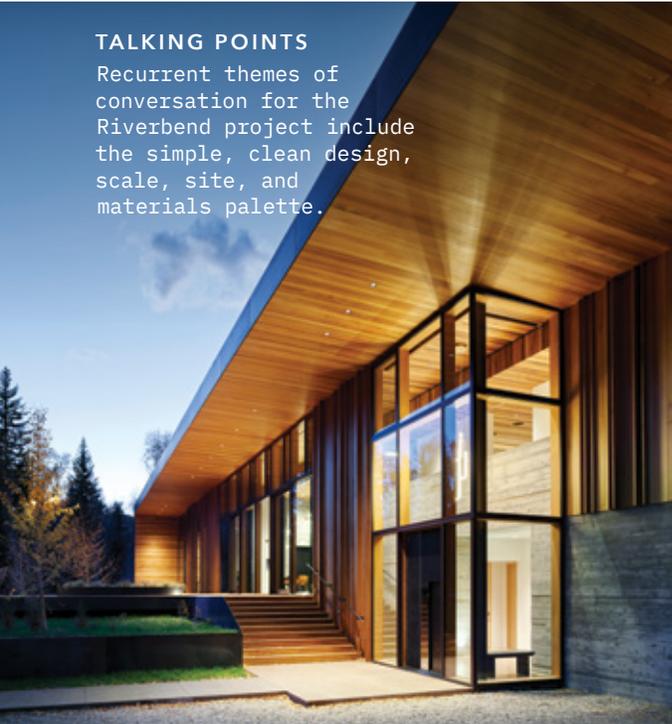
**WHERE**

Jackson, Wyoming, USA

**P**erched six feet above the natural ground plane, due to the levee that holds the Snake River back during spring run-offs, the Riverbend Residence provides stunning views and blurs the line between indoors and out. This Jackson Hole, Wyoming project consists of a high-end custom house and guesthouse with modern aesthetics. Rich materials, intricate detailing, and expert craftsmanship lend it a museum quality finish. Thoughtful siting and panoramic windows make the dramatic landscape the focal point.

## TALKING POINTS

Recurrent themes of conversation for the Riverbend project include the simple, clean design, scale, site, and materials palette.



The biggest environmental challenge for this project is the extreme Wyoming weather which reaches highs in the 90s during the summer and lows in the -40s during winter. In order to withstand the elements, top-performing building materials are required.

"We chose Western Red Cedar because of its durability in the extreme Wyoming climate and because our client expressed a desire for a warm color palette. Many contemporary architecture projects are seen as cold and hard," explains Logan of CLB Architects. "Two elevations and fascia of the home were clad in hot-rolled plate steel. We intentionally played up the contrast between the dark, protective steel shell and the warm, approachable wood exterior and interior. The steel cladding frames visually protect the soft cedar underbelly."





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**GRADE**  
KD Clear  
VG Heart

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**SIZE**  
1x6 T&G and 2" fins

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**FASTENING**  
Concealed  
fasteners

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**APPLIED FINISH**  
Clear stain

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**SUPPLIER**  
International Wood  
Products



**SYNTHESIZED SIDING**

The stunning cedar façade ties the main house and guesthouse together to create one cohesive compound that's warm, inviting and connected.

## MATERIAL MATTERS

A stunning Western Red Cedar soffit/ceiling system beautifully blurs the lines between indoor and outdoor spaces.





Chosen in response to our extreme Rocky Mountain climate, Western Red Cedar is a durable species that is a soft, natural contrast to our otherwise hard, concrete and steel-clad material palette.

ERIC LOGAN, AIA



#### SITE SENSITIVITY

The property was minimally disturbed throughout construction and the landscape was returned to its previous state upon completion.

Cedar is also used for the soffit/ceiling system and the interior window trim. To enhance the wood's natural beauty, the cedar is finished with a clear stain. To specify nature's most versatile building material for these applications, the award-winning firm along with the homeowners opted for a premium clear grade.

"We wanted the natural beauty and durability of wood, but also wanted to maintain the simplicity and clean aesthetic we had established formally with the design, thus we specified CVG cedar," Logan says, adding that CLB did not need the look of knotty because "the natural variation from board to board gave the wood clad façades just the right amount of visual interest." ●

FAMILY HOME, MAIN RESIDENCE,  
BUT ALSO AS A SHOWCASE FOR THE DBA FIRM

# Bridge House



WHERE  
Los Angeles, California, USA

**D**an Brunn could have just built his showcase home on the first flat portion of his lot, as all his neighbors had done. However, the award-winning architect wanted his L.A. home to be at one with nature. So, he set about designing a house that is a literal bridge over a naturally occurring brook, hence the name Bridge House.

“Think of it as a dream tree house, but for adults,” says Brunn of his modern streamlined take on the traditional log cabin.



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**ARCHITECT**  
Dan Brunn  
Architecture

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**CLIENT**  
Dan Brunn

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**GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR**  
MODAA  
Construction,  
Patrick Ahounber

---

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Brandon Shigeta

02



**FUTURISTIC FRAMEWORK**

Minimizing the structure's footprint on the site, Bridge House is a beautiful example of what passive design can look like.



## PRODUCT KNOWLEDGE

As both client and architect, Dan Brunn knew that only cedar could create the kind of dramatic exterior he wanted.



Of course, building a bridge with a 65' long span was nowhere near simple. The project has five different foundation types, so there was a lot of logistics to coordinate. And since Brunn was building this as a legacy project for his firm, there was also a lot of design goals to be met.

"The idea with the project was to create a platform to share stories and products," explains Brunn. "I wanted it to show what the urban home could be. So, I hope this lives on as that. It is maybe the truest example of DBA today."

Inside, the eco-minded home offers a truly unique experience with, among other design features, a beautiful living green wall and a long art gallery hallway. The exterior creates a dramatic impression as well with customized Select Knotty Western Red Cedar siding that was stained to a very light white.

"Typically, we work with concrete, stucco and glass," says Brunn. "This site is so unique though. There are so many trees on the site that I wanted something that really melds with nature. The cedar façade accomplishes that integration."

"I actually don't think this project could have been done without cedar," he continues. "The entire expression would have been something else altogether. It had to be the way it is." ●



# INFO

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**GRADE**  
KD Select Knotty

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**SIZE**  
1x8 S/L with a  
fineline edge detail

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**FASTENING**  
Stainless steel

---

**APPLIED FINISH**  
Driftwood gray  
bleaching stain

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**SUPPLIER**

**MANUFACTURER:**  
West Bay Forest Products  
**DISTRIBUTOR:**  
OrePac Building Products  
**FACTORY FINISH:**  
Woodtone

**AGING GRACEFULLY**

Dan Brunn used a bleaching stain that'll turn the cedar a beautiful silvery gray patina as the years pass.



Knotty cedar has so much character, and it looks so raw, which really complements our clean modernist lines.

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**DAN BRUNN, AIA**



# 03

**ARCHITECT**  
BAR Architects

**CLIENT**  
Mountainside  
Partners

**GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR**  
SMC Contracting  
Inc.

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Doug Dun,  
BAR Architects  
Inc.



### **CONNECTED TO THE LAND**

The cedar T&G siding and roof overhang on the uphill units create a strong link between the structures and the site.

SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES, ZERO-LOT-LINE

# Boulders Residences



**WHERE**

Northstar, Lake Tahoe, California, USA

**N**estled within the ski-in, ski-out community of Mountainside, less than 15 minutes from Lake Tahoe and Truckee, Boulders Residences offer a distinct approach to modern mountain living. The collection of single-family homes was purposefully designed to help bring balance to the busy lives of its residents. For BAR Architects, that meant blurring the distinction between inside and outside by building full-height walls of operable glass and exterior decks to create light filled open living spaces that fully capture the expansive views while providing privacy from neighbors.

## COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS

Recognizing the design team's collective responsibility to protect limited resources, Boulders incorporates durable and renewable materials.



## INFO

### GRADE

KD Select Knotty  
(10-15% quality  
knotty)

### SIZE

1x8 shiplap  
and T&G siding

### FASTENING

Painted ring  
shank nails

### SUPPLIER

MANUFACTURER:  
Canyon Lumber  
DISTRIBUTOR:  
Bakerview Forest  
Products

### APPLIED FINISH

Semi-transparent/  
light white wash



Cedar's versatility in accepting and holding finishes allowed us to explore the design freely.

— JEFF GOODWIN, AIA



#### SELLING POINTS

The clean interiors, particularly the exposed steel structure against the beautiful cedar in featured areas, is a favorite among buyers.

It also meant reinterpreting the traditional snow-country architecture into a contemporary expression of this functional heritage. Thus, the dramatic roof shapes that soar over large areas of glazed walls give the homes a decidedly modern edge. In keeping with the vernacular of classic mountain structures, these striking silhouettes are contrasted beautifully with the warmth of Western Red Cedar siding on the exterior walls and soffits.

BAR also selected nature's most versatile material for important elements of the interior as well. "Western Red Cedar on walls and ceilings seamlessly extend from inside to the exterior, drawing the eye outside and emphasizing the connection between home and the surrounding outdoor environment," explains Jeff Goodwin, BAR Architects' principal.

To add even greater warmth and texture, whilst meeting the project's economic goals, BAR Architects opted for a beautiful knotty grade of cedar. Given the rugged mountain aesthetic, it was a natural choice for a project set in the stunning Sierras. But cedar wasn't selected solely for its good looks. The project called for an eco-friendly, top-performing material that could stand the test of time against sun and snow.

"Cedar's proven track record of durability will help with long-term maintenance of the homes," says the award-winning architect, adding "choosing a natural material was also key to reaching our sustainable goals for the project." ●



FAMILY RETREAT

# High Desert Residence



**WHERE**

Bend, Oregon, USA

**O**n the edge of the Cascade mountain range is where you'll find the High Desert Residence. It's a distinctive region of the Pacific Northwest where the signs of recent geologic activity and formation can be found everywhere—in the pure forms of volcanic cinder cones to the enormous scorching lava flows and the still-sharp, jagged mountains.



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**ARCHITECT**

Hacker

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**CLIENT**

Active Portland  
family

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**GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR**

Kirby Nagelhout  
Construction

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**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Jeremy  
Bittermann

# 04

**SEAMLESS CONNECTION**

In the main living room and kitchen,  
the cedar ceiling extends to the  
exterior, only lightly interrupted  
by full-height windows.



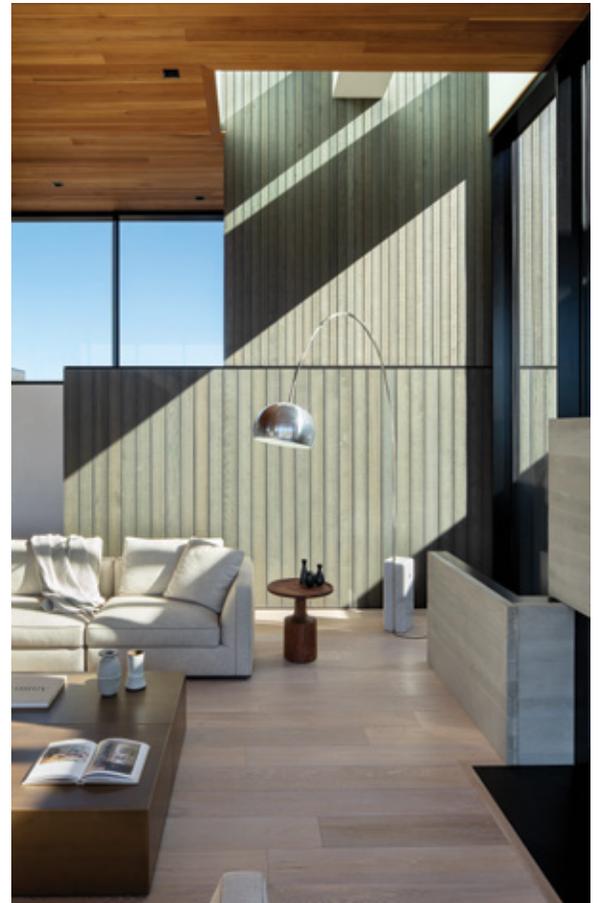
### HIGH PERFORMANCE

Cedar was selected for its durability in an environment of extreme temperature swings as well as for its aesthetic qualities.

Naturally, the goal was to ensure this stunning landscape could be experienced from each room in the home. The Hacker architect team achieved this with simple, shifting exterior walls and windows that are carefully aligned to create framed views of the desert flora and fauna, and the sprawling texture of distant hills.

To honor this dramatic backdrop, they needed a durable and dynamic building material for the exterior. So, the Portland-based firm selected Western Red Cedar siding for its ability to stand up to the elements as well as its aesthetic qualities.

"It's also a very workable wood fiber allowing for custom dimensions and reveals," explains Hacker principal Corey Martin, who specified clear water-based finish. "The clients are designers themselves, and they truly appreciated the high level of finish detailing that was made possible by using cedar. The natural patina as the exterior cedar ages will further reflect the material as found in this high desert region."



## YEAR-ROUND COVER

The roof extends over a large exterior living space, providing cooling shade in the summer and snow protection in winter.



# INFO

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## GRADE

KD 'A' & Better ceiling  
and KD 'D' & Better siding

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## SIZE

1x4 and 1x6 T&G

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## FASTENING

Concealed fasteners

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## APPLIED FINISH

CEILING: transparent stain  
SIDING: dark stain

---

## SUPPLIER

MANUFACTURER:  
Idaho Forest Group  
DISTRIBUTOR: International  
Wood Products & Disdero  
Lumber Company



The versatility of the cedar enhanced the project as even the exterior cladding was a very detailed finish.

— NIC SMITH, AIA

Inside, the clients wanted to furnish this home with their carefully curated collection of mid-century furniture, so Hacker composed a simple interior palette of white, black, and natural wood to act as a timeless backdrop for these pieces. They also wanted to blur the lines between site and structure.

“The same cedar used on the exterior is carried throughout the interiors, appearing continuous through the glass and giving the impression that there is no barrier at all between inside and outside spaces,” says the award-winning architect. ●





#### FIERCE FAÇADE

To reduce the need for a large heating and cooling system, High Desert Residence has a robust building envelope.

# 05

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**ARCHITECT**

Birdseye

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**CLIENT**

Brothers and  
their respective  
families

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**GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR**

Hilltop  
Construction

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**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Jim Westphalen  
Photography

**FIRST PLACE**

This stunning summer home recently won top prize at the Wood Design Awards in the "Real Cedar" category.

# ADK Camp



**WHERE**

Brant Lake, New York, USA

**T**he same family has owned this upstate New York property for four generations. It's a stunning, 5-acre site defined by two existing boathouses, a tree-lined carriage road, and a vintage waterfront cabin. They would never want to change the character of their beloved vacation compound, but something had to be done about the main residence, a dilapidated and structurally unsound building.



Enter architect Brian J. Mac. His award-winning, Vermont-based firm was commissioned to design a replacement vacation home, one that could accommodate two adult brothers and their respective families. The result is a very symmetrical layout which concisely reflects two separate living entities flanking a shared common eating, living and cooking space. And in keeping with the spirit of the property's heritage structures, the overall essence of this project was inspired by the great camps of the Adirondacks. But done so with a fresh, minimalist approach to design.

"Those camps were saturated with heavy log and wood detailing from the natural environment," explains Mac. "We wanted to streamline that craft into a contemporary language using a material that could give us a similar dynamic and relationship to the landscape. Western Red Cedar grading and finishing gave us the flexibility to stay within the same species of wood and accomplish our overall aesthetic."

“

Western Red Cedar is a proven sustainable material which reflects a warmth to this project.

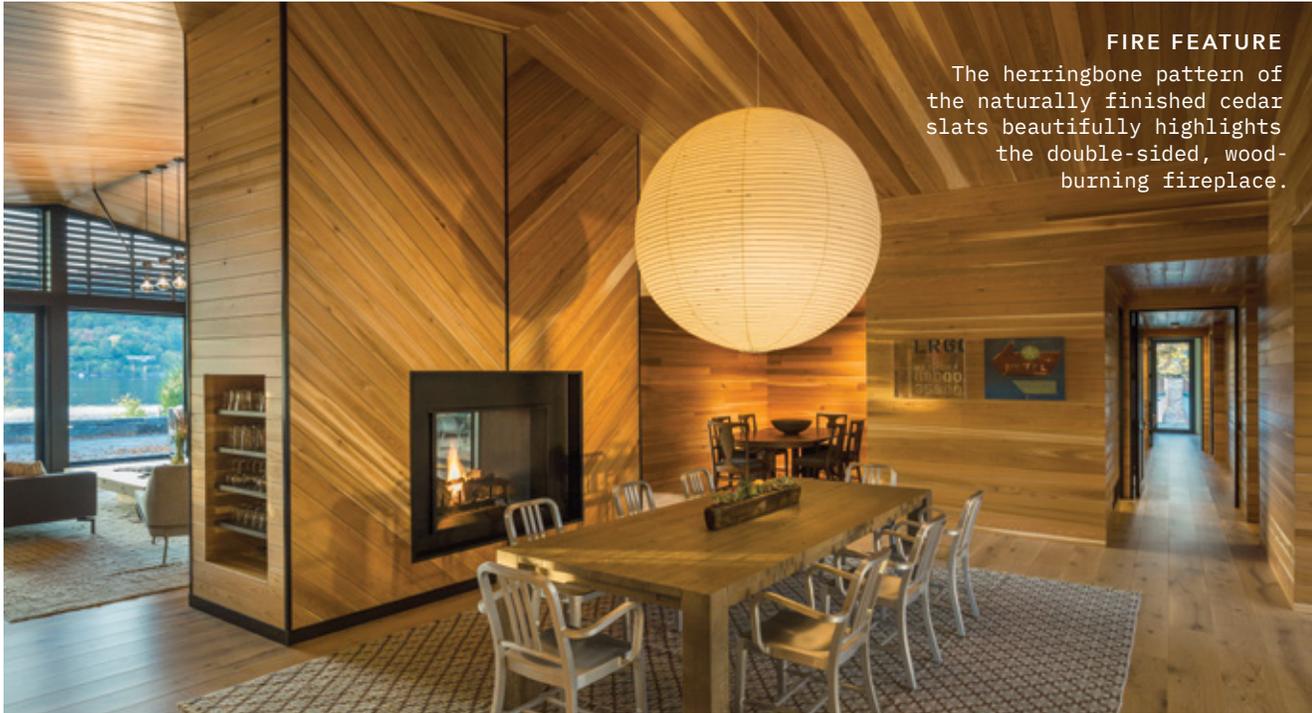
— BRIAN MAC, FAIA



BEAUTIFUL BLEND

The inspired architectural language of the camp integrates into the landscape.





#### FIRE FEATURE

The herringbone pattern of the naturally finished cedar slats beautifully highlights the double-sided, wood-burning fireplace.

Indeed, Mac makes beautiful use of Western Red Cedar throughout the entire home. Inside, the naturally stained cedar slats give depth to the architecture and create a dynamic character, as light continuously moves across the detailing. The dark cedar façade, meanwhile, reflects a tangible element of nature, providing that connection to the land, which the homeowners were looking to attain.

"Western Red Cedar holds a stain very well," says Mac. "And the exterior black stain was an important tone in our pursuit of blending the architecture into the landscape and creating a strong contrast to the inside's natural finish." ●



#### FAMILY PLANNING

The program is organized around a central living space, flanked by two private family wings.



# INFO

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**GRADE**                      **SIZE**

KD 'A' & Better            1x6

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**FASTENING**

Stainless steel ring shank nails

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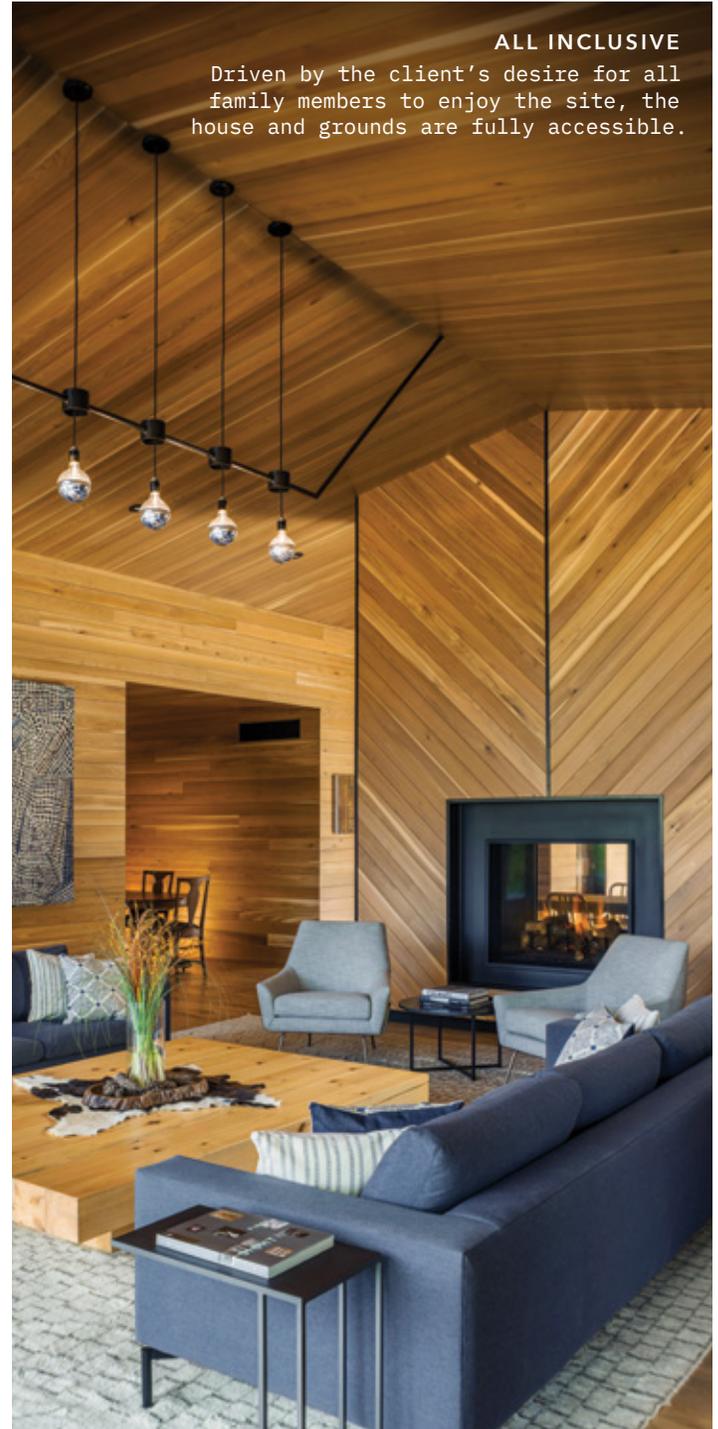
**APPLIED FINISH**

INTERIOR: clear finish  
EXTERIOR: black solid body stain

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**SUPPLIER**

INTERIOR: Hood Distribution  
- McQuesten Group  
EXTERIOR: Russin Lumber Corp



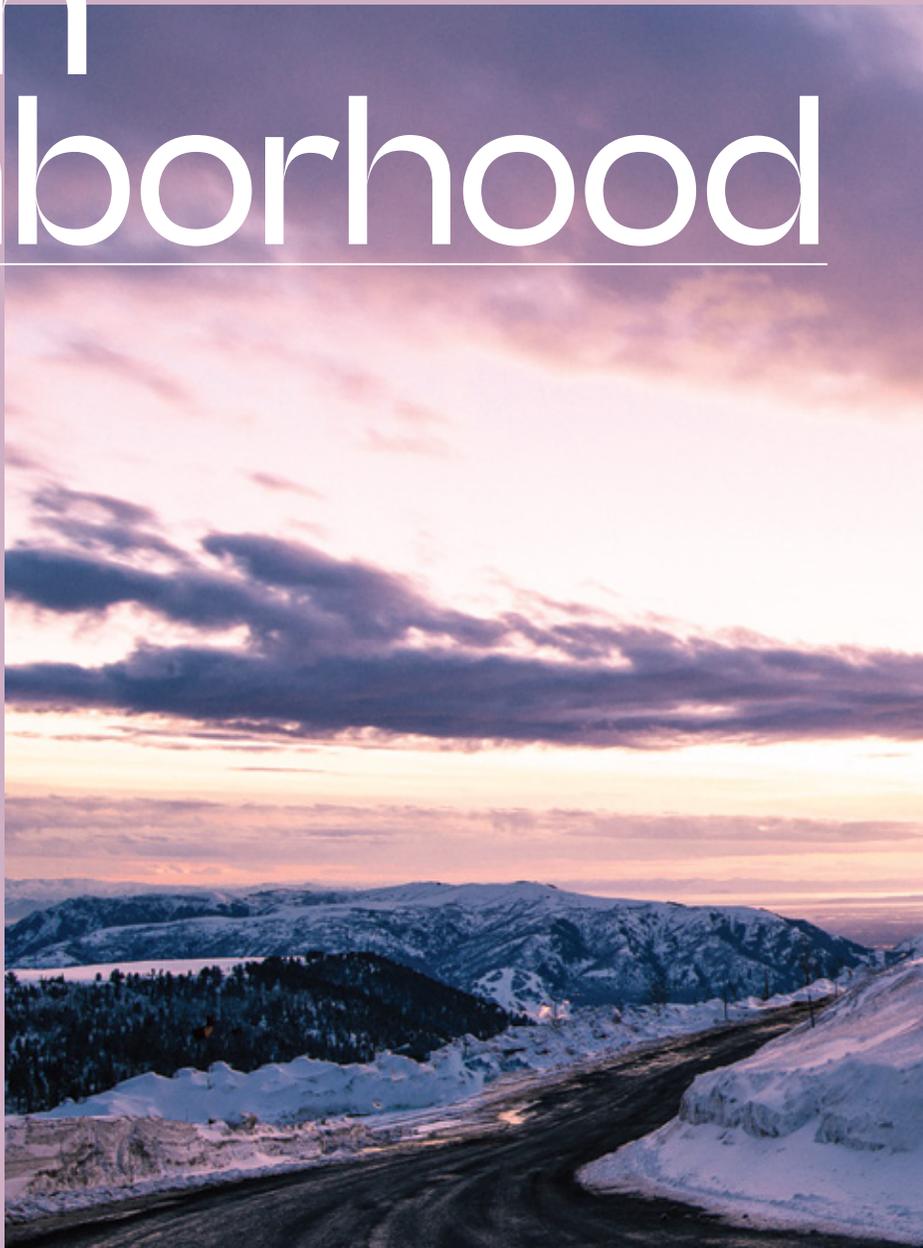
# Horizon Neighborhood



**WHERE**

Powder Mountain, Utah, USA

**B**uilding an intentional community 9,000 feet above sea level on Powder Mountain doesn't come without its challenges—high wind loads, high seismic loads, extreme snowfall, extreme topography and high solar gain, to name a few. But MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects was more than up to the task. The award-winning, Nova Scotia-based firm is internationally renowned for creating stunning and sometimes gravity defying structures that respond to “place” in very dramatic ways.



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**ARCHITECT**

MacKay-Lyons  
Sweetapple  
Architects

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**CLIENT**

Summit -  
Powder Mountain

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**GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR**

Mountain Resort  
Builders

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**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Doublespace  
Photography  
& Paul Bundy

# 06

**DUALISTIC DESIGN**

The architecture is both traditional and modern, and it is a coherent neighborhood that exemplifies both unity and variety.

The goal here was to develop a sustainable, modern mountain architecture, that responds to the local climate and landscape. Mission accomplished. Horizon Neighborhood's architecture is both traditional and contemporary, and it's a coherent community that exemplifies both unity and variety.

"Close your eyes and imagine a neighborhood consisting of a dense aggregation of cedar cabins perched on stilts, clustered around communal courtyards and accessed by forty-foot steel bridges," says Brian MacKay-Lyons, Principal of MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects. "The bridges enable year-

round entry from the second level of each structure. The stilts also form the primary structural frames, which support the cabins from extreme wind and potential seismic loads."

The design is based on the client's culture of creativity and environmental stewardship, which is especially important because the mountain is part of Utah's fragile high desert landscape. So, using the stilts—rather than concrete foundations—ensures the buildings touch lightly on the land minimizing the project's overall footprint. As does the choice of building material.

## CHOICE CHALETS

Individual customers can purchase one of four housing prototypes, and MSA offers customization to each buyer.





# INFO

**GRADE**  
KD Select Knotty

**SIZE**  
1X6 S/L

**FASTENING**  
Stainless steel  
ring shank nails

**APPLIED FINISH**  
Clear stain

**SUPPLIER**  
OrePac Building Products  
and Disdero Lumber Company





MacKay-Lyons specified naturally beautiful Western Red Cedar for the shingled roofs, the vertical cedar wall cladding as well as the soffits.

"While not grown locally, cedar is the local vernacular for agricultural buildings in the area, and it is the most durable and long-lasting wood cladding material," he says adding, "the use of WRC was consistent with the client's values." ●



## STRONG SUPPORT

The stilts form the primary structural frames, and support the cabins from extreme wind and potential seismic loads.



# 07

**ARCHITECT**  
KITE Architects

**CLIENT**  
Industrial  
designer &  
entrepreneur  
in the building  
industry

**GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR**  
Newport  
Renewables

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Warren Jagger



## REWARDING REQUIREMENTS

The need to elevate the house turned into an asset, with the top-floor, open concept living area enjoying panoramic views.

# Charlestown Beach House



**WHERE**

South Kingstown, Rhode Island, USA

In 2012, Hurricane Sandy wreaked havoc on this part of Rhode Island, leaving behind eroded beaches and an increasingly vulnerable coastal environment. Consequently, this waterfront project presented an incredible opportunity for KITE Architects to explore innovative design solutions for long-term threats of weather, energy dependence, and sea level rise related to climate change.

## PRIME EXAMPLE

The client wanted his home to serve as a model for modern dwellings built in increasingly vulnerable coastal environments.



“A high priority was placed on the selection of long lasting, durable materials and development of construction details to withstand the severe weather,” explains Albert Garcia, AIA, KITE Architects’ Principal. “As such, the house is clad with a rainscreen wall system comprised of Western Red Cedar arranged in a pattern that follows a rigorous and consistent module as it cascades across projections and recesses.”

Aesthetically, the owner was interested in creating a house that was a celebration of contemporary design and meticulous craftsmanship. Again, Western Red Cedar met those requirements as well.

“Using the form of a ship as a metaphor and inspiration, and the material palette of a traditional coastal cottage, the design for the house is based on an orderly composition of simple forms that is distinctively unique compared to its traditional New England neighbors,” says the award-winning architect. “The horizontal 1x12 cedar boards are meant to recall the planking of a ship’s hull. The rough texture of the select knotty grade provides a contrast to the smoothly finished, machined edges of the vertical siding.”

Technically, the cedar boards are an integral part of a pressure equalized rainscreen cladding system that improves the thermal and weathering performance of the exterior envelope. For finishing, they let all the cedar weather naturally. As Garcia explains, the reason to leave it unfinished was twofold. “The silver-gray color and texture of weathered Western Red Cedar is naturally beautiful and fits into the local coastal cottage aesthetic.” ●



# INFO

## GRADE

KD 'A' & Better vertical siding and KD Select Knotty horizontal boards

## SIZE

1x4, 1x6, 1x8 and 1x12

## FASTENING

Ring shank nails

## APPLIED FINISH

None

## SUPPLIER

RETAILER: Liberty Cedar  
MANUFACTURER: PowerWood  
DISTRIBUTORS: Mid-State Lumber & Hood Distribution - McQuesten Group



The choice to use Western Red Cedar was primarily driven by the exceptional natural weathering characteristics of the material.

ALBERT GARCIA, AIA



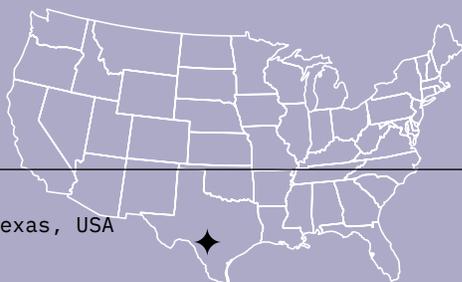
## TRANQUIL RETREAT

Providing a meditative connection to the ocean, the angled window and wall projections direct one's gaze to the water.



MULTI-FAMILY COMPOUND

# Camp Frio



**WHERE**

Leakey, Texas, USA

“Cozy... but ample and gracious; dark and moody... but bright and airy.” That was the homeowners’ impression after spending their first weekend at this Texan multi-family vacation property. The young family wanted a retreat where they could bring other friends and family. They turned to Tim Cuppett Architects for a solution, and they delivered. The award-winning Austin-based firm designed a compound of four independent structures: main house, two guest cottages, and a garage/art studio/meditation loft. And as Cuppett explains, this final product is many things all at once.



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**ARCHITECT**  
Tim Cuppett  
Architects

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**CLIENT**  
Young family

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**GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR**  
Dalgleish  
Construction Co.

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**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Whit Preston  
Photography

08



**SOUTHERN LIVING**

This multi-family compound rises from a remote, grassy valley on the bank of Frio River, deep in the Texas Hill Country.



"It's rural, agrarian, rustic," he says, "at first glance, the buildings might appear to have been there for decades but with further study, composition and details look more modern."

It also looks like the kind of place that inspires outlaw country songs. In other words, timeless, just like the wood that clads all of the structures. For this, they chose a beautiful knotty grade of Western Red Cedar, a classic siding material that stands the test of time for two reasons. The wood's warm textured surface only gets better with age, especially if left to weather naturally or in this case, finished with a weather-enhancing stain.

“

The timeless appeal of Western Red Cedar really reinforces the regional character.

— **TIM CUPPETT, FAIA**

## INFO

### GRADE

KD Select Knotty

### SIZE

1x6 board,  
1x3 batten

### FASTENING

Stainless steel siding nails

### APPLIED FINISH

#### MAIN HOUSE:

Semi-transparent stain, black

#### OTHER BUILDINGS:

Semi-transparent stain, red



### AT EASE

Structures were detailed for simplicity of construction with readily available materials such as cedar and fashioned by local tradesmen.



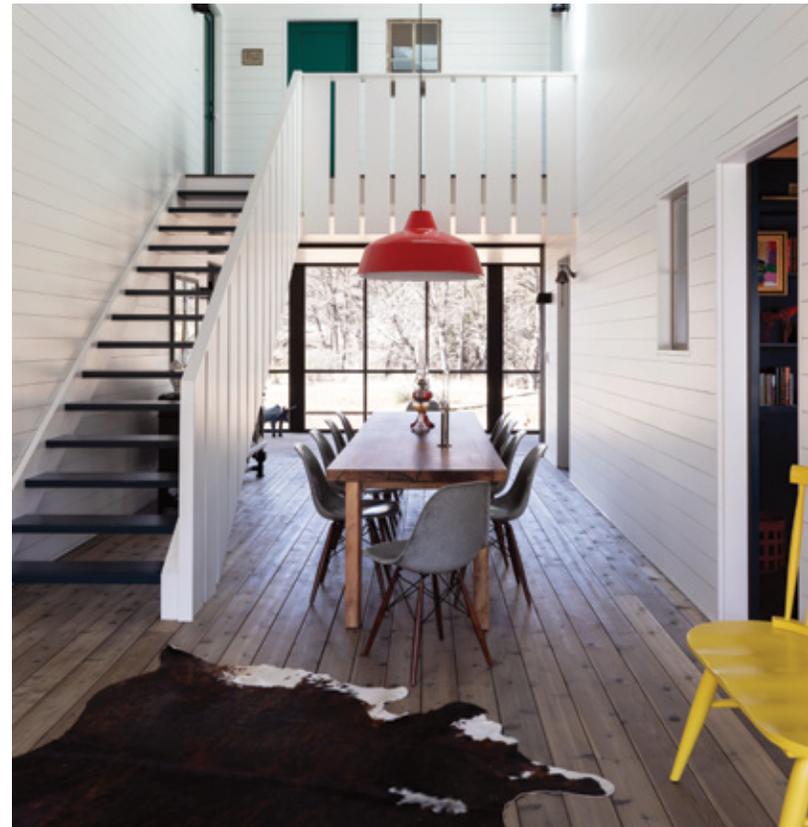
#### ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERIENCE

This project's goal was to replace city life and digital stimulation with a greater connection to people and place.

Secondly, the wood is naturally resistant to rot, decay and insects so it's a durable building material as rich in history as it is in tonal range. He also selected cedar for exterior flooring and elevated decking, which encourages interaction between the screened porches and guest cottages.

Cedar's also a green choice. In fact, woods such as Western Red Cedar leave the smallest carbon footprint than any other building material. Which is important for a parcel of land that's deep in a grassy Texan valley where the Frio River winds through, and the few home sites allowed there, share utilities and services.

"One goal was to have a minimal impact on the site," confirms Cuppett. ●



# 09

**ARCHITECT**  
Trim Studio

**CLIENT**  
Young couple

**GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR**  
Longlife Windows

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Jarusha Brown



## ROMANTIC GETAWAY

The clients are newlyweds who bought this property as a vacation spot to spend quality time together.

# Galiano 100



## WHERE

Galiano Island, BC, Canada

**W**hen it comes to designing tiny homes, a little Western Red Cedar goes a long way. The wood's naturally beautiful tonal range and texture create warm, inviting indoor and outdoor living spaces, even with extremely limited square footage. It also connects the structures to natural surroundings in a way that man-made materials can't achieve.



## NATURE LOVERS

The homeowners enjoy a lot of outdoor living space with a big cedar deck, hot tub, and outdoor shower.



“Our main goal was to integrate the house with the context as much as possible,” explains Rodrigo Munguia, Trim’s principal. “The property, the views, and the nature surrounding it are stunning. We wanted to embrace that, which is one of the reasons we wanted to use as much Western Red Cedar as possible.”

The result is WRC on the ceiling, soffits and trim. To make the most of the outdoor living space, Munguia selected cedar decking. Smart choice. Cedar’s natural properties make it naturally resistant to rot, decay and insects, so this freestanding deck which provides amazing views of the water, the coastline, downtown Vancouver and the north shore mountains will last the clients a long time.

Additionally, Western Red Cedar is a green choice. This is always important, especially somewhere as beautiful and pristine as Galiano, often referred to as “the gem of the Gulf Islands.”

“

Cedar enhances the lines of the design, grounds it to the context, and gives the natural and local feel we were looking to achieve.

—— **RODRIGO MUNGUIA**, Trim Studio



**STRATEGIC SPECIFICATIONS**

For aesthetic and budgetary reasons, a combination of knotty and clear grades of cedar were specified for this project.

As the name suggests, the base of this two-storey tiny home is only 100 sq ft, but Trim’s innovative slanted wall design allows the interior space to accommodate a kitchenette, living room, electric-incinerating toilet, and a queen size bed. Meanwhile, the use of naturally finished, knotty Western Red Cedar inside and out allow the structure and its inhabitants to be at one with nature. ●



# INFO

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## GRADE

KD Architect Knotty decking, KD Select Knotty ceiling and 'A' & Better trim boards

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## SIZE

Varies

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## FASTENING

Stainless steel

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## APPLIED FINISH

Clear stain

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## SUPPLIER

MANUFACTURER: Interfor  
DISTRIBUTOR: Still Creek  
Forest Products



## FINAL TOUCHES

Trim Studio opted for clear matte finishes to embrace the cedar's innate beauty and keep it as natural as possible.



ADDITION TO THE ARCHITECT'S OWN HOME  
FOR HIMSELF, HIS WIFE, TWO CHILDREN & PRACTICE

# The Annex



WHERE  
Los Angeles, California, USA

**A**rchitect Martin Fenlon is no stranger to the power of Western Red Cedar. He used nature's most versatile building material to transform a dilapidated LA bungalow into a bright, beautiful home for his family back in 2015. So, when it came time to build an addition to accommodate his growing family, he once again turned to Western Red Cedar.



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**ARCHITECT**  
Martin Fenlon  
Architecture

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**CLIENT**  
Martin Fenlon  
& Nicole Mihalka

---

**GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR**  
Martin Fenlon

---

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
John Linden

# 10



**NATURAL SELECTION**

Since sustainability was a primary tenet of this project, Western Red Cedar was a natural choice for architect Martin Fenlon.

“The primary focus for the design became the creation of more usable space and a new yard for the children to play in,” explains Fenlon. “The cedar-clad addition delivered perfectly on these needs.”

With a big, cedar-trimmed retractable window wall system that opens up to the newly formed yard, “The Annex” blurs the lines between inside and out beautifully.

“The warmth and beauty of the new yard and the new family room is indebted to the WCR throughout,” says Fenlon. “The unanimous reaction to the finished product is that it’s warm, beautiful and simply stunning.”

Also new to this addition is a large picture window facing the street, a dramatic feature that has become the project’s biggest attention grabber.

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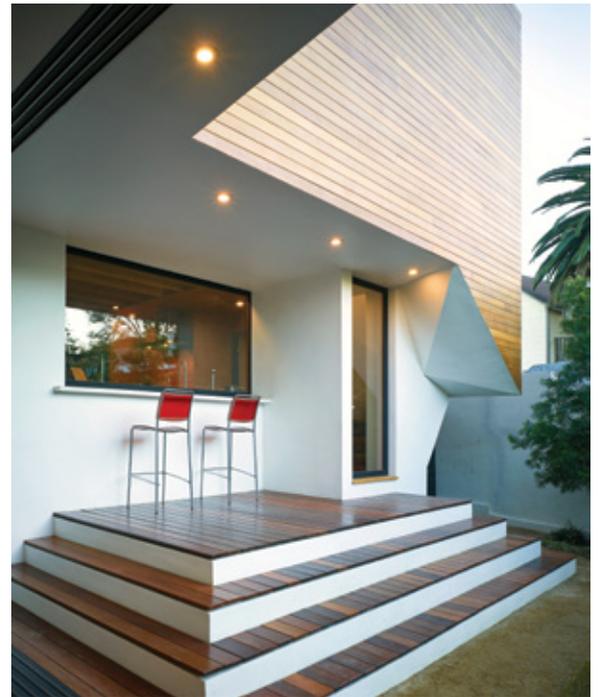
Western Red Cedar was chosen because it is beautiful, sustainable and durable.

— MARTIN FENLON, AIA

#### MIXED GRADES

To maintain consistency with the original bungalow, a combination of knotty and clear cedar was used throughout the addition.





"It's wrapped in a clear cedar surround that passes from interior to exterior," explains the award-winning architect. "From the exterior it forms a striking contrast with the *shou sugi ban* wood that reminds people of a picture frame. From the inside, the cedar surround seems to project the exterior into the interior space."

As well as beautiful, the project is green, which was really important to the eco-conscious father of two.

"Sustainability was a primary tenet of the work," he says. "An open space has been carved out of an area of old buildings and impermeable paving. The new trees and plantings provide natural air conditioning, help clean the air and are now home to various birds, butterflies, bees and bugs. And since wood is the only renewable building material, I wanted it showcased throughout as a bold, distinctive sustainable material." ●

#### CONTRASTING FINISHES

The knotty cedar was *shou sugi ban*, and the clear was naturally stained, creating a dramatic contrast that showcases cedar's versatility.



#### GRADE

KD 'A' & Better  
and KD Select  
Knotty

#### SIZE

1x4 and 1x6

#### FASTENING

Stainless steel  
fasteners

#### APPLIED FINISH

*Shou sugi ban*, clear stain

**ARCHITECT**  
Snøhetta, DIALOG

**CLIENT**  
Calgary  
Municipal Land  
Corporation  
(CMLC)

**STRUCTURAL  
ENGINEER**  
StructureCraft

**GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR**  
Stuart Olson

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Lucus Epp &  
Julian Parkinson

#### WARM WELCOME

Upon entering the library, visitors encounter a lobby awash with natural light and warmth from the inspired use of cedar.

CALGARY  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

# Calgary Central Library

**WHERE**

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

**P**roving you can never have too much of a good thing, the Calgary Central Library uses approximately 21,000 SF of Western Red Cedar on its soffit, which is also one of the largest freeform double-curved surfaces in the world. For the Snøhetta architecture team—who co-designed the technologically advanced public space with DIALOG—using nature’s most versatile building material on community projects is somewhat of a specialty.



## CALCULATED CUTS

Custom algorithms were written to create a seemingly random pattern of batten joints across the show-stopping cedar soffit.

The Norwegian trans-disciplinary firm also built the Charles Library at Temple University in Philadelphia, using over 25,500 SF of Western Red Cedar on the main dome which is a 42' tall double-curved ellipsoid.

As for DIALOG, using beautiful warm wood to create bold civic buildings is nothing new either. But together, these award-winning firms really out did themselves when it comes to incorporating natural materials with contemporary design for maximum impact.

Inspired by the nearby foothills, the site is transformed into a terraced topography that rises up and over the existing Light Rail Transit Line crossing the site. The lifted library, with an open entry at the heart of the site, allows for a visual and pedestrian connection between East Village and Calgary's downtown.

For the stunning cedar soffit, Vancouver-based engineering firm, StructureCraft was brought on board to design and build the freeform wood structure. The cladding is formed into a series of arches and curves inspired by the Chinook winds, with

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Western Red Cedar battens flowing along the ceiling and down to the walls—difficult to not catch the visitor's attention.

— LUCAS EPP, Lead Engineer



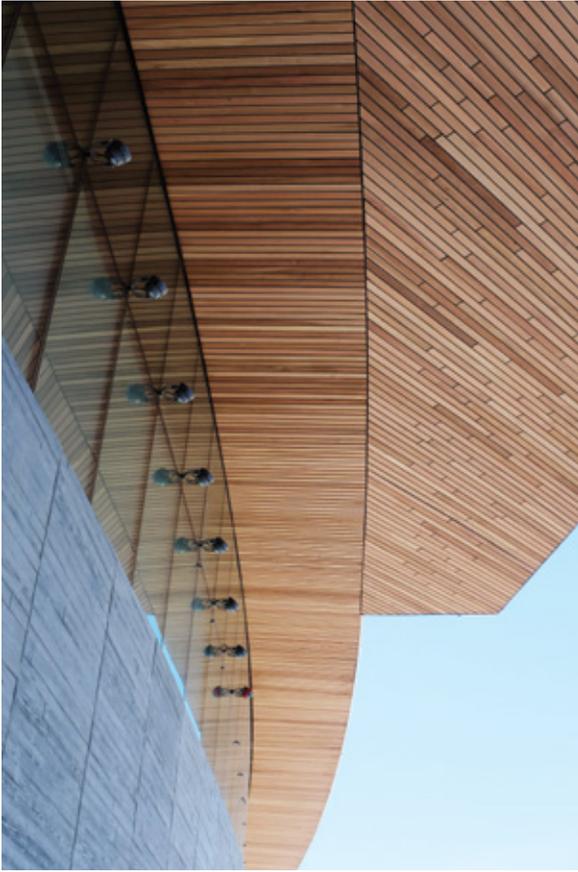
Western Red Cedar battens creating a series of bifurcating patterns across the surface. To achieve this doubly curved underbelly, the battens were initially straight but then bent and twisted as they were applied onto panels, following minimum energy curves known as geodesics across the surface.

Thanks to the rich warmth and natural beauty of cedar, this magnificent modern mass creates an inviting opening and acts as the welcoming point for all visitors. ●

#### **BOLD STATEMENT**

The cedar soffit is a beautiful contrast to the dynamic, triple-glazed façade, which is composed of a modular, hexagonal pattern.





IN  
FO

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**GRADE**  
KD 'A' & Better

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**SIZE**  
1x4

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**FASTENING**  
Blind fastened

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**APPLIED FINISH**  
None

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**SUPPLIER**  
Bakerview Forest  
Products

## MAIN ATTRACTION

Each cedar panels curve down toward the ground, creating an entrance intended to attract the public into the building.



TASTING ROOM

# Sokol Blosser Winery Pavilion



**WHERE**

Dayton, Oregon, USA

**C**radled in Oregon's wine country, Sokol Blosser Winery Pavilion is a social hub for the entire 100-acre estate. Stretching west to east between the original 1970's winery buildings and a stand of native Oregon White Oaks, the pavilion offers sweeping views of the landscape, and a range of spaces for gathering, entertaining and wine tasting.

**BIOPHILIC DESIGN**

Utilizing the principles from the Living Building Challenge, the pavilion exhibits an affinity for the living world around it.



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**ARCHITECT**  
Allied Works  
Architecture

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**CLIENT**  
Sokol Blosser  
Winery

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**GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR**  
R & H  
Construction,  
Portland, Oregon

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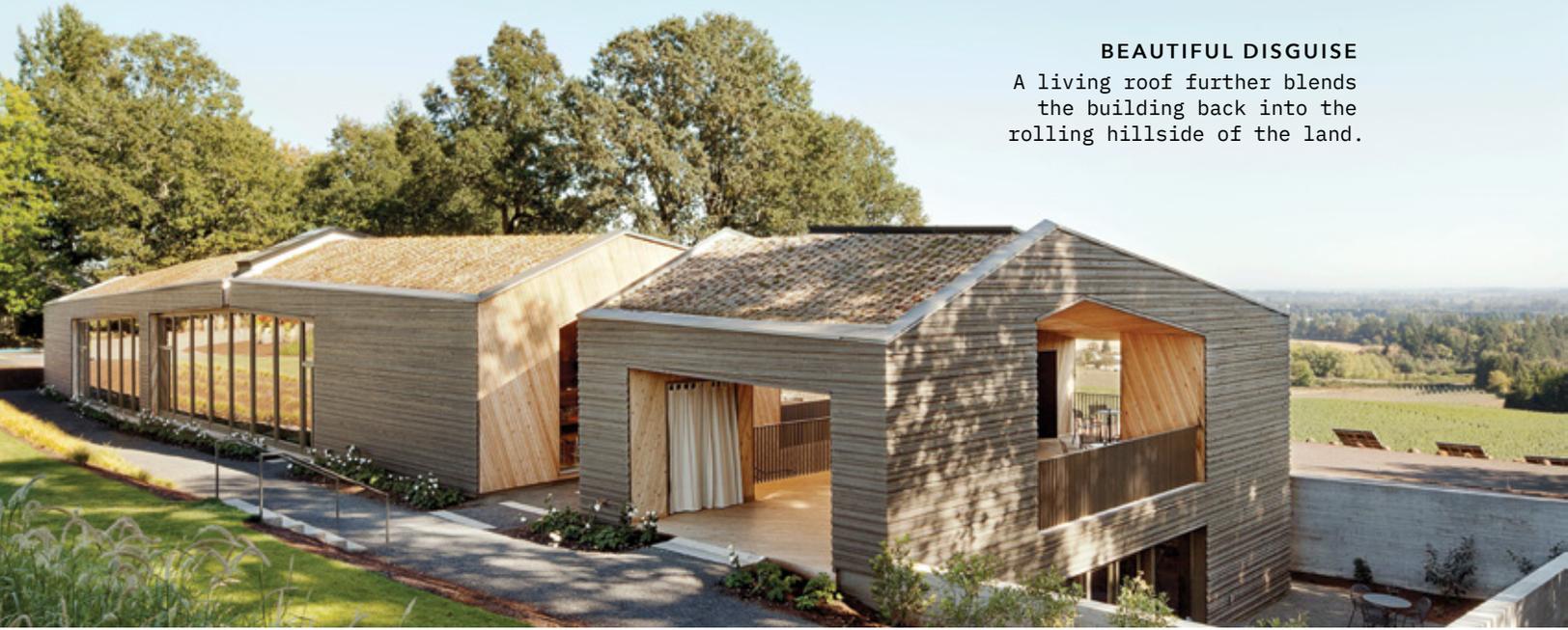
**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Jeremy  
Bittermann

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## BEAUTIFUL DISGUISE

A living roof further blends the building back into the rolling hillside of the land.



The heart of the building is a beautiful cedar-clad pavilion, which is flanked by a library, an eat-in test kitchen, an in-ground cellar and VIP room. Generous overhangs as well as a secret garden—complete with stunning cedar decks and walkways—provide opportunities for enjoying wine, food and company in all seasons.

As with the exterior surfaces, the interior is almost entirely clad in a warm and textured knotty grade of Western Red Cedar, as if the entire structure were carved from a single mass.

“The materiality and detailing of the wood were central to the project vision,” explains Nathan Hamilton, Associate Principal at Allied Works Architecture.

“Cedar is a rich, distinctive material, capable of varied interior and exterior uses and finishes.”

**NATHAN HAMILTON,**  
Allied Works Architecture

“Subtle pushes and pulls from square or rectangular forms give the building a more organic feel, just as the unity of materials blur the boundaries between interior and exterior. Altogether, the building simply feels more ‘of’ the landscape than any standard form of construction.”

As for finishing, the AWA team opted for contrasting colors to emphasize public spaces. The outward facing façade was stained with a dark, semi-solid stain, while the interiors and recessed areas of the exterior were finished with a transparent stain intended to preserve, as closely as possible, the natural appearance of the cedar, while maintaining that color over time.

According to Hamilton: “Now in its seventh year, the cedar has maintained its fresh appearance and is weathering beautifully.” ●



## INFO

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### GRADE

KD Select Knotty siding & ceiling and KD Architect Knotty decking

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### SIZE

2x4 decking, 1x6 ceiling paneling and thick butt bevel

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### FASTENING

Stainless steel

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### APPLIED FINISH

EXTERIOR:

Dark gray semi solid stain

INTERIOR & DECKING:

Transparent stain

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### SUPPLIER

Disdero Lumber Company



### FULLY INTEGRATED

The pavilion appears almost transparent with floor to ceiling glass allowing the landscape to visually flow through the building.



# About the Western Red Cedar Lumber Association

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The 13th volume of the Cedar Book profiles stunning and award-winning architecture from inspired architects around the world. These architects continue a tradition that started centuries ago when the Indigenous Peoples of the Pacific Northwest recognized the value of using this unique wood species.

First Nations people recognized Western Red Cedar's natural durability, characteristics and versatility, making it the preferred choice for building ocean-going canoes and post-and-beam houses and lodges. Today's discerning architects and builders enhance their projects with this stunning, versatile and sustainable building material. Nature still knows best. Despite all efforts at imitation, no man-made product can match the beauty, performance and longevity of Western Red Cedar—something that this book, as well as the RealCedar.com online gallery, undoubtedly illustrates.

Western Red Cedar is one of nature's truly remarkable materials. It absorbs and stores greenhouse gases, generates less water and air pollution, requires less energy to produce than alternatives, and comes from a renewable and sustainable resource. More than ever before, we must find ways to reduce the pressure on our planet's environment and finite resources.

By choosing products with a light carbon footprint and by reducing waste, we can have a real impact on climate change now, and into the future. As part of their commitment to transparency, the Western Red Cedar Lumber Association has Environmental Product Declarations available for siding, decking and other products. We hope this book will inspire you to consider Western Red Cedar for your next project. ●

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