



contents



My office, myself: Five firms walk the fine line between workplace and calling card. Photo: Thorney Lieberman. Cover photo: Taran Z.; food stylist: Lisa Cherkasky.

from the editor..page 13

letters..page 16

home front..page 22

A village grows in Minnesota / Moving pictures / The Chicago Athenaeum's product-design competition / Architecture International strikes gold in Oakland

perspective..page 30

Tips from Connecticut architect Duo Dickinson on how to design and build a great house for cheap.



practice..page 36

You can't just page through catalogs. There's a world of products and materials for you to discover.



cover story: architects' choice..page 51

From glazing to grout and from shingles to showers, 20 top residential firms weigh in on the industry's most spec-worthy products. by Nigel F. Maynard and Shelley D. Hutchins



office politic..page 76

A firm's place of business speaks volumes about the quality of its work. Join us on a tour of five dynamic offices. by Meghan Drueding

doctor spec..page 106

Architects and manufacturers are collaborating to bring high design to residential products.

hands on..page 110

A Maine architect conceives the perfect container for hot stuff.

ra / q + a..page 144

Aspen, Colo., architect Charles Cunniffe doesn't reach for the stars. They reach for him.

Building Systems Design, Inc.

April 9 in Atlanta, GA

The SpecLink+ Workshop is a 1 1/2 day seminar designed to help realize maximum productivity with their interactive specifications writing system, BSD SpecLink+. Attendees receive AIA Learning Units on the following topics: creating an office master; importing existing sections from word processors; modifying, adding and deleting data within a project, adding intelligent links, and maximizing the advantage of automatic updating. Earn 12.0000 LuHours with HSW credit. \$395. Call 888-273-7638 or email training@bsdsoftlink.com.

AIA Dallas

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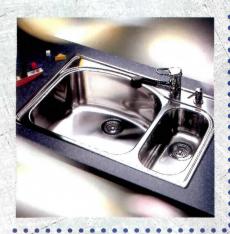














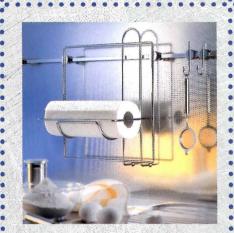














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too many choices

it's your job to guide clients through their fear of the wrong decision.

by s. claire conroy

hat was so good about the good old days? Maybe it was the simplicity that comes of having limited choices. You could buy a Ford Model T in just one color: black. Easy. Simple. Today we're overwhelmed by choices. We can have it our way, but we have to figure out what that means. And for every choice we make, there's the possibility of regret over what we did not choose.

I live in a converted garage, more politely known as a "carriage house" (even though carriages were long gone when it was built in the 1940s.) I live there because I can't decide what style of house or even type of housing I really want. I'd like a Modern house, a Craftsman bungalow, and an urban loft. I don't want to confine myself to any one choice. And, please, don't even get me started on what materials and products should go into those dwellings.

I bought a new car several months ago, but now I'm regretting all the options I didn't choose and all the other types of vehicles I didn't select. Should I have

gotten the "sport package"? Why didn't I go ahead and buy the convertible? The SUV? I have the luxury of choice and the curse of too many choices. So do you and so do your clients.

simplify, simplify Limiting, categorizing, and mass producing choices is what luxury production builders do best. They make home buyers feel as if they can have it their way, but they orchestrate it carefully so buyers aren't staggered by the process. In the end, many of those buyers think they've bought a "custom home." Certainly, this misguided notion makes us cringe. They do not have a custom home just because they picked the carpet and decided how to finish off the bonus room.

But that misperception means significant competition for your firm. If your potential high-end clients think they can have a custom home at production-home prices and buy it with the same ease and efficiency they encounter purchasing a BMW, you've got a problem.

Or, maybe, if you're a glass-half-full kind of person, you'll realize you have an opportunity.



Photo: Katherine Lambert

new market

You already have a market among design-savvy custom-home clients, but they are a limited breed. They're gutsy, have loads of imagination, and are not intimidated by a blank sheet of possibilities. Your biggest opportunity for expanding your market is among wealthy buyers of luxury production homes. These are the people who can afford your services, but are led down the path of least resistance by production builders. By streamlining the intimidating number of choices they face, you can make custom design a much less fearsome prospect.

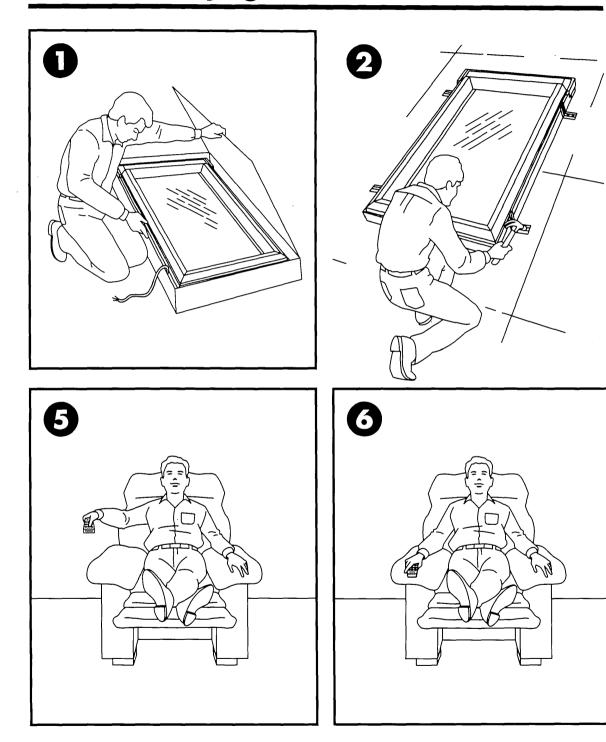
I'm not suggesting that

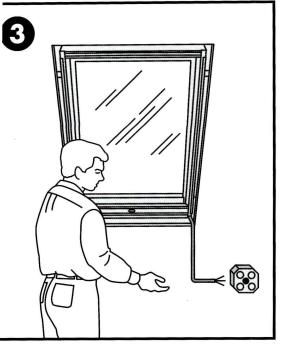
you hand your clients a menu of options and call it a day. Instead, I want you to put on your empathy hat, honor their fear, get past your own passion for the blank sheet of paper, and give them a stronger foundation for imagination.

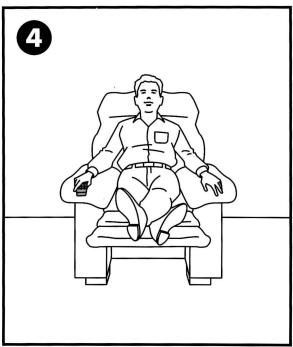
There is such a thing as too many choices, and it can paralyze even the most opinionated potential clients. Help them and you help yourself. ra

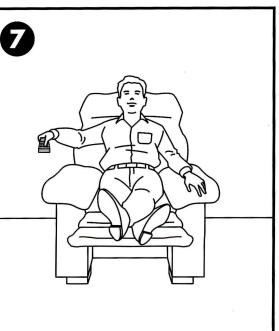
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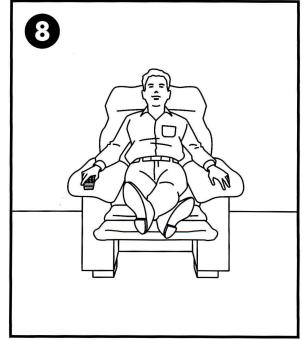
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letters

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flat landers

read with great interest the "Masters of the Suburbs" cover story in your January/February issue (page 46).

I have been close to that story from the beginning, first as staff architect with Laguna Niguel Corp. in the development of Laguna Niguel, the first large planned community in Orange County, from 1960 to 1970, and later as a practicing architect designing and building mostly custom residential work. (During one slow period in the early '80s I worked with my late dear friend Kermit Dorius, designing an award-winning project for the Irvine Company, Vista Filare.)

And, in recent years, I was involved as a City of San Clemente planning commissioner in the approval of projects in southern Orange County—the last frontier in the approaching conclusion of the story.

Overall, I would say that it has been a remarkable story that, as your article points out, has resulted in some world-class residential development—but also, in my estimation, some sad failures.

Foremost, I think, has been the failure of most of the people involved to



respect the natural topography of the land. The home builders who came to Orange County were flatland builders from other parts and the initial development was in the easily developable flat areas of the county. When they got to the beautiful undulating terrain, all they could think of was how to flatten it, at great expense, so they could go to the architects and have them design the usual four floor plans with three elevations each—which the architects dutifully did, without questions.

And they got better and better at it, but it was all clever floor plans and stylish elevations, which is fine for isolated buildings, but not when the canvas is hundreds of acres of rolling hills with extremely varied topography.

Integration of site and structure, essential to good architecture, is a foreign concept to these "masters of the suburbs" and to their masters, the home builders. Of the other players, the developers are almost clueless in this regard because they are mostly concerned with getting the land entitled and on the market to home builders. Cities and the county are only concerned with adherence to grading ordinances.

Even the Irvine Company, in its development of the coast, is at this time mass grading some of the most beautiful hills along the Pacific Ocean to create flat pads for builders of multimillion-dollar homes. The hillside towns of the Tuscan region of Italy were the purported model for

that development, but only the colors and some architectural details made the journey. The soul of the hillside town—the integration of site and structure remains back in Tuscany.

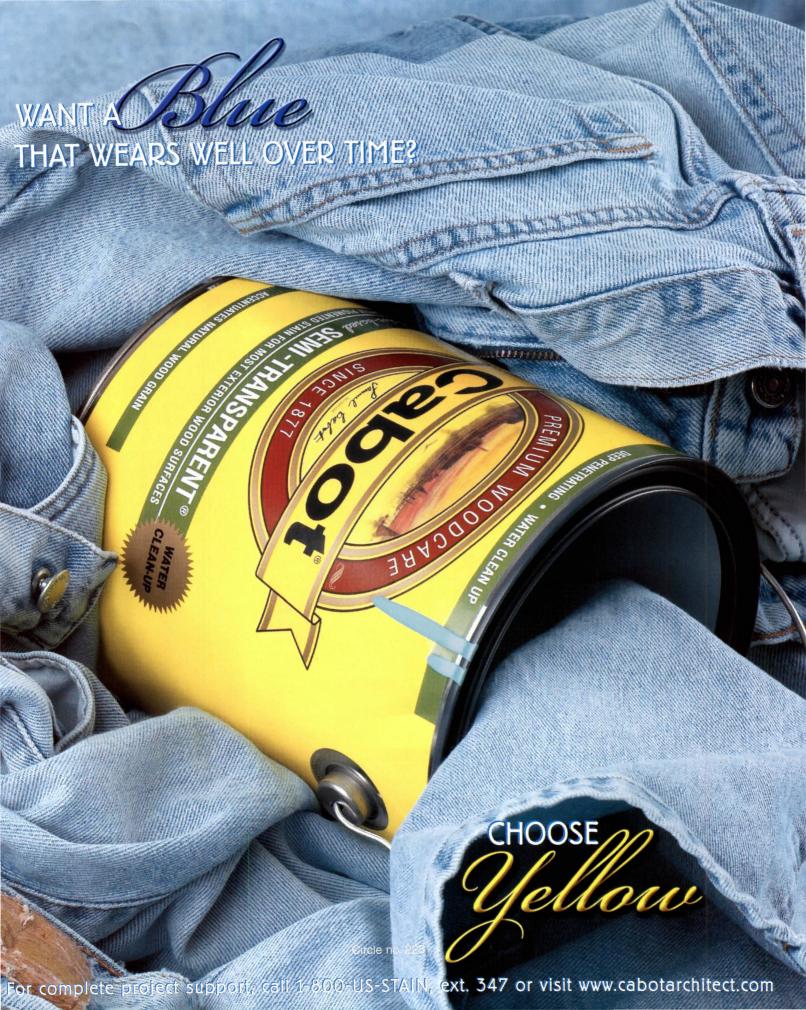
So the innovations of land planning by the "masters of the suburbs" have been largely directed toward increasing yield of dwelling units per acre on flatland or on flat pads carved out of mass graded hillsides laid out by civil engineers.

The other great failure which your story points out—is the building of mostly detached singlefamily houses. This has made Orange County one of the least affordable housing markets in the nation and, when it comes to types of housing, one of the least diversified. That, in turn, translates into a diminished concept of community. Gated enclaves, too, diminish the idea of community.

How responsible are the "masters of the suburbs" for these failures?

Well, at least as responsible as they are for the impressive successes, but maybe even more so because as architects they should understand better than the rest of the players that design decisions

continued on page 18



have ethical consequences.

The "masters of the suburbs" are bucking formidable forces, not the least of which are imperious rearview-mirror-vision patrons, but had they been more effective advocates of their principles, they might have been able to persuade their clients that ethics, like aesthetics, has economic benefits.

> Ricardo A. Nicol, AIA, Architect Dana Point, Calif.

florida revival

hank you for your January/February issue, "Masters of the Suburbs." Having started my first 10 years in the "traditional" realm of architecture, interning in master planning for Battery Park City in New York City, and then working on university buildings at Cesar Pelli & Associates, I have happily discovered the niche rarely thought praiseworthy in my education: the suburbs. We're a firm in Boca Raton, Fla., dealing with issues similar to those facing our California contemporaries.

We strive regularly to educate our client base about the advantages of "traditional neighborhood design." Fortunately, some of our clients are realizing that this approach is advantageous socioeconomically and in terms of their bottom line.

One of our projects mixes many of the TND

elements all into one small urban complex—Lighthouse Point Marina, a mixed-used project on what had been a "tired" 1960s marina facility in Lighthouse Point, Fla. This project includes approximately 30 town houses, common facilities, and retail, office, marina, and restaurant spaces. It is nearly completed and fully occupied.

The commercial success of the project is evidence that the South Florida community is yearning for this. We've been able to place a town center into what had been a mediocre suburban neighborhood.

Benjamin Schreier, AIA Affiniti Architects Boca Raton, Fla.

a beholder's eye

wanted to write and say how much I liked the early issues of *residential architect*. However, I have been very disappointed with two recent issues—the one on home theaters (November/December) and January/February's on suburban architects.

While I appreciate the intent of both issues, the quality of the work shown was not very impressive, especially in the "Masters of the Suburbs" article. While the article does discuss the issues that these kinds of developments involve, the work shown in the article does not set itself apart from the typical development work



that I see everywhere. I saw no new or innovative solutions to the problem of what these developments look like.

It was also interesting to me that in that same issue there was an excellent article on selling stock plans that mentioned Sarah Susanka quite often ("Playing the Stock-Plans Market," page 32). It seems a shame that some of her ideas weren't addressed as a counterpoint to what the supposed "masters" are creating.

The home-theater issue was ... well, it was interesting in that it brought out a growing niche that architects need to become more knowledgeable about. But again, the product was uninspiring. That may be because there is only so much you can do with home theaters, but it would have been more useful to have shown some approaches that weren't of the safe, somewhat traditional variety.

Douglas O. McClure Jr. James D'Auria Associates New York

a taxing matter

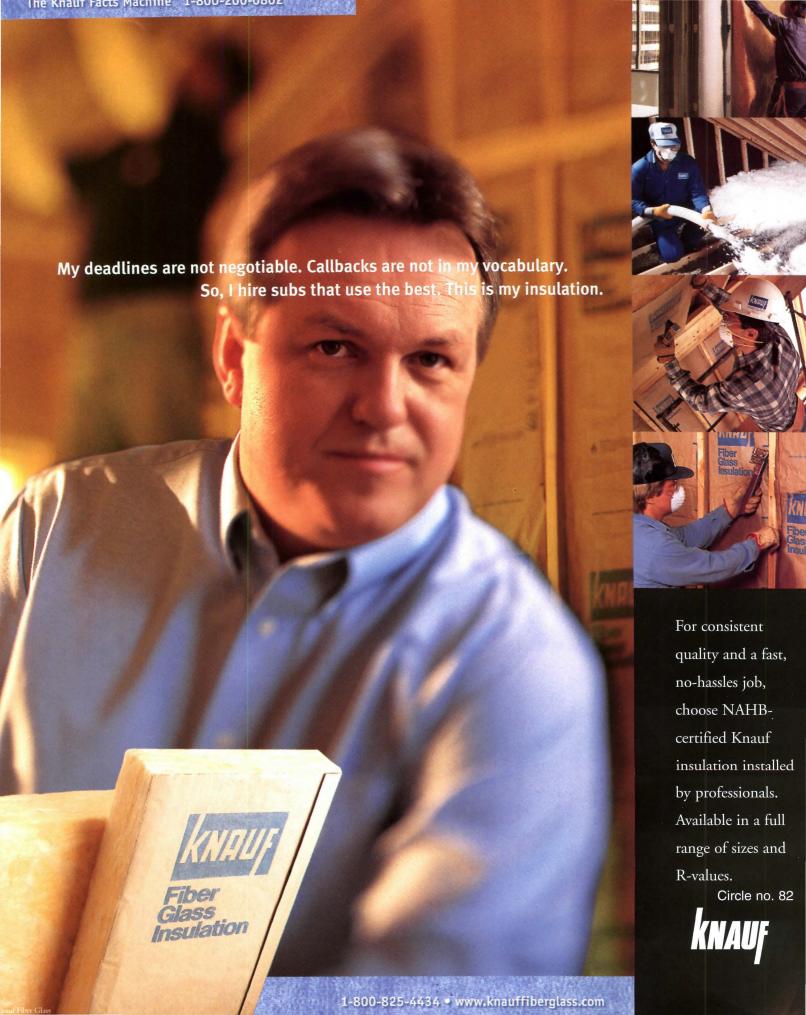
just finished reading the editorial in the March issue ("The Not So Ugly House," page 13). And while I agree completely with the concept of quality of space over quantity of space, I believe that the small (big?) matter of taxes is also at play in some homeowners' decision to move to "McMansions."

As people's incomes rise and their mortgage interest paid decreases each year, the amount of taxable income obviously rises. Dual-income couples and empty nesters have less and less deductible interest each year. And since larger homes tend to appreciate faster than smaller homes, at some point it makes sense financially to buy something larger.

Builders won't build small and homeowners won't live small until there is a financial incentive for them to do so.

> Doug Fullick, AIA A. Epstein & Sons International Chicago

Got something to say? We'd like to hear from you. E-mail editor S. Claire Conroy at cconroy @hanley-wood.com, or write to her at *residential architect*, One Thomas Circle, N.W., Suite 600, Washington, D.C. 20005.







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tips and trends from the world of residential design

it takes a village

avid Salmela, AIA, considers himself a modernist whose work is a blend of "equally important references to the past." So it's fitting that the Duluth, Minn., architect is designing the homes in Jackson Meadow, a progressive suburb of Marine on St. Croix, the second oldest settlement in Minnesota.

Located 22 miles from downtown St. Paul, the Jackson

Meadow master plan includes 64 single-family homes clustered



A pedestrian path links the community's houses. Wide planks offer a fresh take on the picket fence.

on less than 30 percent of its 145-acre site. "The key words for us were preservation and community/neighborhood," says developer Harold Teasdale. "High points with great views were protected as community assets. And the type of architecture we have is an outgrowth of how to create the community we wanted."

The houses are placed close enough that people interact by

accident on a daily
basis. And easing
traditional suburban
setbacks allows for
outbuildings. Consequently, the buildings
are tidier and smaller
within each lot, creating a sense of space
between the structures
that evokes a closeknit farming village.



Instead of suburban streets, each neighborhood block shares a walkway located between the fronts of houses. Roads that do exist are narrow, like the ones in the original part of Marine on St. Croix. "We rewrote the rules for this project," Teasdale says. "It was a tedious two-year process to dismantle all that stuff."

The plain, geometric houses with steep roofs are based on the proportions of historical colonial and Scandinavian architecture found in the old town. Design guidelines stipulate all-white exteriors; public buildings are black. Salmela's pattern book also calls for classic metal roofs with a 12:12 pitch, cedar



Seventeen houses have been built in Jackson Meadow so far, ranging in size from 1,600 to 2,200 square feet. Part of the village will be built on a grid of small lots; other homes will occupy slightly larger lots following the organic line of the river. A loop road connects the neighborhoods to a central green.

cladding, and a maximum width of 24 feet for all structures.

"Our rules are very different



Coen + Stumpf + Associates

from those of the New Urbanists," notes Salmela, who will design every house. "We are not trying to control style, but scale and form. The houses are simple and colors show a conservative consistency, so the differences between the structures are more noticeable."—cheryl weber

home makers

m 1989, photographer
Margaret Morton discovered an encampment of makeshift structures built by homeless people in Tompkins Park, near her residence in Manhattan. What might have struck some as a scene of desolation impressed Morton as an exhibition of remarkable ingenuity. Inspired, she spent the next decade photographing these forgotten



Photos: Margaret Morton, *Fragile Dwelling*, Aperture, 2000 A *marquesina* personalizes this Bushville dwelling. Below left: an elaborate house of knots. Below right: Hector A. and his festive collection.

New Yorkers and their homes. The resulting images were published last fall by Aperture in *Fragile Dwelling*, Morton's third book.

"At first I called this project 'the architecture of despair," Morton explained recently, "but I soon realized that it was *my* despair I was feeling. The people themselves had incredible strength and resiliency, and by building their own homes they felt they were empowering themselves and moving towards getting back on their feet."

Morton says she was especially struck by people's need for a truly personal space. "The tiny places that these people designed and built meant much more to them than just shelter," she says. "I think this really hit me in Bushville [in lower Manhattan], where they re-created the rural architecture of Puerto Rico and worked hard to incorporate *marquesinas* [porches], elaborate doors, and gardens—things that fulfilled the need for a sense of home and community."

When asked what message her book might contain for architects, Morton emphasized the importance of designing affordable housing with character. "The fact that the builders of these homes made gardens and ornamentation and collected things really breaks down barriers," she says. "People look at my photographs and realize that we aren't all so different from each other after all."—shelley d. hutchins





calendar

good design 2001

submission deadline: july 30



The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design invites entries of any product designed from 2000 to the present, including furniture, housewares, lighting fixtures, appliances, textiles, and more. All submitted products must have been produced by a manufacturer or be scheduled for manufacturing. Shown:

One of last year's winners, the Faraone teapot by Lella and Massimo Vignelli. Questions? Call 847.895.3950 or visit www.chi-athenaeum.org.

rooms with a view: landscape and wallpaper

cooper-hewitt national design museum, new york april 24-october 14

Intricately patterned wallpaper and landscape painting became extraordinarily popular elements of interior design in the 19th century. This exhibition explores the relationship between the two art forms and the social significance of their sudden rise in popularity. Shown below: Landscape frieze, U.S., circa 1900. For museum hours, please call 212.849.8400.



revelatory landscapes

san francisco museum of modern art may 5-october 14

For this event, five architects and artists—including Kathryn Gustafson, Walter Hood, and Tom Leader-were



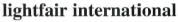
commissioned to create site-specific works ranging from large-scale urban design projects to small installations and gardens. Shown: "Markings," a conceptual rendering by Hargreaves Associates with Julian Lang. Call 415.357.4000 or visit www.sfmoma.org for exhibit information.

light screens: the leaded glass of frank llovd wright

american craft museum, new york may 10-september 2

Frank Lloyd Wright often complained that he had to "cut holes" in his "beautiful buildings," so he transformed the prosaic window into a

defining architectural element. Wright's exploration of light and color in patterned windows is documented in this exhibition, which includes a number of his most important windows, along with prints and original photographs. Shown: Prototype window from the Susan Lawrence Dana House in Springfield, Ill. (1902-4). Call 212,956.3535 for additional information.



las vegas convention center, las vegas may 29-june 1

More than 18,000 attendees and 400 exhibitors are expected to attend this lighting trade show and conference. Companies will introduce new technology and services, demonstrate applications, and address design challenges for architectural, engineering, and design professionals from around the world. To register, visit www.lightfair.com.

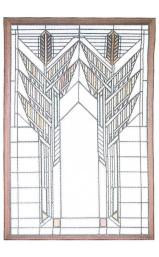
continuing exhibits

Creating Perfection: Shaker Objects and Their Affinities, through April 29, Seattle Art Museum, 206.654.3100; **Shaping the Great** City: Modern Architecture in Central Europe, through May 6, J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, 310.440.7300; **AIA Expo 2001,** May 17-19, Colorado Convention Center, Denver, 202.626.7395; Out of Order: Mapping Social Space, through May 27, Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, 412.361.0873; The

Architecture of R.M. Schindler,

through June 3, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 213.621.2766; Allan

Wexler: Custom Built, through June 24, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 415.357.4000; Luis Barragán: The Quiet Revolution, through July 1, Design Museum, London, 212.539.1900; Trans-Fusion, through July 3, Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montreal, 514.939.7026.





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on the boards / striking gold

akland, Calif., Mayor Jerry Brown wants to see 10,000 new housing units in his city by the bay. Architecture International's 270-unit luxury apartment complex takes a good bite out that goal. The Essex at Lake Merritt, developed by Essex Property Trust, will occupy a now-vacant lot at Lakeside Drive and 17th Street in the Gold Coast section, an area rich in architectural history.

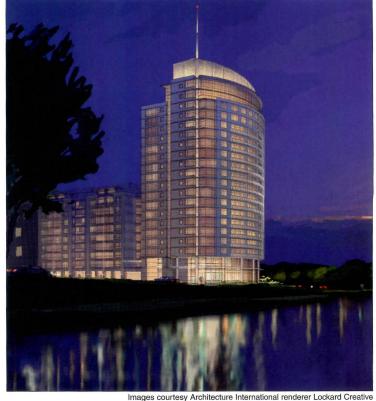
The Essex will consist of two structures: a nine-story low-rise building that maintains the residential scale of 17th Street, and a 20-story bow-shaped tower overlooking the lake. The tower's cast-stone base and colonnade help it mediate the neighborhood's small-scale residential buildings and historic structures and its smorgasbord of

styles, including Tudor, Art Deco, and Modern.

Sherry Caplan, AIA, a principal of the Mill Valley, Calif.-based firm, says the project's proximity to the city's financial district and transit system will supply residents

with all the "amenities" of urban living. Residents will also enjoy access to more exclusive luxuries like a fitness center, private pool, and clubhouse.

For the interiors, the architects designed with an eye



The Essex at Lake Merritt will boast two buildings: a low-rise structure that maintains the intimate feel of its 17th Street neighborhood, and a dramatic bowshaped tower that commands sweeping views of Oakland and the lake.

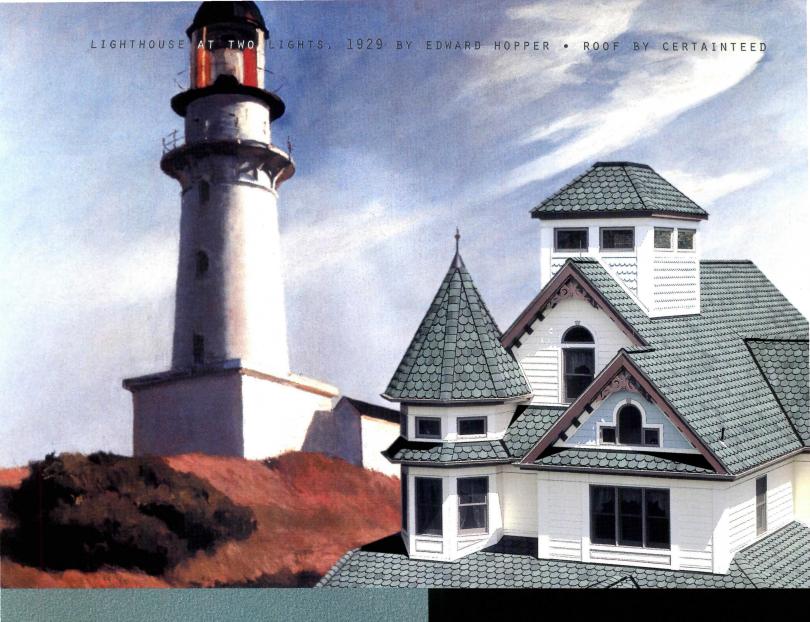
to exploiting panoramic vistas.

"Because the views are so spectacular, we wanted direct sight lines to the exterior," says prin-

cipal William J. Higgins, AIA. The units' open plans, sliding glass doors, and balconies with glass railings eliminate impediments to those views. Completion of the Essex is scheduled for March 2002.—nigel f. maynard

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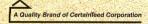
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beauty on a budget

how to design a high-quality house at very low cost.

by duo dickinson

bout six years ago, I was contacted by Nancy and Mike Johnston, who faced a classic dilemma: how to maximize their "bang for the buck" on a site with mixed blessings.

They lived in a home in Niantic, Conn., that they had inherited and that had two significant amenities and one large drawback. The amenities were plain to see: The house faced a community green (the site was originally a "spiritualistic compound" formed almost 100 years ago) and its back side had a wonderful panoramic view through mature maple trees of the Niantic River. The one clear downside was the site's microscopic size—approximately 1/8 acre.

It has now become a classic paradigm of residential construction on coastal/water-feature sites that nearly all of the homes that pre-date zoning are "pre-existing/nonconforming." In other words, what is in place now could not have been built new.

price controls

Beyond these positive and challenging aspects, the project was fraught with financial concerns for the Johnstons—as such projects so often are for two-income families seeking to control their domestic environment. Essentially, the couple had a budget of approximately \$160,000 in 1995. The house that could conceptually be built on this site was somewhere between 1,500 square feet and 2,000 square feet, given the absolute limitation of the home to the



pre-existing footprint. At that time (absent our present glut of construction), this was bordering on possible.

As the project progressed with sporadic bursts of design activity, regulatory approvals,

bidding, and so on, we entered into a three-and-ahalf-year process of preconstruction design and permitting and, of course, the concomitant unavoidable increase in construc-

continued on page 32





Photos: John Pelverts

Top: Identical mullion dimensions turn riverfacing windows into a screen of glass. Above, left: On the front elevation, dynamically balanced windows/eaves enliven a classic gable. Above: The site.

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tion cost. Throughout all the ups and downs of the dollars and the building officials' evolving criteria, the owners were steadfast in their determination that they would build this house. We ended up with a \$200,000 price tag on an 1,800-square-foot building that had two-and-a-half bedrooms and one-and-three-quarters baths.

What made containing the budgetary creep even more challenging (and inspirational for me as the architect) was the homeowners' dedication to providing for high-quality, high-durability, aesthetically genuine components wood siding (not vinyl), wood flooring (not carpet), a wood-burning fireplace, and expressive windowscaping with good quality windows (in this case, Andersen).

within limits

The final product exemplifies an invigorated design sensibility expressed within extraordinary limits. The limits were not just financial, but also dimensional and sequential—we had to maintain a vestigial portion of the original house as we went through construction on this tiny lot. Despite these restrictions, for

about \$110 per square foot (including a full basement and the amenities listed above), we were able to create something that is a beacon of hope for average citizens—who thought they "just couldn't afford" a custom home.

Knowing the limits that were present, I worked on an hourly basis, utilizing some of my lowest-billing dollar-per-hour employees and engineer Ed Stanley of Guilford, Conn., to keep our fees down to about 5 percent of the construction cost. We did very limited site inspections, no shop drawings, very basic detailing, and a great deal of specification writing and over-the-phone/e-mail consultation.

This project represents one area where the Internet has truly helped our office. For the hot and heavy period of construction (lasting about four or five months during foundation, framing, and mechanical roughing), I received weekly or sometimes daily e-mails from my clients of images from the site and queries as to the appropriateness or potentialities present in the built product.

The project was blessed with builders, Sutherland continued on page 33

"the abundance of limits was overcome by the dedication of all parties concerned to building well on a budget."





thrifty design tips

- **1.** Rectilinear always saves over polygonal or curvilinear.
- 2. Stock/standard materials are always easier to price and obtain, and minimize mistakes and delays.
- **3.** A house that can shrink to fit a client always saves money.
- **4.** Symmetrical gable framing is always cheaper than ridge beams, multiple pitch trusses, and the like.
- **5.** Flat stock trim is very forgiving.
- **6.** The higher up you get, the cheaper materials you can use. (We used T1-11 siding for the chimney mass, simple asphalt shingling for the roof.)
- 7. Minimize valleys and hips. Not only do they involve extra framing, they involve flashing, shingle lapping/weaving, and so on.
- **8.** Minimize bearing conditions; one central bearing condition or one-way framing is always cheaper and easier than more.

- **9.** Simple straight-run stairs are always cheaper, and closed-stringer stairs are cheaper than open.
- **10.** Simple right-angle eave fascias minimize trim detailing freak-outs.
- 11. Try to avoid gutters. Not only do they add cost, they also create a lot of maintenance. With careful planning, the roofscaping can usually direct water away from where people enter and groundwater can most often be collected by at-surface/below-surface water-collection/detention systems.
- 12. Stack "wet" spaces over first-floor spaces that have plumbing. (But don't worry too much about having the kitchen or laundry be off on their own on the first floor, as that involves a relatively minor additional cost compared with having the vent stacks double up.)
- **13.** Put mechanical equipment in a simple, rational place for easy venting and distribution, especially if you have a ducted heating system.—*d.d.*

perspective

and Krause of East Lyme, Conn., who have a wealth of common sense and who exhibited hard-edged integrity and commitment in a situation with little or no budgetary leeway.

The reason that residential architecture is sustaining to those who devote their lives to designing and building homes is that no two scenarios are ever alike and, in this case, the abundance of limits was overcome by the dedication of all parties concerned to building well on a budget. Fa

Duo Dickinson is an architect in Madison, Conn., and the author of several books on residential design.

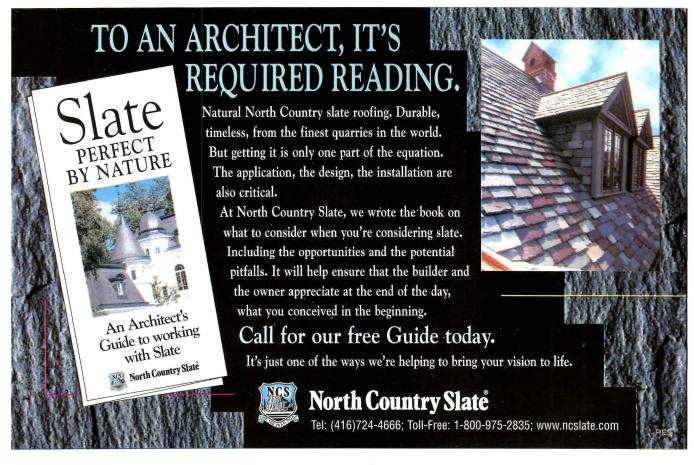
cheap beauty tricks

- 1. Inexpensive oak flooring, although more expensive than vinyl or carpet, is more durable and conveys a sense of quality unmatched by any other "cheap" material.
- 2. Nine-foot or 10-foot ceilings in the common areas, when supplemented by enough large-scale windowscaping, can make spaces seem far larger in volume than they actually are in plan.
- **3.** Creating front-to-back and side-to-side cross-referencing axes (front door to back door, kitchen or dining to fireplace, master bedroom to big-view windows) allows visual connection to defeat the sense of being small.
- **4.** A stock prefab fireplace with a straight-run flu transforms the ambience of a house for relatively little cost.
- 5. Pattern windows to make them into large-

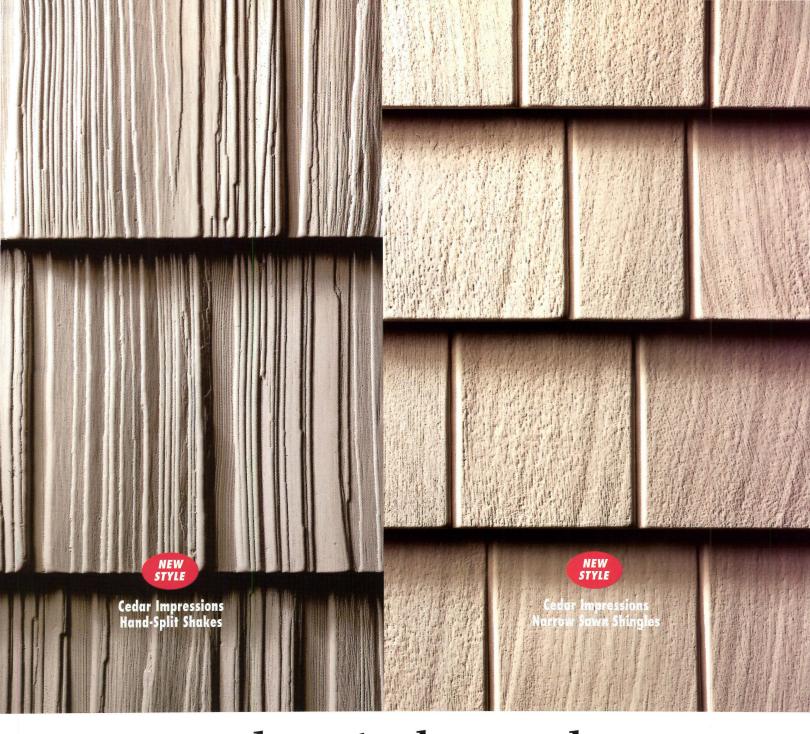


scale elements via the use of absolutely consistent trim.

- **6.** Custom elements can make a huge difference in a simple context, such as the granite countertop seen in this project's kitchen (a kitchen that is built from stock parts), or the customized eave detailing up around the second-floor walkout.
- 7. "Real" materials always read better than synthetic ones. In this house, painted wood trim and siding have a crisper look than their synthetic counterparts.—*d.d.*







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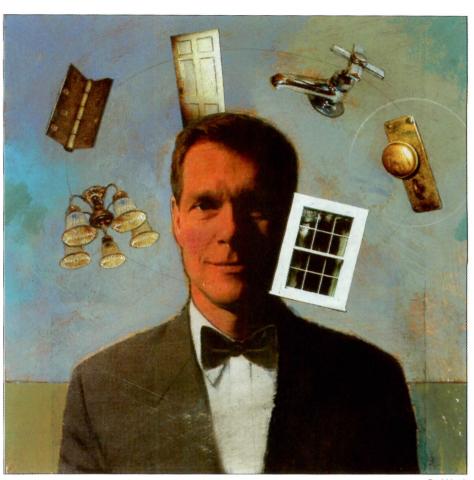
the right stuff

you can't just page through catalogs. there's a world of products and materials for you to discover.

by cheryl weber

hat magic ingredient turns an architect into a success? The answer is talent, certainly, but also the ability to keep up with the ever-evolving world of products and materials, and to use familiar ones inventively. Whether it's a new kind of cast glass, a lightweight but durable wall panel, or a window whose aesthetics matches its energy performance, the pursuit of an architectural palette continues apace. And attaining a firsthand knowledge of those things is a visceral process as well as an intellectual one. As Manhattan architect Deborah Berke, AIA, puts it, "You can't be particularly creative with a material until you touch it, smell it, and knock on it with your knuckles."

Architects tune into the material world wherever they find it—in design magazines, on the Internet, in catalogs, through subcontractors, or while driving by a local construction site. "We benefit enormously from being in New York and being connected to the art world, in terms of our clients, going to art museums, and my teaching at Yale," Berke says. Los Angeles architect Brian Murphy,



David Lesh

AIA, BAM Construction and Design, finds information and inspiration on the road. "I'm a materials junkie," he says. "As I rattle around town I'm engaged in how people are building things, be it a skateboard ramp or a train trestle."

supplier demand When it comes to tracking mainstream products and materials for the residential market, of course, most architects go to the source

for regular infusions of

information. Because the window and door companies are particularly competitive, their sales reps are tireless about pitching their products to architectural firms, notes Stephen Tilly, AIA, Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. "They'll come in, bring lunch, do an education session, and update our binders. They know that if we have the latest information, we're more likely to spec their products."

Ned Stoll of Partners: Stoll & Stoll Architects, of New Rochelle, N.Y., agrees. "Those manufacturers, along with the finishes people, are among the most organized," he says. "It's the lighting and mechanical systems companies that we have to chase down."

Tuck Hinton Architects, Nashville, Tenn., welcomes some kind of supplier nearly every week. "It's a winwin situation," says Kem Hinton, FAIA. "As with clothing, you get certain companies you know pro-

continued on page 38



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vide great things that are built well." And although the firm members keep an open mind, they generally view promises of novelty as old-hat. "If someone walks in and says, "We've got the four new hottest things,' I say, 'Yeah; sure.' There should be some skepticism," Hinton says. "We want our clients to accept inventive solutions, but we also want to make sure we're doing something they'll be pleased with for a long time."

Rather than schedule visiting reps on a regular basis, Berke's office prefers to host show-and-tell sessions with smaller craftspeople. Those who specialize in arts such as making resin-based materials, for example, will be invited in. And "if we have a specific major project going and know we're going to use Marvin Windows, we'll call the Marvin rep to come in and show us what they're doing," she says.

The weekly interoffice design panel is another informal, albeit consistent, way information makes the rounds. Every Wednesday the staff gathers to talk about a project under way, and often those discussions revolve around materials. "It gives everyone in the office a voice," Berke says, "and is like having 30 ears and eyes."

store of knowledge Tilly also involves all 17 of his staff in informationgathering—or at least in organizing it. The office manager collects incoming "you can't be particularly creative with a material until you touch it, smell it, and knock on it with your knuckles."

-deborah berke, aia

literature and puts it in a file. Every two weeks a different staff member takes responsibility for analyzing the information, logging it into the library database, filing it, and circulating a list of the things that have come in.

Literature picked up here and there finds its way into the archives, too. "One of the most important things about practicing is being a catalog freak," Tilly says. He's fascinated by medical, technical, and industrial supply catalogs, as well as products from the theater world, such as scrims and lighting rods. "If you're interested in doing offbeat interiors, those are great things to have available," he says. The firm recently purchased adjacent retail space to house its store of knowledge. "We'd designed a library recently and decided to do one for ourselves," he says.

Keeping an architectural library current, though, is an ongoing struggle. Rather than taking a scattershot approach, Stoll devised a way to give every section of the Construction Specifications Institute equal and methodical attention. Each month the firm focuses on

a different section so that during the course of a year, 12 out of CSI's 16 divisions get covered (four are not applicable to his work, he says). During windowsand-doors month, for example, the firm will pull out all the catalogs and magazine clippings and invite the company reps in to give their spiel and update the binder. "When we focus on one area at a time, we can compare why we like this type of window more than the one we saw the week before, or talk about specific applications the various products are good for," Stoll says.

"A lot of the investigations we do are product-driven," the architect adds. "We'll need something and go out and investigate it. But we did find that's kind of hit-or-miss. We really like having our library upto-date. Because when we need to make a search, we're already in a rush."

web wise

The quest for speed and precision is driving a lot of architects to the Internet for product and materials research.

In particular, firms whose design ethic involves a spe-

cific vocabulary turn to the Internet as an expeditious alternative to paging through a Sweet's catalog.

"A lot of times we have to match new products with Michael Graves' language, which is always expanding," says architect Bob Miller, of Michael Graves & Associates' Manhattan office. "It's a matter of taking something we have and adapting it with a new product. We get a lot of requests from clients for unique products, such as a concrete countertop embedded with glass. You can type in different buzzwords, like custom decorative countertops, and the search engine will suddenly give you a list of different companies that can fabricate them."

On the other side of the coin, George Beylerian established Material ConneXion (www.material connexion.com) four years ago in anticipation of designers' demand for unique materials. It's a Web-based resource center that links architects and designers with manufacturers of new materials around the world.

"The key word is innovation," says Carina Beylerian, director of communication and exhibitions for the New York City firm. The constantly growing library includes samples that are judged monthly by a rotating jury of a dozen architects and designers. The criteria varies, but usually includes some note-

continued on page 40





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worthy technological or environmental aspect— "that it's 100 percent recyclable, changes color, or makes a certain kind of sound," Beylerian says.

Once the material is accepted, the information —which includes an image of the material, technical data, and contact information—is logged into a virtual library. Web membership is purchased on a perhour basis. "We're simply making the connections between the manufacturers of the materials and the end users," she says.

Meanwhile, to gain the competitive edge, namebrand manufacturers are marketing Web-based services directly to architects. Two years ago Andersen Windows developed Window Studio, free software that allows architects to create combinations of window units for use in construction drawings. The package can be downloaded from the Web site or ordered on CD-ROM. There's also Window Symbols, containing individual details architects can download in seconds.

Will the company's Web-based enterprises make its print media less of a priority? Not exactly, according to Andersen's Rod Radosevich. "Just as radio didn't die when television became available to the general public in the late 1950s, information just takes a new form on the Web," he says. "Our intent in offering all of these tools is to make our

best addresses

"If we left it to the technical reps of the manufacturing companies to keep us up to date, we'd be in the Dark Ages," says Chris Schmitt, FAIA, Schmitt Sampson Walker Architects, Charleston, S.C. So the firm turns to that great equal-opportunity source, the Web. Partner Scott Sampson, AIA, who's in charge of the office's specs, frequently uses the following Web sites for product searches.

www.bricsnet.com A site aimed at architects, engineers, and contractors, it offers a forum for both building and technical information, including rooms for chatting about products and materials and how well they perform. A search for concrete countertops, for example, yields links to Web sites of companies that make them.

www.4specs.com This Web site also lists products by category. According to the home page, there are links to more than 4,000 manufacturer sites and 450 construction-related associations.

www.c-z.com Filled with industry news, tech tips, and product trends, this address favors commercial applications but offers some residential products. A user-friendly info page guides you in your search.

www.homeportfolio.com "Almost everyone in our office has this one on the favorites list in their computers," Sampson says. Focusing on interior design, it includes a "best products" list and links to products and materials, interior designers, art, and furnishings.

products accessible to the architects in whatever form they prefer."

offbeat generation

Much as building icons can be transferred directly to architects' drawings from manufacturer software, Brian Murphy likes to cut and paste from across industries and disciplines. For example, he's used automotive hardware for plumbing. "There's an aesthetic dimension to the beautiful stainless-steel piping used for gas lines, and it's really practical," Murphy says. "And marine hardware will do a myriad of things, because it morphs easily."

Recently Murphy designed a reception desk for

www.lightinguniverse.com Sampson looks here when he needs to find out quickly which manufacturers supply a certain type of light, such as an undercabinet fixture for the kitchen. Separate sections are devoted to trade and retail customers.

www.baths.com Geared toward kitchens and baths, this site has a fairly comprehensive list of products, including an ADA category and specialized bathroom heating. It covers about 70 percent of the kitchen and bath manufacturers, Sampson says.

www.doors-windows.com Although this address favors consumers rather than design professionals, it includes useful information on terminology and how to select doors and windows, as well as links to other sites. "When I'm searching for a particular window or door that I'm not familiar with, this is a good starting place," Sampson says.

www.sweets.com and www.csi.com These sites are both standard sources for building products, but they lean more heavily toward the commercial marketplace.

residential architect's sister company Ebuild (www.ebuild.com) has just launched a comprehensive, interactive guide to building products, with more than 10,000 building products already online and 300 more added daily.—c.w.

an advertising agency out of square-shaped water bottles. "When the natural light hits a bottle full of water, the effect is similar to fiber optics in the way it telegraphs light," he says. "And you've got a back storage of water when there's a big earthquake."

Another favorite treasure trove is his local aerospace continued on page 41

junkyards, which yield pieces of 30-gauge aluminum; the materials are recycled in Mexico and brought back to Southern California to sell.

Murphy observes that people with little money often show the most invention in solving building problems. "Those people have much more dynamic solutions because they're less stifled by convention and the fashion dimension," he says. "From an afternoon's scouring, they've built a fence." Not all resources need to come from the dump, but recycling has become fashionable. "Everyone in Mission "we want our clients to accept inventive solutions, but we also want to make sure we're doing something they'll be pleased with for a long time."

-kem hinton, faia

Viejo has a ranchburger mini-estate, and you're sitting there in a glorified chicken coop," Murphy says. "It shakes up the status quo."

Architects agree, however, that it's not a good idea to use new materials or

products just for the sake of being different. As Berke comments, "I'm more interested in taking generic stuff—even if what is generic is continually changing—and applying it in unexpected ways, than I am in taking materials and

testing their physical limits as feats of engineering in my work."

Murphy concurs, adding: "If a product or material advances the craft of shelter-building, that gives it a lot more credibility."

trading places

No one knows the building craft better than tradespeople and subcontractors. That's why Jarvis Architects, Oakland, Calif., occasionally sends a staff member to a seminar given by a roofing or HVAC association, and the emissary reports back to the office.

continued on page 42

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practice

Yet while the best manufacturers provide expert tech help to architects who use their products, on the most complex projects, technical manuals aren't enough. Faced with the design and construction of a 14,000-square-foot house with a tricky roof system of copper-clad intersecting domes and barrel vaults, Jarvis Architects turned to Dallas Mitchell, a 30-year veteran of metal roof installation.

"You put as many standard details as you can on paper, but the best thing is to go talk to someone who does the installations," says project architect Jason Kaldis, AIA. "Dallas worked out the details of when we would rely on folding, interlocking, sealants, or mechanical attachments and soldering. Those things had to be taken up in the field; you couldn't preview all those complex conditions on paper or even a computer model."

As the only licensed architect in her firm, Georgie Kajer, AIA, Kajer Architects, Pasadena, Calif., relies a lot on her general contractors for up-to-theminute information on products and materials. "Fortunately I'm in the position of working with the same contractors over and over again," she says.

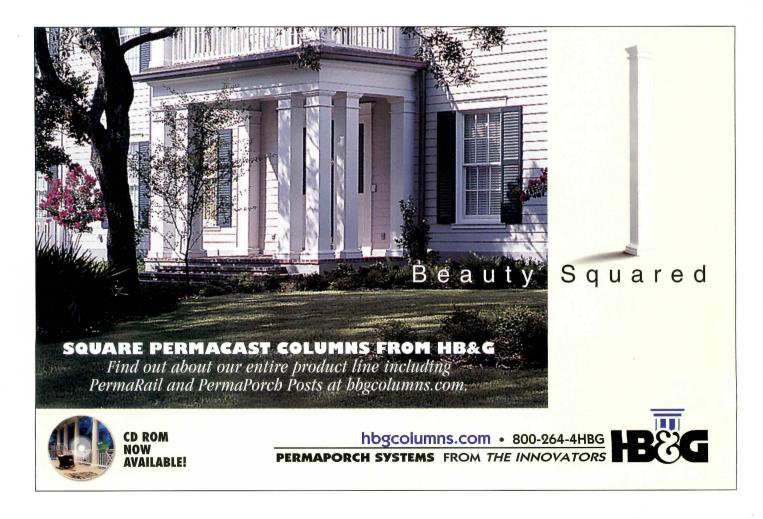
"There's an eagerness to share nifty things that become available to keep clients happy, such as a different kind of ventilation system for a bath, or a special hinge for a cabinet."

In fact, the expertise and availability of trusted tradespeople is a significant factor in the products an architect ultimately chooses. Although they enjoy reading the European design journals, most architects say they stick to imported products that have a domestic presence. "The time line for getting parts and materials from overseas tends to be longer than our schedules allow," Kaldis says. "And

the familiarity of the trades with those products isn't quite as good."

Like creativity itself, the pursuit of products and materials is a lifelong endeavor. And in the end, some of the credit for an architect's inventiveness goes to a third party—the client. "We learn how to use products from one job to the next and try to work with the best people," Kaldis says. "But the will and financial means of the client makes a lot of that learning possible." ra

Cheryl Weber is a contributing writer in Severna Park, Md.



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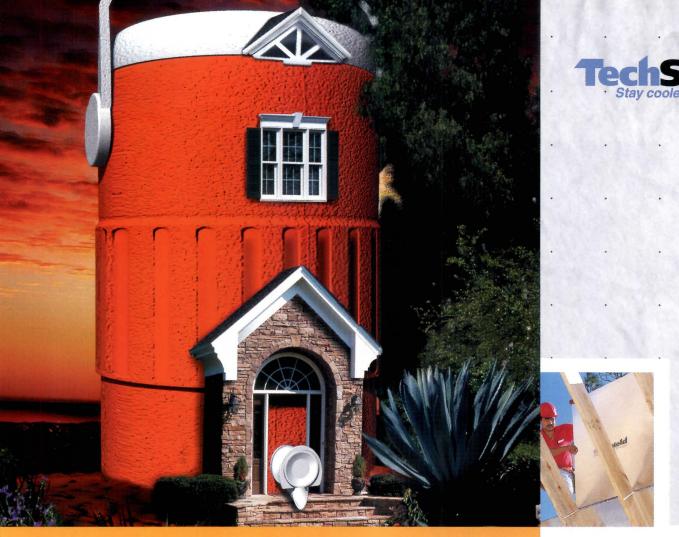
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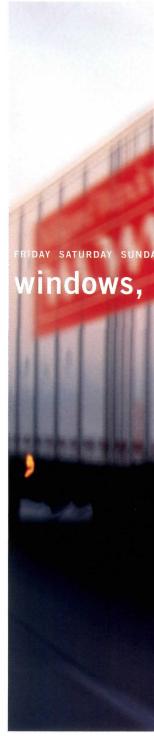
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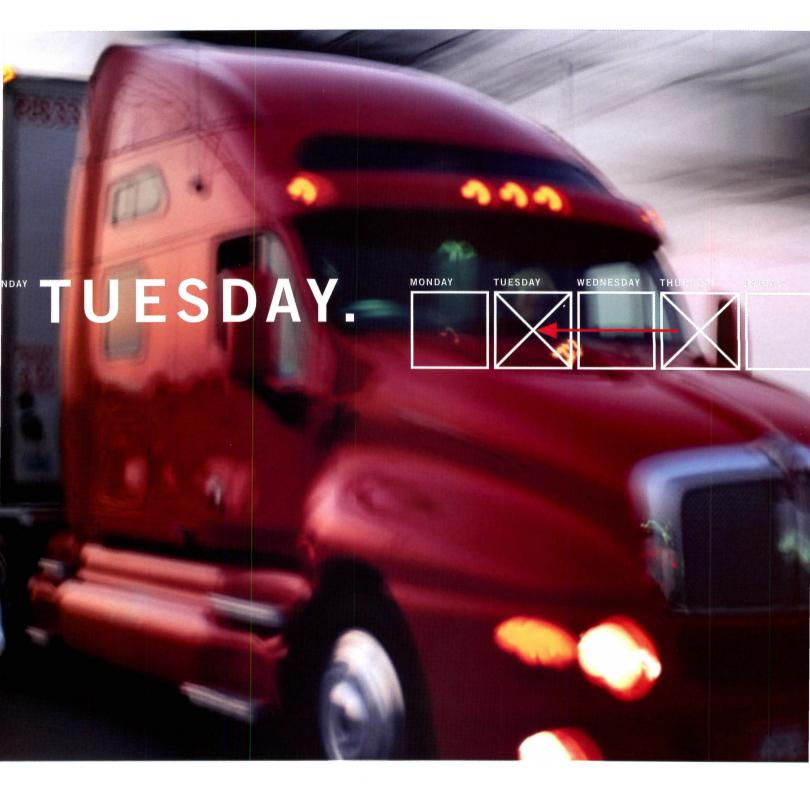
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WHAT YOU'VE COME TO EXPECT FROM MILGARD WINDOWS.

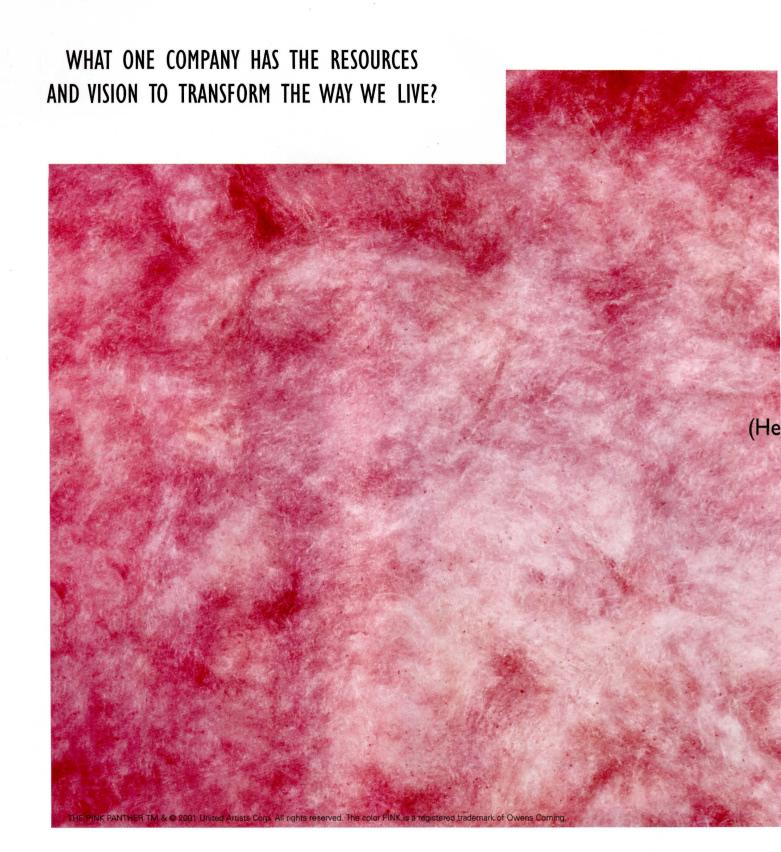


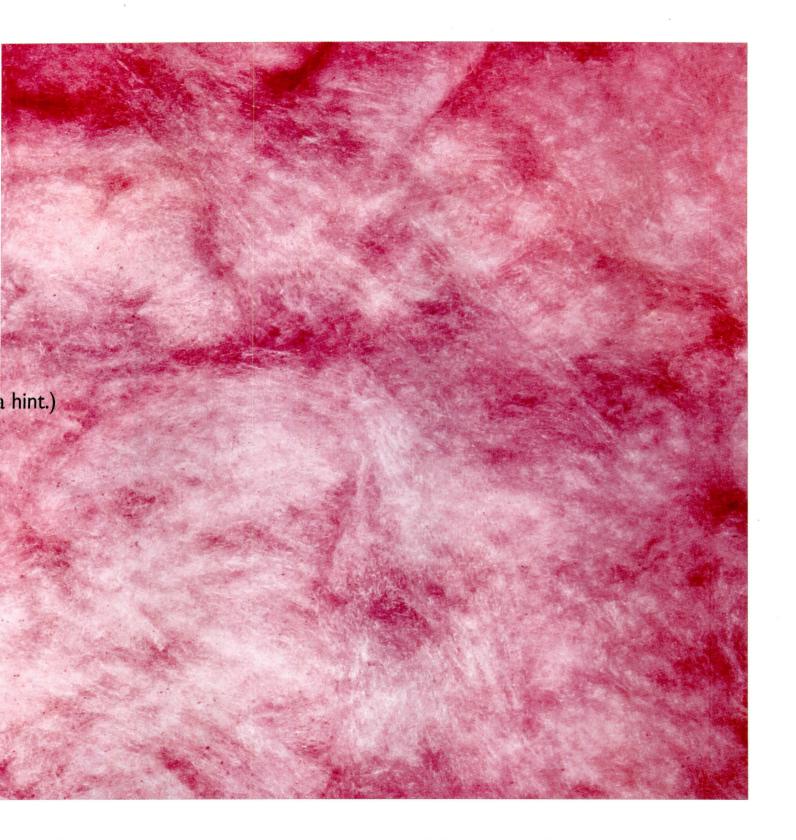


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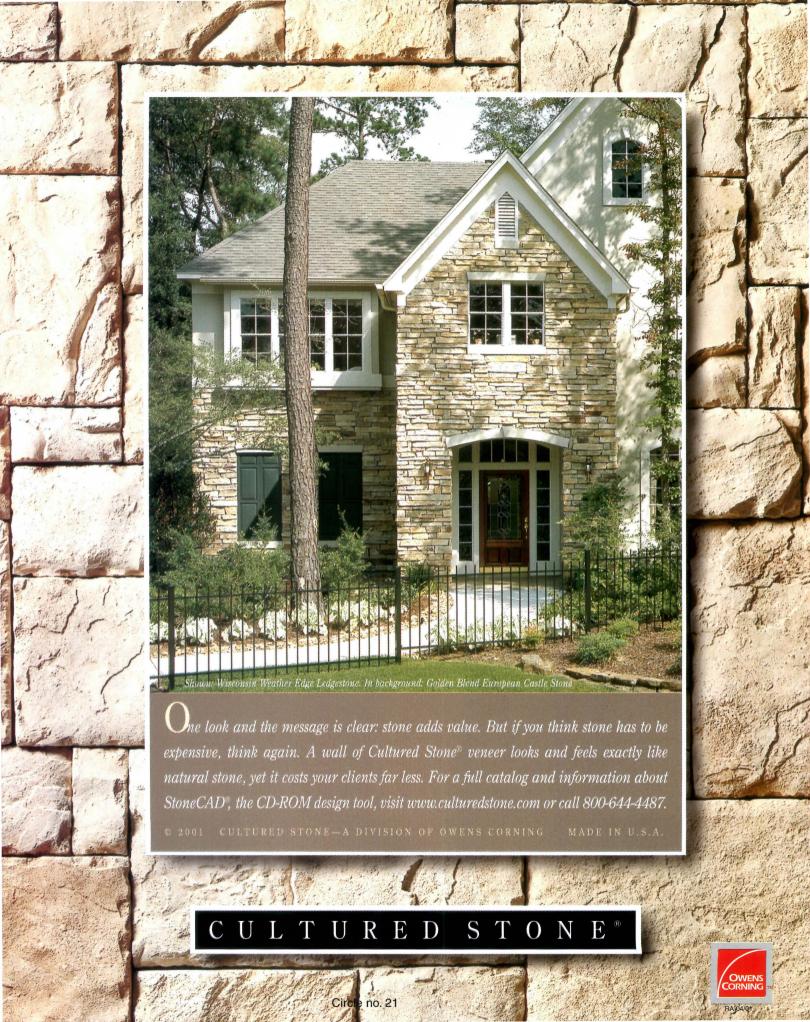




You might think you know us. But these days we're rolling out a lot more than insulation. In fact, Owens Corning has developed hundreds of new technologies, all designed with one thing in mind — to make your home a better, more comfortable place to live. And just as important, we have created innovative services so that we can be your partner every step of the way — no matter what project you're working on. To see exactly what we can do for you, visit **www.owenscorning.com** or call **I-800-GET-PINK.**

INSULATION





architects'

the home-building products residential architects are sweet on

by nigel f. maynard and shelley d. hutchins

Photo: Taran Z. Food stylist: Lisa Cherkasky

For residential clients, life is like a box of chocolates. So many beautiful products and materials to choose from; so many repercussions with each selection.

Because it's your job to guide these wide-eyed

creatures through the candy store, we thought we'd try to help you narrow the field. Here's a collection of products other residential architects have already determined stand the test of time and client approva

burks toma architects

Berkeley, Calif.

"concreteworks' colors are beautiful and unique."



Marc S. Toma, AIA

great panes

Thanks to a fully reversible, projecting hinge, H Windows rotate 180 degrees so they can be cleaned without interfering with interior window treatments. But that's only part of the reason Toma likes them. "These windows are well crafted, with remarkable hardware," he says. The units feature an extruded aluminum exterior, wood interior, insulated glass, multiple ventilating positions, and one-motion, push-bar operating hardware. Each window is custom-made in any size or configuration; Toma used 4-by-4-foot units in the project shown at right. H Windows, 800.843.4929; www.hwindow.com.



well cast

Concreteworks Studio designs and fabricates custom precast concrete products. "Their colors have great depth, variation, and warmth," raves Toma. Using a lightweight cementbased composite, the company forms, casts, and finishes each piece by hand to create countertops, tabletops, sinks, tile, fireplaces, fountains, and objects of interest for both residential and commercial use. Concreteworks designer Mark Rogero created the double vanity shown above. Concreteworks Studio, 510.835.9034; www.concrete works.com.

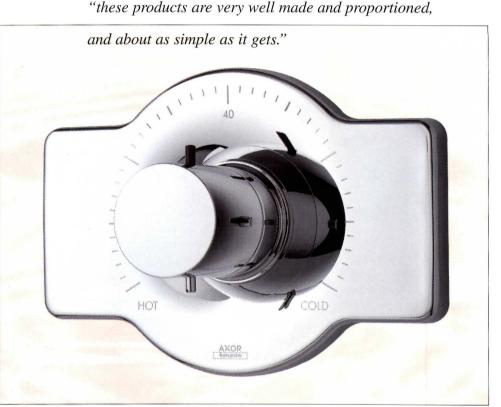
mark demsky architects, Itd.

Chicago

Mark D. Demsky

starck reality

Hansgrohe's shower controls are part of the Axor line by designer Philippe Starck. The ecostat mixer (No. 10375), shown at right, measures 85% inches wide and 6 inches high; it has a flow rate of 13.2 gallons per minute and a 100-degree safety stop. The volume control (No. 10976) has raised finger grips. Both products come in chrome. Hansgrohe, 770.360.9880; www.hansgrohe.com.





Portrait: Ron Milewski/Better Image Studio

warming trend

Myson's Classic Electric wall-mounted towel warmer is made from de-zinc brass and 1½-inch-diameter sealed tubing filled with oil. An electric element heats the oil. "It heats up quickly, warms towels nicely, and gives some warmth to the bathroom, too," says Demsky. The warmer measures 22.3 inches wide and 29.9 inches high, and has a back-lit on/off switch. It's available in plated metal finishes and more than 1,200 custom colors. Myson, 800.698.9690; www.mysoninc.com.

"this is serious luxury. the design combines square and round tubing in a very architectural, graphic way."

hayes architecture/ interiors

Phoenix

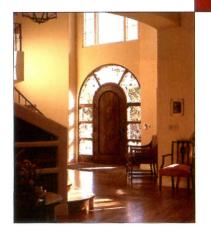


healthy hues

Since 1925, Dunn-Edwards Paints has covered the Southwest with more than 70 company stores. Hayes commends the company's "rich luscious colors" and finishes. The extensive line of products includes the Sierra line of low odor/no-VOC (volatile organic compounds) interior paints for healthier environments. Dunn-Edwards, 888.DE-PAINT: www.dunn-edwards.com.

great grout

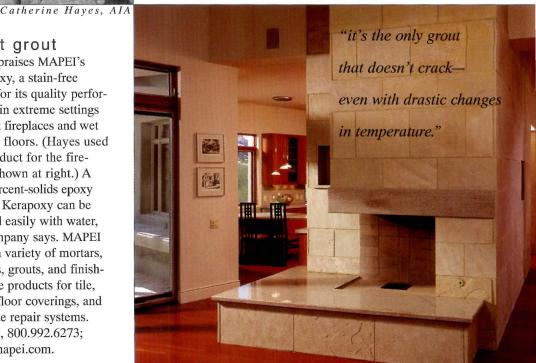
Hayes praises MAPEI's Kerapoxy, a stain-free grout, for its quality performance in extreme settings like hot fireplaces and wet shower floors. (Hayes used the product for the fireplace shown at right.) A 100-percent-solids epoxy mortar, Kerapoxy can be cleaned easily with water, the company says. MAPEI offers a variety of mortars, mastics, grouts, and finishing care products for tile, stone, floor coverings, and concrete repair systems. MAPEI, 800.992.6273; www.mapei.com.



door lore

Rustica Arts doors boast Old World styling and durability. Made to order and hand-finished, each model showcases a historically researched motif. Hand-forged iron hardware can be included. Rustica's staff is trained to assist architects with the integration of doors into projects; for the Rustica door in Hayes' project at left, she designed-and Rustica built—a glass and iron surround. Rustica Arts, 805.692.8865.

"these are thick exterior doors with wonderful large iron hinges and hardware."



"adding a little color to any concrete pour can greatly enhance the cohesiveness of the architecture for very little cost."



concrete rainbow

Davis Colors' integral concrete dyes can be used in concrete block, pavers, roof tile, mortar, and ready-mix concrete. The product is lightfast, limeproof, and weather-resistant. It comes in powder, liquid, and granule forms. Davis, 800.356.4848; www.daviscolors.com.

taking control

Lutron Electronics' Home-Works Interactive Lighting Control Systems use independent keypads to set lighting scenes in a room. "It's a simple installation that doesn't cost a fortune," says Hayes. The keypads can be operated locally or remotely. Lutron, 800.523.9466; www.lutron.com.



"with just a couple of multiplescene-setting locations, you can conveniently control lighting throughout the house."

ortrait) Bob Maxham; (fireplace) Dino Tonn; (door) Catherine Hayes

St. Louis, Mo.



keeper of the flame

Graham's Lighting Fixtures sells its own handcrafted lanterns and chandeliers as well as antique fixtures gathered from all over the globe. All fixtures are made from solid copper or brass. "These are decent prices for gorgeous exterior carriage fixtures," says Fendler. "Some can even be adapted to natural gas for the authentic flame look." The Country French Wall Lantern is shown at right. Graham's Lighting Fixtures, 800.362.8099; www.grahams lighting.com.



dramatic entrance

Fendler lauds the custom work by La Puerta Architectural Antiques: "They'll take a number of different pieces and put them together to create something distinctive." La Puerta, founded by architect Scott Coleman, adapts antique doors for modern use and carries a collection of re-created antique designs made from recycled aged woods. La Puerta Architectural Antiques, 800.984.8164; www.lapuertainc.com.

"these are really some of the nicest carved products you'll find."



Portrait: Susan Stark

gary earl parsons architects

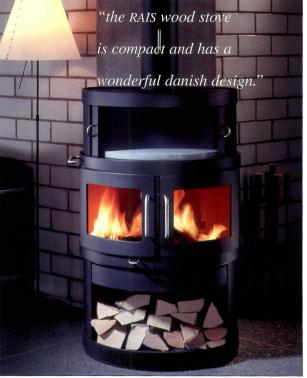
Berkeley, Calif.



Gary Parsons, AIA

stove stack

Rais & Wittus' No. 106 stove has a wood storage area at the bottom, a fireplace in the middle, and a soapstone-lined baking compartment on top. The stove is made of ¼-inchthick steel; the firebrick-lined firebox has steel or ceramic tempered glass doors. Measuring 25 inches wide and 42 inches high, the unit is fitted with an ash drawer and a cast-iron grate. Rais & Wittus, 914.764.5679; www.raiswittus.com.



copper creations

This lantern from Verdigris Copper Works measures 10 inches long with a 7-inch top. The company's fixtures are made from 100 percent copper and glass or mica detailing, depending on the style. Prototypes exist, but custom sizes and styles are available, and all fixtures have a raw satin finish. Verdigris Copper Works, 877.838.8963.

"verdigris copper works is small so the fixtures receive a lot of attention. each piece is crisp but with a handmade quality."

on a roll

The No. 1 rolling ladder from Putnam Rolling Ladder Co. is made of varnished red oak, with steps that are screwed to rails and reinforced with rods. Available in various finishes, the ladder rolls on bottom fixtures that are also available in an old-style antique look. "Most of the metal fittings are cast iron, and they come in different styles and finishes, including black," says Parsons. "It's appropriate in a Modern house or a traditional setting." The ladder can be custom ordered in any size and any hardwood. Putnam Rolling Ladder Co., 212.226.5147; www.putnamrollingladder.com.

"this rolling ladder was designed a million years ago, but it has not changed a bit. it's basic, it's crude, but it's honest."

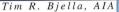


arteriors



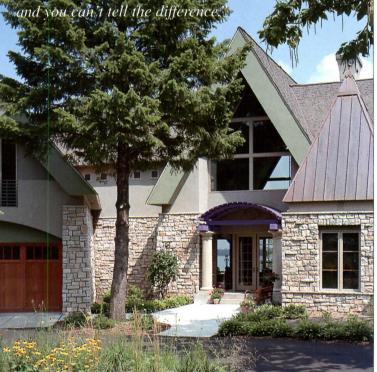
Minneapolis

"we use this product because it's a less expensive alternative to real stone



stone face

Cultured Stone Corp., a division of Owens Corning, offers hundreds of manufactured stone veneers and trim products that mimic the textures, sizes, shapes, and colors of natural stone. "A lot of foundations in remodeling projects can't handle real stone, so this is a cost-effective alternative," says Bjella. "The technology is becoming so good you can't tell the difference." On the house shown here, Bjella used Drystack Ledgestone. Cultured Stone Corp., 800.255.1727; www.culturedstone.com.





Real-Fyre Gas Logs from the Robert H. Peterson Co. look just like the real thing. Honest. "We use these exclusively," says Bjella. "We like to put a gas-log set into our woodburning fireplaces so clients have the option of either usage. These logs glow and fire comes up in between them and they turn gray where they have burned." The kiln-fired ceramic logs duplicate the appearance of wood right down to the knot holes, peeled bark, and forked branches. Bjella likes the Charred Oak model best. Robert H. Peterson Co., 800.332.0240; www.rhpeter son.com.



Photos: (portrait and exterior) Stuart Lorenz

screen play

Retractable Phantom Screens provide the same protection as traditional screen doors but slide out of sight when they're unneeded. "We have a lot of exterior glass doors that are virtually impossible to screen," says Bjella. "This product has a metal casing where the screen rolls up and goes away and you can hide the casing in the construction." Screens for both windows and doors are made of extruded aluminum with a baked enamel finish. Phantom Screens, 888.742.6866; www.phantomscreens.com.

"with these screens, we can do french and sliding doors we never could before. plus you can walk into them and they'll slide right back into their track."

architects'

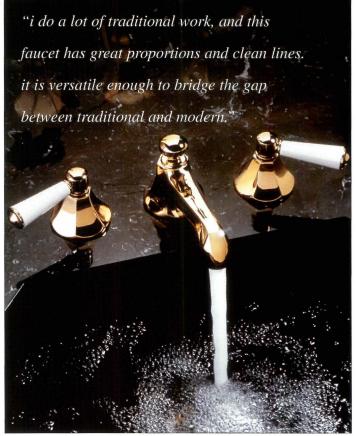
allan j. grant and associates

Chicago

Allan Grant, AIA

easy flow

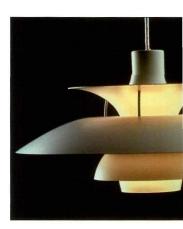
The Madison Flair lav faucet from Dornbracht features high-flow deck valves with ceramic disc cartridges and lever handles that are available in a variety of finishes. Projecting 5¹/₄ inches, the faucet body is available in chrome, brass, platinum, platinum matte, and polished gold. Dornbracht, 800.774.1181; www.dornbracht.com.



"the telescoping pull-out rod is a very utilitarian, functional product. it's an inexpensive convenience that works really well."

hang time

Knape & Vogt's telescoping hang rod features a steel shaft that can be pulled out to provide 7³/₄ inches of hanging space. The hang rod features brass knobs and an anochrome finish, and it extends from ⁵/₈ inch to a total of 8¹/₄ inches. Knape & Vogt, 800.253.1561; www.kv.com.



flair without glare Fashioned by designer Poul Henningsen, Louis Poulsen Lighting's PH5 fixture sports glare-free graduated reflector shades finished in baked white enamel. Arched struts in lilac support the shades. The PH5 distributes soft incandescent light in a symmetrical configuration. Louis Poulsen, 954.349.2525; www.louis poulsen.com.

Portrait: Courtesy Allan J. Grant and Associates

Photos: (portrait and exterior) Courtesy Scott Neeley Architect scott neeley architect



Davis, Calif.

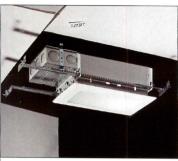
"there are places where glass block



block party

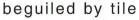
In his projects, Neeley likes to mix and match Pittsburgh Corning's various loose glass blocks. For the house shown, he used two of the company's 20 glass-block patterns: the Decora for privacy and the Vue for undistorted visibility and light. "The quality of light through the wavy Decora is wonderful," he says. Pittsburgh Corning, 724.327.6100; www.pittsburghcorning.com.

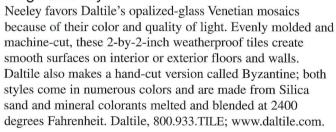




trick of the light

Halo rectangular closet lights, made by Cooper Lighting, are ready to come out of the closet, says Neeley. "I spec them in the wall, close to the floor," he says. "With the dimmer switch it puts a really nice wash across a room or hallway." The 60-watt light comes in white with a diffuser lens and measures 93% inches long by 53¼ inches high. Cooper Lighting, 847.956.8400; www.cooperlighting.com.







"their machine-made pieces are really nice and not as expensive as hand-cut glass tile."

ames design international

Delray Beach, Fla.

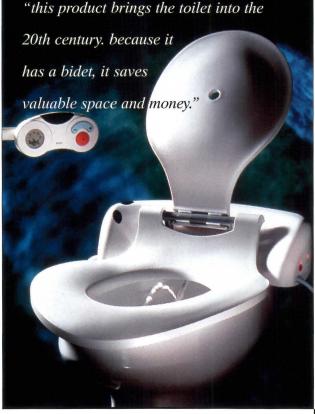
"i like the sculptural beauty of this tub and you can use it in tight spaces."



Shane Ames

winning bidet

Toto's Zoe toilet seat incorporates a bidet-like washlet, a seat warmer, and an odorabsorbing fan system. Easily removable for cleaning, the seat fits most standard round and elongated toilets and is powered by 110-volt current. "The seat adds about \$500 to the cost of a standard toilet, but if you were to use a separate bidet it would cost about \$1,000 more and you would need more space to install it," says Ames. Toto, 800.350.8686; www.totousa.com.



love me knot

All door hardware by Bouvet is either hard-forged solid iron or solid brass, and all steel products go through a rust-resistant treatment process, the French company says. Solid brass products are available in polished or satin antique brass, and solid steel products are available in satin black or European pewter. All products have been adapted to meet American standards. Bouvet, 415.864.0273; www.bouvet.com.

tub for two

The Ciprea from Jacuzzi is a deck-mounted whirlpool tub that cantilevers in the front like a clamshell to accommodate two-person bathing. Made from acrylic and reinforced with fiberglass, the tub measures 72 inches long, 48 inches wide, and 21 inches high and is equipped with four adjustable jets. Jacuzzi, 209.669.5290; www.jacuzzi.com.

tidy tap

Kohler's Alterna Flume "has been around for about 10 years," says Ames, "but it is still very handsome." When the tap is on, users can see the water flow along the spout's broad channel and spill over the edge. What's more, says the manufacturer, the faucet's design eliminates splashing. Kohler, 920.457.4441; www.kohlerco.com.



Portrait: Courtesy Ames Design International



apparatus



San Francisco

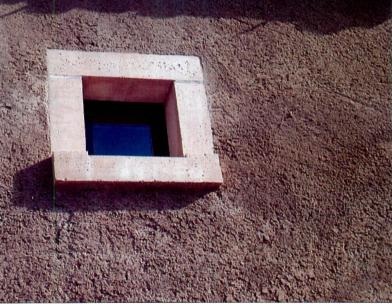
"this company does the best work i've seen and their quality is consistent from project to project."



Michael Baushke

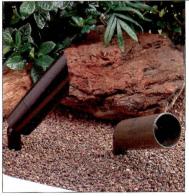
the wall

When Baushke's designs call for deep, substantial walls like the one shown here, he turns to Rammed Earth Works. The company's building-code-compliant PISE (Pneumatically Impacted Stabilized Earth) walls are 18 inches thick. "In addition to keeping interior temperature constant, you get a beautiful, thick wall where you can craft deep windows or shaped doorways," Baushke says. Rammed Earth Works, 707.224.2532; www.rammedearthworks.com.



rolling rock

Sonoma Cast Stone designs and builds cast concrete products—like this groovy wave sink. Architects can choose from a hand-cast line of vessel sinks, tiles, and pavers, or request custom work, including countertops, fireplace surrounds, and integral sinks. The company has more than 25 showrooms nationwide. Sonoma Cast Stone, 877.939.9929; www.sonomastone.com.



landscape luminaires

BK Lighting's Delta Star was designed for landscape lighting, but Baushke likes to use the fixture indoors, in place of recessed lighting. The product features a completely sealed optical compartment, a clear tempered glass lens, an enclosed wireway mounting knuckle, machined aluminum construction with stainless hardware, and a 50-watt MR16 lamp. BK Lighting, 559.438.5800; www.bklighting.com.

"i use it often instead of recessed can fixtures because it's versatile and low-voltage."

architects'

house + house

San Francisco

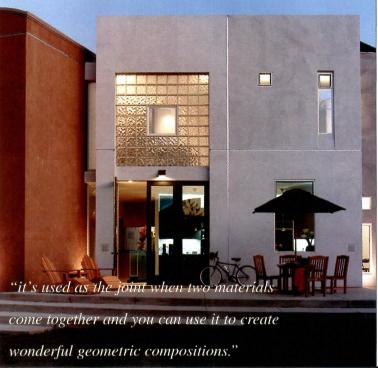
"the warm, rich color matches the golden-brown of winter grasses."



Steven House, AIA, and Cathi House, AIA

character molding

Fry Reglet drywall moldings define corners and transitions between differing materials or planes. The extruded aluminum outlines form crisp, sharp angles-perfect for framing architectural details. The Houses use the molding for interiors and—as in the house they designed shown at rightfor exteriors. The product is lightweight and easy to handle, says the maker. Fry Reglet's moldings are protected by environmentally resistant anodized or paint finishes that won't rust. Fry Reglet, 800.237.9773; www.fryreglet.com.



go with the grain

The Oregon Lumber Company's Saima flooring grabs Steven House's attention because it is "rich and beautiful and inexpensive and durable." It comes in 15 strip patterns—including long-strip (shown in the Houses' project above), herringbone, Dutch, and edge-grain birch—and is prefinished with five coats of a clear, UV-cured semi-gloss. The Oregon Lumber Company, 800.824.5671.

cool shade

Foscarini's Havana fixture comes as a wall, floor, or suspension light (available with or without a plug). Designed in 1993 by Jozeph Forakis, the Havana appeared in the Museum of Modern Art's 1998 Design Collection. The shade is constructed from four recyclable molded polyethylene elements with aluminum-enameled metal supports. Foscarini, 203.407.8000; www.foscarini.com.

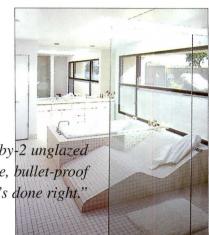
el to it, but it's also very so

"it's large and bold and has a very contemporary high-tech feel to it, but it's also very soft."

jon anderson architects

Albuquerque, N.M.

"american olean's 2-by-2 unglazed porcelain tile is a tried-and-true, bullet-proof product. it's very beautiful when it's done right."



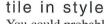
Jon Anderson, AIA

window shopping

Kawneer's 451 store-front framing system is typically used in commercial projects for curtain walls. Anderson, though, uses the product in his custom homes (one of which is shown at right) because it can withstand New Mexico's severe climate. "It's less expensive than windows and it's very strong and slick," he says. System components are made of extruded aluminum and can be anodized or painted; structural steel inserts can be added to accommodate tall openings and large spans. Kawneer, 877.767.9107; www.kawneer.com.



efficient product for large fixed-glass areas."



You could probably find American Olean's 2-by-2-inch porcelain ceramic tile in every locker room across the country, but Anderson likes using it in residential projects—as in the bath he did shown above. The unglazed, slip-resistant tiles have less than 0.5 percent moisture absorption and are stain- and frost-proof, says the maker. They're offered in a wide selection of colors. American Olean, 214.398.1411; www.americanolean.com.



Scofield's Lithochrome Chemstain is an easy and economical way to add color to concrete floors. Available in various hues, it can be mopped or rolled onto the floor by either the contractor or the homeowner at the end of construction. "The product is very forgiving and produces a desirable appearance," says Anderson. L.M. Scofield Co., 800.800.9900.

"lithochrome is an easy way to color exposed concrete, the material cost for the system can be as low 30 cents per square foot, so it is very economical."



treacy & eagleburger architects

Washington, D.C.

"this low-voltage lighting fixture has an aluminum finish and is reasonably priced

Jane Treacy and Phil Eagleburger, AIA

cable lines

Translite's low-voltage cable lighting system consists of plated or unplated copper strands wrapped around a Kevlar core. The system is shown here (in a project by Treacy & Eagleburger) with the manufacturer's 4-inch Sing pendant, available in lengths of 4 to 72 inches. It comes with a sand-blasted glass diffuser and in natural aluminum, bright nickel, polished brass, or bright copper finishes. Translite Sonoma, 707.996.6906; www.translitesonoma.com.



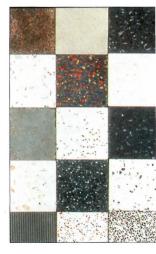


mo' better blues

Hascolac brilliant gloss paint by Schreuder Paints is a marine-quality, fade-resistant enamel with high concentrations of colorfast pigments. The product's self-leveling properties produce a durable, porcelain-like surface. "It is a lacquer-type paint that is made for the exterior, but can be used on the interior," says Eagleburger, whose favorite spec is Delft Blue. "It's a riveting color." Hascolac comes in a range of stock colors and 940 fan-deck colors or it can be custom tinted to any shade. Schreuder Paints is distributed by Fine Paints of Europe, 800.332.1556; www.finepaints.com.







surface appeal

Syndecrete is a precast concrete composite, developed by Hertz's firm after some unhappy encounters with other countertop materials. "Syndecrete comes in 600 colors, and many types of objects can be embedded in the surface for mass customization," says Hertz. The material is more refined and stain-resistant than concrete, but still needs resealing once a year with a wate based sealer. Syndecrete, 310.829.9932; www.syndes inc.com.

Photos: (portrait) Courtesy Syndesis; (glazing panels and interior) David Hertz

svndesis



Santa Monica, Calif.

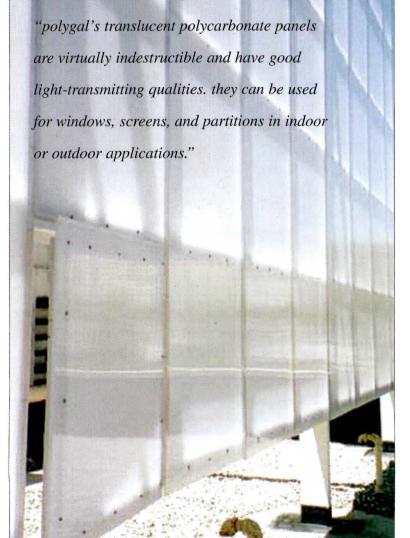
"timbergrass bamboo flooring is thicker than most other brands and has a nicer color and grain pattern."



David Hertz, AIA

saving glaze

Polygal's translucent panels are insulating glazing sheets extruded from high-performance polycarbonate. The product is energy-efficient, flame-retardant, and lightweight, making it an attractive, budget-minded alternative for a wide variety of glazing applications. Polygal's impact strength tests at 200 times that of glass, according to the maker. The panels—shown in Hertz's work at right—come in a range of thicknesses, styles, sizes, and colors. Polygal USA, 800.537.0095; www.polygalusa.com.



bamboo groove

Timbergrass says its bamboo flooring is more dimensionally stable than commonly used wood floorings like oak and maple. Available in 74-inch lengths and roughly 4-inch widths, the product installs like any other tongue-and-groove wood flooring and accepts stains, urethane, oils, paints, and water-based finishes. "Bamboo is comparable in cost to maple, but the advantage is that it is more stable so it can be used in highhumidity areas," says Hertz, who speced the material in the residence above. Timbergrass, 800.929.6333; www.timber grass.com.

architects'

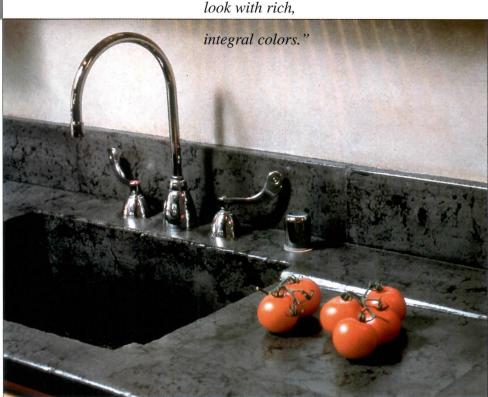
william simpson architect aia

Orinda, Calif.

William Simpson, AIA

concrete evidence

Buddy Rhodes Studio crafts custom concrete pieces for any part of the house, from sinks to tables to tiles. In addition to offering 12 standard colors, the studio can generate almost any custom pigment. Three surface finishes are available: veined, Rhodes' signature surface; steel trowel, a smooth, mostly monochromatic surface notable for its obvious trowel marks; and terrazzo, which features embedded glass or marble chips but maintains a smooth surface. Buddy Rhodes Studio, 877.706.5303; www.buddyrhodes.com.



"it's a very unique

pattern language

Jurs Architectural Glass designs and manufactures doors, sidelights, transoms, domes, skylights, and window walls. An architectural stained-glass artist, Shelley Jurs designs custom pieces (such as the Wiley, shown at left) as well as a line of ready-made doors called the Contemporary Collection. Jurs Architectural Glass, 800.679.9772; www. art-glass-doors.com.

"shelley jurs uses very little color, preferring cut, sanded, jeweled, or prism pieces to produce varying degrees of light and obscurity."



casa architecture and interior design "low-e is

Seattle

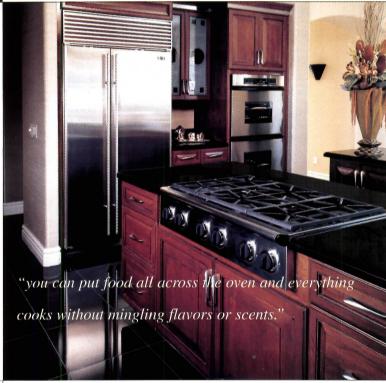
"low-e is user-friendly with no irritating particles and it can be cut with scissors."



Jed Miller

hot topic

Miller likes Dacor's Epicure line of commercial-style cooktops and ranges because "they cook evenly and fast, plus they have a great range of heat and they're easy to clean." The Epicure Proformer (shown) is a stainless-steel, six-burner gas cooktop with a griddle, simmer plate, and wok ring. It comes in two sizes—36 and 48 inches and boasts a 20,000-BTU patented gas-flame broiler in an electric, self-cleaning convection oven. Dacor, 800.793.0093; www.dacorappl.com.



on a roll

Environmentally Safe Products says its Low-E reflective insulation stops 97 percent of radiant heat from entering or leaving a home. The waterproof product consists of doublesided aluminum with a partially recycled polyethylene core. Miller likes specing Low-E because, at 1/8 inch thick, it can be layered to increase its R-value. "In areas with cramped space, large southern exposures, or older homes, you can easily meet code requirements and get a lot more bang for your buck," he says. One layer of Low-E has an R-value of 11. Environmentally Safe Products, 800.289.5693; www.low-e.com.

"instead of having different product lines of varying qualities, they're all good."



hardyware

Miller uses Baldwin hardware because "it keeps its looks, and the finishes and locking mechanisms are more durable." Baldwin reinforces its hardware with a double-finishing technique called "Lifetime Finish" and guarantees that exterior finishes will remain fully weatherproof and free of pitting and corrosion for the life of the product. A variety of finishes, including designer colors, is available. Baldwin, 800.566.1986; www.baldwinbrass.com.

architects'

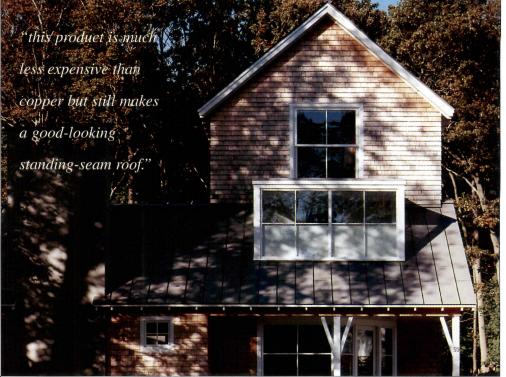
estes/twombly

Newport, R.I.

Jim Estes, AIA

swinging shingles

ATAS International's standingseam roofing shingles are a snap to assemble—literally. Thanks to a weather-tight, four-way locking system, the lightweight, galvanized-steel panels simply snap into place. Estes specs them on Estes/ Twombly projects like the one shown at right because they're "very easy to install and relatively cheap. Plus they come in a range of colors." The shingles are suitable for both regular and accent roofing. They measure 16 inches wide and 36 or 60 inches long. ATAS International, 800.468.1441; www.atas.com.



simple illumination

Estes admires the understated beauty of Leucos' light fixtures. Designed by such noted European luminaries as Roberto Pamio, Renato Toso, and Noti Massari, the handcrafted lights feature Murano glass rendered into artfully simple shapes. Shown here is the Selis pendant. Leucos, 732.225.0010; www.leucos.com.

"these are beautifully made, simple, and inconspicuous lights."

tough lock

When designing seaside houses and rural homes, Estes relies on Stanley for what he calls their "sturdy barnyard hardware"—pulls, hinges, and locks that stand up to a harsh environment. Many products are guaranteed for the life of the building. Stanley, 800.STANLEY; www.stanleyworks.com.

in stitches

Italian manufacturer Valli & Valli's line of cabinet hardware designed by architect and theorist Andrea Branzi marries stitched leather and polished brass for a strikingly unique look, "Valli & Valli's door hardware is never overdesigned," observes Estes. "They offer simple and direct designs with excellent craftsmanship and materials." The handles are also available in satin nickel and clear finishes. Valli & Valli, 877.326.2565; www.vallievalli.com.





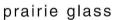


Photos: (portrait) Courtesy Estes/Twombly; (exterior) Aaron Usher III

iames harwick partners

Dallas

"their quality of workmanship was one of the finest i've seen



Mammen Glass & Mirror offers a comprehensive line of glass products, including windows, doors, mirrors, cut-to-order items, and custom leaded-glass creations and repairs. Harwick applauds the company's eclectic range of styles, from classic to contemporary. In the project by JH&P shown here, Mammen's art glass department created a series of leadedglass panels in Southwest Prairie style, with lead came construction and beveled individual tiles. Mammen Glass & Mirror, 800.327.8076; www.mammen.com.



full slate

Ann Sacks' Medici Rose slate is a natural material with a high degree of color variation, from charcoal to rose to olive. "It's a very warm material for a hard surface," says Harwick. The slate can be cut into tiles of any size for floors or countertops. In addition to a wide selection of slate and limestone products, Ann Sacks' 10 showrooms and 30-plus dealers offer mosaics, terra cotta, art tile, antique stone, glass and metal tile, glazed tile, and more. Ann Sacks, 800.278.8453; www.annsacks.com.



"it's very practical and cost-effective compared with other hard surfaces."

Photos: (portrait and interior) Mark Trew

architects'

brawer & hauptman architects

Philadelphia



curb appeal

Grand Manor shangle from CertainTeed features two full-size, onepiece base shingles with an 8-inch exposure. The construction results in five layers of coverage when applied, the maker says. Made from algaeresistant fiberglass, the shingles come in red, green, and several shades of gray. "The product has a 40-year warranty so it will last almost the life of the house," Hauptman says. CertainTeed, 610.341.7000; www. certainteed.com.

real joinery

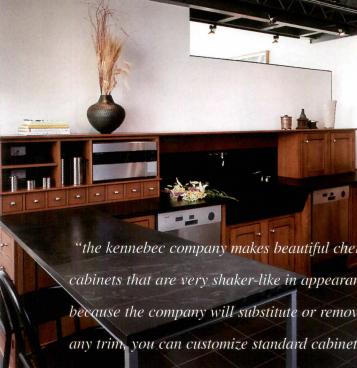
Michael Hauptman, AIA

The Kennebec Company makes custom cabinetry in quarter-sawn and rift-sawn oak, maple, cherry, pine, and Douglas fir, but other species may be requested. The company's products shown here in one of Brawer & Hauptman's projectsfeature stained, dyed, varnished, and painted finishes, and period handmade hardware in wood, brass, or wrought iron. Kennebec uses mortise-and-tenon joinery on face frames and biscuit joinery on cabinet boxes. The Kennebec Company, 207.443.2131.



double pleasure

Marvin offers its double-hung window in more than 126 standard sizes and an unlimited number of custom sizes. The product has a paintable wood interior and an extruded aluminum cladding available in various colors. It comes standard in double-pane glass, but low-E, low-E II with argon, single-pane, and removable energy panels are also available. "The energy panel gives the right mullion proportions for historical accuracy, but also adds insulation," says Hauptman. Marvin Windows, 800.328.0268; www.marvin.com.



ace architects

Oakland, Calif.

"blomberg is technologically innovative and adaptable to special situations, they are the reason we are happy to specify aluminum doors and windows."



Lucia Howard and David Weingarten

ace of stairs

The Ace Stair, designed by Ace Architects and manufactured by Equus Metals, is a circular stair that is more comfortable, more attractive, and safer than a spiral stair, says Howard. Measuring about 9 feet in diameter, the stair meets code requirements for a primary exit in a house. Because of the way it is made, it is cheaper than most other circular stairs. It can be finished in stainless steel, glass, or wood veneer-or gold leaf, like the one shown here in an Ace Architects project. Equus Metals, 918.834.9872.



fab fenestration

Blomberg's 2400 Series window wall features 1¾-inch by 4-inch tubular aluminum with glazing on the interior or exterior. The system, shown above in an Ace Architects—designed house, can adapt to all venting options, such as horizontal sliding, casements, and singlehung, and is available in 15 standard colors. Custom sizes, profiles, and colors are available; so is a matching door system. Blomberg Window Systems, 916.428.8060.



versatile tile

McIntyre Tile Co. offers a wide range of handmade ceramic wall and floor tile. The company specializes in custom-glaze color matching, custom extrusions, carved and hand-painted decorative tiles, and murals. "McIntyre has its line of colors but they'll do any color, which is good for us when we're working with picky clients," says Howard, whose firm speced the tiles on this fireplace. McIntyre Tile, 707.433.8866; www.mcintyre-tile.com.

"mcintyre is easily the world's most accommodating, patient, and interested ceramic-tile producer."

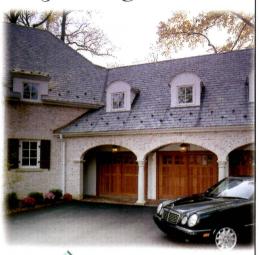
Photos: (portrait) Terry McCarthy; (all others) Alan Weintraub

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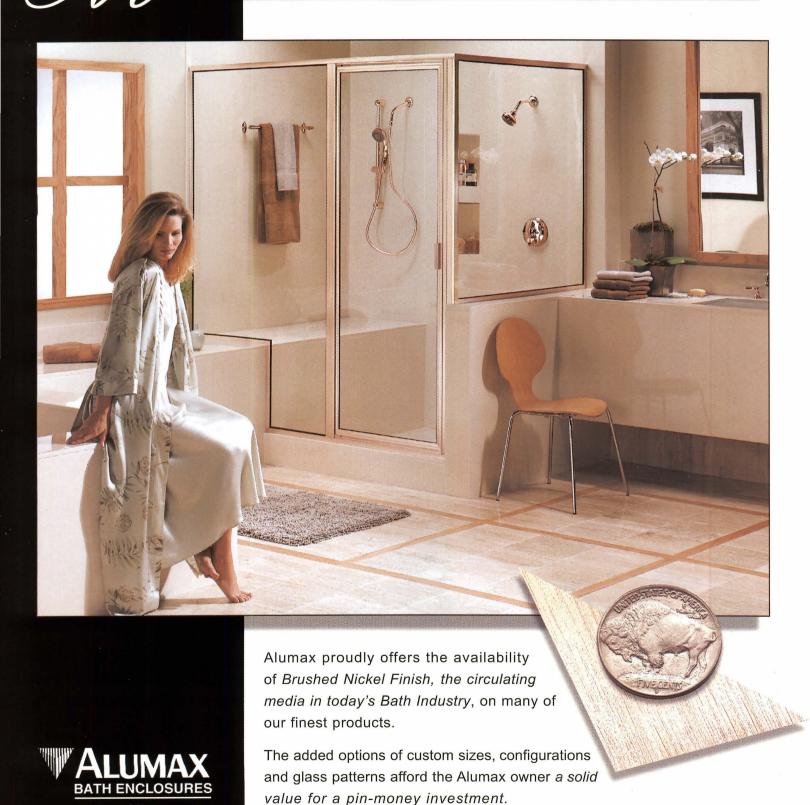


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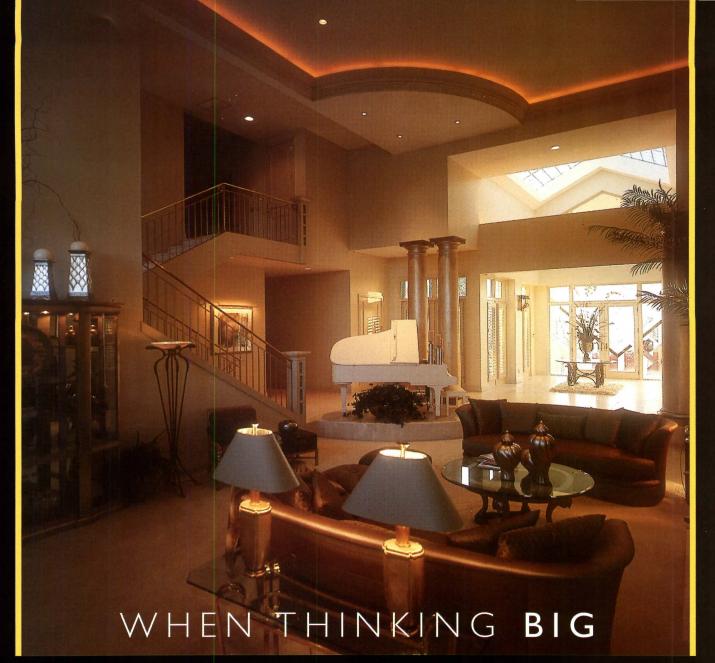
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by meghan drueding

old mill dream

robert luchetti associates cambridge, mass.

ophisticated, comprehensive office designs are Robert Luchetti Architects' specialty. The 10-person firm, based in Cambridge, Mass., also designs about six houses a year. Principal Bob Luchetti, AIA, drew from both experiences to create a whimsical workplace in an old brick-and-beam mill building near Harvard University.

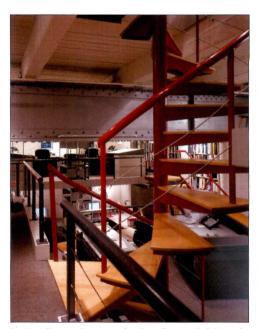
When Luchetti decided to move his company into its present offices, he opted to do so without radically changing the space. He painted the main structural beam silver to reflect natural and artificial light. The existing, conventional stair railings gave way to light, nimble, metal-and-wire ones. A new, lipstick-red-painted metal stair with warm wood steps spirals up through the office, and collector's chairs by designers like Mario Botta and Charles and Ray Eames make appearances throughout the space. Some of the chairs are for everyday use; others hang unexpectedly from the loft-like ceiling or perch along the tops of the walls. "We had all these extra chairs and wanted to see them," says Luchetti, who prefers the firm's current size to its roster of 25 employees five years ago. "Some of the ones that are hanging are uncomfortable, honestly. You wouldn't want to sit in them."

To squeeze more work area out of the office, Luchetti designed a new mezzanine level across from an existing mezzanine between the first and second floors. The firm operates in a studio-style manner, with open desks and workstations. An employee who needs privacy to work out a design problem or to meet a deadline can retreat to the third-floor materials library, or to one of seven conference/meeting rooms. Unlike the workstations, though, those areas don't have computers. Luchetti's working on that. "We do still sketch by hand and build models, but the vast majority of our work is done digitally," he says. "Getting computers for those rooms is on my list."

For now, he'll have to settle for an office whose stripped-down sensibilities encapsulate his firm's wide range of project types and styles. Homes by Robert Luchetti Associates vary from Modern, industrial-style residences to historic renovations.

builder: Robert Luchetti Associates,

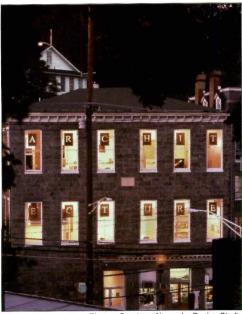
Cambridge, Mass. size: 3,500 square feet cost: \$36 per square foot



Luchetti's sparing use of color allows a bright-red spiral staircase and an Eames chair to emerge as focal points.







Photos: Courtesy Alexander Design Studio



The letters on the studio's windows leave passersby with little doubt about what goes on inside. Homey perks like a rose-walled kitchen for employees help attract talent to the small, out-of-the-way practice.

casual days

alexander design studio ellicott city, md.

hat sharp cracking noise emanating every so often from the main work space at Alexander Design Studio is no cause for alarm. It's the sound of employees shooting pool. "The pool table allows for the kind of social interaction you'd like to have in an office," says the Ellicott City, Md., firm's principal, Charles Alexander, AIA. "It helps you clear your thoughts when you're stymied by a design problem."

Providing such workplace diversions as pool, Ping-Pong, and video games to release tension and stimulate creativity among the staff is nothing new-dot-coms and advertising agencies have been doing it for years. But it's not so common in the more conservative world inhabited by most architects who aren't named Gehry. That's exactly what Alexander wants potential clients to notice about his eight-person business the minute they set foot in his studio—that it's completely different from any other firm they're thinking about hiring. "Our conference room has no conference table," he notes. "Instead it has a sofa, some chairs, and a pinup wall for drawings. The whole office is reflective of a more casual attitude."

The two-story space also captures the firm's design ethos. It's located in a century-old former Masonic lodge in historic Ellicott City, just outside Baltimore. Alexander bought the building in 1997, and he and his crew renovated the upper floors themselves. (A retail store occupies the first floor.) In making the second floor into a reception and conference area and the top floor into a design studio, they left the perimeter walls intact. They then erected a new structure several feet inside the old shell using columns, partial walls, and metal framework. "The concept is that of an inner box within an outer box," Alexander says. "We wanted to create a visual separation between what we had done and what was already here."

This interest in the relationship between old and new informs all of his residential work, from Modern additions onto traditional houses, to contemporary homes in established neighborhoods. The same theme applies to the firm's other projects, like churches, schools, and offices. "We're not afraid of the vernacular," says Alexander. "But we're unabashedly Modernist in terms of how we make space."

Letters spelling "ARCHITECTURE," carved into acid-etched metal panels, grace the office's street-front windows. Besides letting passersby know what Alexander Design Studio is all about, they channel the sun's light into letter-shaped patterns whose positions on the interior walls change throughout the day.

builder: Tonka Construction, Baltimore

size: 5,000 square feet **cost:** \$10 per square foot

wall of fame

beinfield wagner norwalk, conn.

onathan Wagner and Bruce Beinfield work in southern Connecticut, an area where architectural tastes tend to run to the traditional. Their seven-person firm has designed many a Shingle-style or Colonial abode, but that's not all they can do. When the pair bought and renovated an old brick warehouse building in South Norwalk, Conn., seven years ago, they decided to use their new office space to showcase the wide scope of their skills.

They claimed a spot on the second floor, eventually renting out the rest of the building to other small businesses: marketing firms, a restaurant, craftspeople, an antique store. Then they used cost-effective, industrial materials in their own office to make sure visitors would sit up and take notice. "We feel we're a bit outside the mainstream," Wagner says. "We're a progressive firm in a traditional area. Right off the bat, our office shows people we're a little different." Textured plaster walls and a steel stair greet visitors as they step into the building. They're welcomed into a serene entry gallery featuring warm white walls, a barrel-vault ceiling of corrugated metal, and photos of the firm's Modern and traditional work-mostly houses and light-commercial projects.

A slightly skewed, nonstructural wall of Portland cement runs through the entry gallery, an open studio space, a library, and a private conference room. In addition to organizing these disparate spaces, the wall also

provides an element of the unexpected. "That wall is an aggressive piece of architecture," Wagner says. "It really asserts itself, the way it noses into the entry gallery. If it weren't there, the office wouldn't be as interesting."

A spirit of improvisation also pervades the space. Beinfield and Wagner designed and built the plywood-and-black-laminate conference-room table, and fashioned the studio desktops out of hollow-core doors. They bought the conference-room chairs at Ikea. All of the architects employed by the firm, including the two princi-

pals, sit in the open studio area. "We could never work in private offices where you close the door and don't see anyone," says Wagner. "I think architects in general really need feedback from one another."

Their efforts to create a space that communicates endless possibilities has paid off in tangible as well as intangi-

ble ways—positive word of mouth about the firm's offices has helped them land jobs designing restaurants and other commercial interiors.

builder: Atlas Construction, Stamford, Conn.

size: 2,000 square feet **cost:** \$30 per square foot



Photos: Dan Cornish



A Portland cement wall provides a sculpture-like, penetrable barrier between the studio space (above), where the principals and associates work, and the office's public spaces.





new connection

holabird & root chicago

hen Holabird & Root moved its operations from the tenth to the seventh floor of a downtown Chicago office building, the 120-year-old firm saw a chance to highlight its threefold capacity for architecture, engineering, and interior design. Employees from all three disciplines participated in the process, creating an elegant, streamlined space that ably demonstrates the firm's abilities.

The star of their complete overhaul is a glass-and-steel bridge that spans the building's central courtyard. The bridge connects the reception area with the work studio, and it makes for a quick commute from one side of the office to the other. "Since the building itself was not designed by Holabird & Root, we wanted to do something with the office that would make a statement about us," says Frank Castelli, AIA, who handled the project along with former partner Jerry Horn, FAIA. "The bridge adds a little pizzazz."

The 60-plus architects, engineers, and interior designers who make up the majority of the 86-person office have the best seats in the house. The firm opted to place the open studio space on the north and east sides of the building—the two sides of the office that receive direct sunlight. Exposed pipes and ductwork allow the ceiling to rise to its full 11-foot height, and wood cubicle

paneling adds warmth to the space.

Holabird & Root's public areas sport a more polished look. Curved, perforated metal panels separate the reception area from the administrative offices and provide display space for newspaper and magazine articles about the firm's work. Understated gray tiles line the hallway and conference-room floors. A steel-cased sliding door on oversized wheels marks the conference room. Overall, the office reflects Castelli's simple synopsis of the firm's philosophy. "We pride ourselves on doing good design," he says. "Not 'fad' design."

builder: Turner Construction SPD, Chicago

size: 23,766 square feet **cost:** \$52 per square foot



The office's open design studio facilitates communication among the architecture, interior design, and engineering departments. The studio receives plenty of natural light from its two window-lined walls.



Photos: David Cliftor

The corporate-industrial look of Holabird & Root's public spaces befits its reputation as an august, richly experienced practice. Its diverse workload includes office, college and university, municipal, health-care, and residential design.

recycled content

oz architecture boulder, colo.

Z Architecture has made a name for itself designing adaptive-reuse and infill projects in urban areas. So it's only fitting that this Colorado firm's Boulder office has occupied a converted Harley-Davidson motorcycle shop in the city's downtown since 1999. The 48-person firm—which also has branches in Denver and Summit County, Colo.—had been fast outgrowing its old offices in another adaptive-reuse building in Boulder. When the Harley-Davidson space came up for sale three years ago, they pounced on it. "We saw an opportunity to take a building no one would give a second look to and show people what we can do with it," says Kelly Davis, AIA, the project architect and associate principal at OZ. "It was a 'silk purse out of a sow's ear' kind of thing."

They didn't just obliterate the original "sow's ear" elements. Rather, OZ

placed a great deal of importance on recognizing the relationship between what the building had been before and what it would be for them. "It's still a workshop," says Davis. "Only it's a workshop for architecture instead of motorcycles." The architects sandblasted and sealed the unintentionally chic concrete floors, and recycled old steel workbenches as countertops. They also left exposed some of the existing joists and columns.

However, there's no danger of anyone confusing OZ with a motorcycle
workshop. The company overhauled
the space to dovetail with its philosophy of open communication, and the
results are unlikely to be mistaken for
anything but an architecture office.
"There's a lot of cross-pollination of
ideas going on in here," says Davis.
"We designed the office so that you
can see and hear what other people
are working on." That means lots of
half-walls and open meeting areas, as

well as plenty of sight lines between different parts of the building. A central mezzanine level looks out over both studios. Employees in the main building even have a clear view of the interiors division, which is housed in an outbuilding, and vice versa.

Considering the firm's location in eco-conscious Boulder, it comes as no surprise that "green" materials dominate the office. In addition to reusing items already present in the 8,000-square-foot building, OZ specified tree-saving engineered lumber throughout the project. The panels to which employees pin sketches and floor plans are made of recycled newsprint. And the building's many operable windows allow natural ventilation during much of the year.

builder: Deneuve Construction

Services, Boulder size: 12,500 square feet cost: \$56 per square foot



The large service openings on the sides of the former motorcycle workshop live on, acting as fresh-air conduits during the spring and summer months. Two shaded terraces supply outdoor eating and working space.



Environmental responsibility and idea sharing are both emphasized at OZ. In one of two design studios, ribbed plastic partitions form see-through walls, and overhead light reflectors magnify bulb output to reduce energy consumption.







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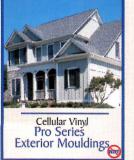
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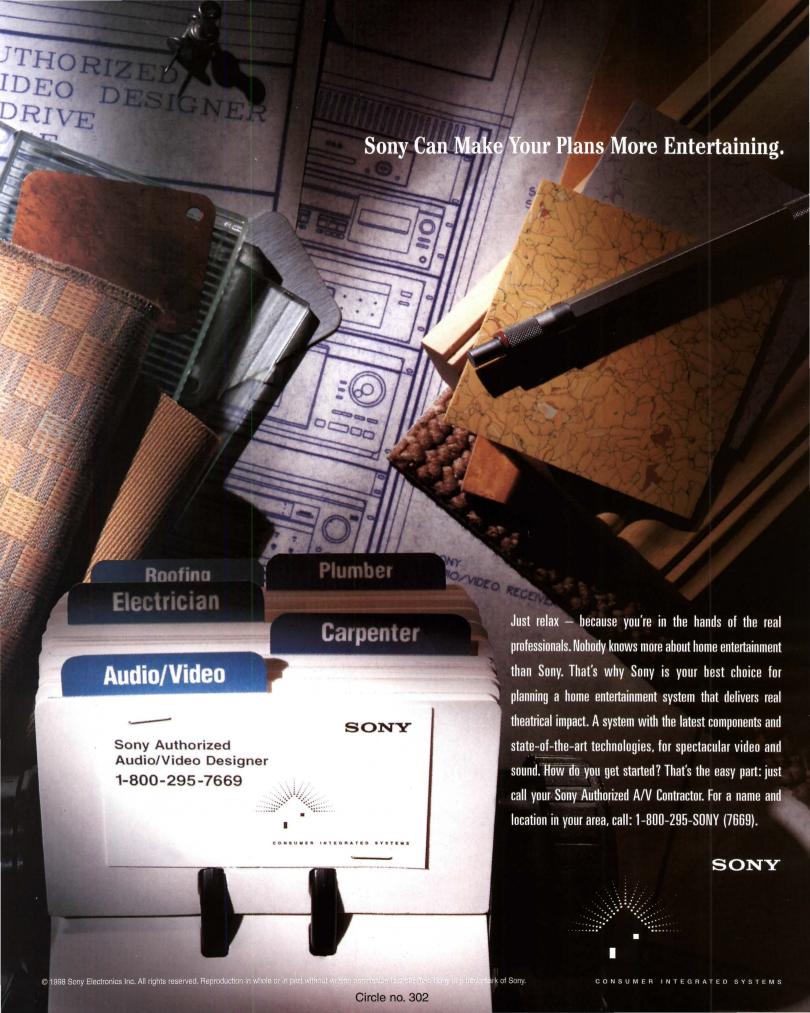
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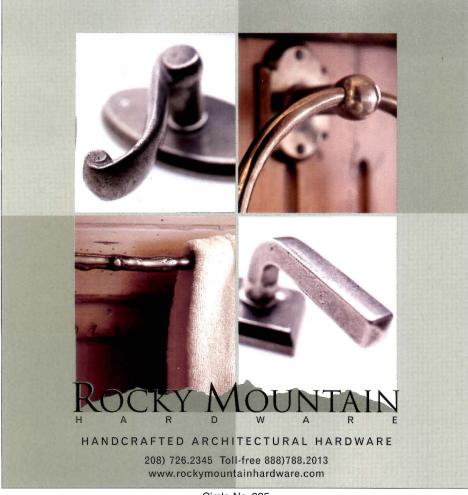


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Chosen by respondents in *residential architect's* 2000 Brand Specification Study as the top choice for waterproofing solutions, TUFF-N-DRI[®] Basement Waterproofing System (TUFF-N-DRI) from Koch Waterproofing Solutions, Inc. continues to offer new innovations to help architects create spectacular homes.

With more people than ever working from home, architects are being asked to design home offices in the basements of new homes. A far cry from the dark, damp

spaces of 20 years ago, these basement offices are luxury spaces, far from the center of activity in the house, with high ceilings, windows and lots of high-tech equipment. These spaces need to stay dry.

In addition, with the advent of "sealed," energy-efficient homes in the 1970s—and the skyrocketing increase in reported cases of respiratory and eye, ear, nose and throat conditions—indoor air quality has become the

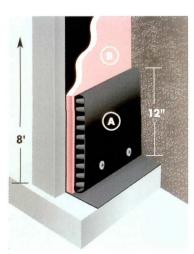


focus for widespread concern. Recent studies show, because of allergies to mold, damp housing conditions are associated with increased prevalence of respiratory symptoms and asthma. Keeping the basement free of moisture helps keep mold out of the home.

Unless properly built, protected and maintained, basements are particularly susceptible to three primary sources of dampness:

leaks, seepage and condensation. TUFF-N-DRI is a single product offering that protects against all three sources of basement moisture. TUFF-N-DRI will protect your home office and give you a healthy house.

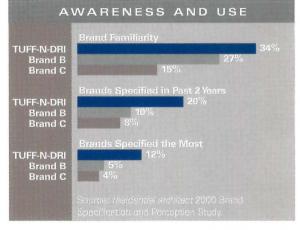
TUFF-N-DRI features a two-part system that includes a polymer-enhanced asphalt membrane that's spray applied to allow a consistent and seamless membrane. The second component is WARM-N-DRI[®] insulation board, which eliminates the need for an interior moisture barrier.



Koch Waterproofing Solutions recently introduced DrainStar™ stripdrain product (DrainStar) which eliminates the need for traditional foundation drain tile and gravel as part of a complete waterproofing system. By combining DrainStar (A) with at least

24 inches of a quality foundation drainage board such as Koch's WARM-N-DRI[®] (B), you'll match the water collection area of a drain tile and gravel system. Depending on your application needs, DrainStar may be installed in a vertical (shown in photo to the left) or L-shaped design.

For more information call 1-800-DRY-BSMT or visit www.TUFF-N-DRI.com.





By Readers of residential architect

CABINETRY (SEMI-CUSTOM AND CUSTOM)

'aftMaid Cabinetry

Customized options Architects know and depend on.

Why KraftMaid Cabinetry?

Today's homeowners want a kitchen that is functional, breathtaking and personal—and they want it within a reasonable budget, which is where KraftMaid comes in. KraftMaid offers the optimal blend of selection, personalized storage features, accessories, molding options and a lifetime warranty for your customer, with a multitude of specs and an easy-to-work-with product for you. Your customers demand quality cabinetry with a premium look, customized to meet their needs without the premium price. KraftMaid is the optimum choice and the brand they know best.

Choices, Choices, Choices. What direction will you go?

KraftMaid's product line is all about choices. With more than 100 door styles in seven wood species and a variety of laminates, 21 furniture quality finishes and glazes, more than 150 space-saving storage features and endless molding styles and decorative enhancements, KraftMaid has a look that is perfect for any home style. Enhance kitchens with stacked moldings, decorative onlays and corbels, spindles, combination finishes and glazes, decorative open cabinets, leaded and glass doors...the list is endless.

And KraftMaid's broad product line extends beyond the kitchen to help personalize any room. From the bathroom to the laundry room, the home office to the bedroom, a built-in media center or a dining room hutch, a wet bar or a window seat, KraftMaid cabinetry is decorative furniture, not just customized, functional storage.



Cabinetry For a Lifetime

KraftMaid's Passport Series is the best choice for a Universal Design kitchen that will meet your customers needs for a lifetime. The most comprehensive line of accessible cabinetry on the market incorporates beautiful cabinetry with smart design elements to create living environ-

ments with improved usability and convenience, simplifying life for everyone in the household, regardless of their ability level.



Architects Depend on KraftMaid

KraftMaid is dedicated to meeting the needs of architects. We know that you and your customers must be confident in the products you select and we are committed to providing the innovative, quality products your customers demand. We back our product with a lifetime warranty and recognition as a *Consumers Digest* Best Buy, four years in a row. KraftMaid is proud to be the brand you know and know you can depend on.

What direction will you go?



Middlefield, OH 44062 1-800-361-1980 www.kraftmaid.com

By Readers of residential architect

ENTRY DOORS

total fenestration provider, Pella Corporation as recently added a full line of entry doors to its total product offering.

At Pella, it's important to help customers expand their creative options. An entry door can do just that. Recognizing that the front entry system is the focal point of a home—an area that expresses the homeowner's character as well as underscores the home's architecture—Pella entry doors can complement virtually any style and perfectly match other Pella products in the home.

Available throughout North America, Pella's entry door line includes door options for practically every need. Customers can now choose from three distinct lines of entry doors—



Utility Steel and Premium Steel; dependable performing 24-gauge steel doors with varying price points and offerings; and Carbonite; beautiful, wood-grained, composite doors.



Carbonite is an advanced composite material with carbon technology. Pella's Carbonite doors feature a thicker skin material that reduces deflection and warping and resists dents and corrosion. These doors also offer the look of a fine wood door, featuring deeply grained panels with authentic wood-grain patterns like oak or walnut.

An exclusive high-performance sill system eliminates worries about air and water infiltration—door and sidelight jambs sit on top of the sill to protect the jambs from absorbing water.

Matching a variety of transoms, sidelights and glass options, each door's glass insert is hand-tooled to deliver elegance as well as energy efficiency and is carefully sealed between

two panes of standard glass to prevent damage and ensure superior insulation.

All three lines of Pella entry door systems are built with the same quality standards, precision engineering and attention to

detail as Pella® windows and patio doors. Whether a homeowner chooses the double door system, an individual door or a complete entry system with sidelights and a transom, it comes fully assembled and tested from the factory.



Pella 1-800-84-PELLA www.pella.com CIRCLE NO. 371

By Readers of residential architect

REFRIGERATORS

S b-Zero Encourages Creative Designs

Sub-Zero Freezer Company, the industry leader in premium built-in home refrigeration and wine storage equipment, is ranked as the top brand specified by architects for home refrigeration, according to the *residential architect* 2000 Brand Specification Study. Sub-Zero's classic built-in 600 Series has always had a reputation for hard-working products. But recent innovations by Sub-Zero have changed the face of kitchen design and made refrigeration products the most versatile element of the kitchen.

The Integrated 700 Series is a system of cabinets and drawer offerings for refrigeration for virtually any room of the house. The integrated product line consists of two basic forms—a tall unit and a base unit. Each are a space-saving 27 inches wide, and are available in an all-refrigerator, all-freezer, or a combination of the two.

The appeal of Sub-Zero products extends beyond their function into their exterior design options. The 700 Series offers exterior paneling designed to exactly match the cabinetry surrounding the refrigerator, making the unit disappear.





Integrated drawer units offer flexibility in home design as they enable homeowners to have refrigeration at their fingertips—in the master bedroom, the hearth room, next to the entertainment center, or by the kitchen sink.

Another key element to modern kitchen design is a wine storage solution. Sub-Zero's 400 Series offers four beautifully elegant and unique wine storage models designed to both keep wine in its optimum condition and showcase wine collections. Unique to Sub-Zero, each 400 Series unit includes two separate refrigeration compartments with independent temperature zones which can keep wines at their ideal serving or storage temperatures.

Sub-Zero offers the ultimate in high-quality products with a myriad of functional design options. With all the combinations Sub-Zero provides, it's no wonder they're the brand most specified by architects.

For more information contact 1-800-222-7820 or visit www.subzero.com.





By Readers of residential architect

DISPOSERS

In-Sink-Erator Disposers Rated #1

Once considered a luxury item, food waste disposers are now one of homeowners' most-wanted appliances and are found in more than 80 percent of new home construction in the U.S. Disposers have long been recognized as a sanitary, safe and environmentally sound way of eliminating biodegradable food waste. As the world's largest manufacturer of food waste disposers, In-Sink-Erator[®] is the preferred brand among homeowners, plumbers and architects.

As the industry leader, In-Sink-Erator continues to break new ground as it did two

years ago when the company introduced
Septic Disposer™, the best disposer
for homes with septic systems.
With its patented Bio-Charge™
chemical cartridge, Septic
Disposer helps to break down
food waste, keep drain lines
clean and eliminates the
need for homeowners to
use additional additives.





4700 21st Street
Racine, WI 53406
1-800-558-5712
www.insinkerator.com
CIRCLE NO. 372

Brand Specified the Most

By Readers of residential architect

INTERIOR PASSAGE DOORS



Simpson is Crafting More Ways to Stay #1

Simpson Door Company's interior and exterior wood doors have long been favorites of home owners, builders and architects. And with multiple new door lines being introduced in 2001, there are even more ways to enjoy the classic styles that have become synonymous with the Simpson name. Each Simpson door is handcrafted to exacting specifications, resulting in a door of impeccable quality. With a wide variety of species and designs available, Simpson offers something for nearly every architectural style. Call today for a free catalog, or visit the Simpson Web site at www.simpsondoor.com.





400 Simpson Avenue McCleary, WA 98557 1-800-952-4057

Brand Specified the N

By Readers of residential architect

EXTERIOR SIDING

esign Opportunities for You—Beauty & Easy re for Your Customers.

The right side of your brain doesn't need to be at odds with the left.



CertainTeed's Monogram™ offers more color choices than any other vinyl siding. It's also the only siding with STUDfinder,™ a patent-pending system that is designed to help insure fast, accurate, and secure installation.

Perfection Shingle



Half-Round Shingle



Hand-Split Shake



Narrow Sawn Shingle

Are you obsessed with color and style? Or do your priorities run to durability and easy-maintenance? Either way, CertainTeed siding delivers. It's practical and imaginative, so you can be, too.

Beautiful and stylish.

There's the Monogram STUDfinder™ Siding System with an industry leading 30 color options, beautifully replicating the look of painted or stained wood in a variety of classic styles.

Cedar Impressions® offers four distinctive designs that mirror the look of traditional cedar shingle siding. Choose from Perfection Shingles, Narrow Sawn Shingles, Hand-Split Shakes, and Half-Round Shingles, all molded from the real thing.

Tough and practical.

CertainTeed siding is durable and easy to maintain. Our RigidForm™ technology features a double-thick nailing hem designed to create a reinforcing spine. The exclusive self-aligning CertiLock™ locking system helps keep each panel straight and secure. As a result, Monogram has been tested to withstand winds up to 180 mph, and our new patent-pending STUD finder system is designed to help insure it's properly installed.

STUDfinder combines precisely engineered nail slot locations with graphics to allow for alignment with studs. This provides a quick and easy guide to help insure fastening to the studs. Contractors will love the fact that STUDfinder can speed installation at the same time it improves it. Homeowners will value the fact that properly installed siding performs as they expect it to.

More than you imagined.

We know options are important to you, and we now offer a whole new family of them in the form of paintable WeatherBoards™ FiberCement siding. Our exclusive DuraPress™ technology combines natural materials and advanced processing methods to create a FiberCement siding of exceptional durability, performance, and appearance.

Style, performance, and dozens of innovative siding options. Just the sort of thing you'd expect from CertainTeed, an industry leader for nearly 100 years.

CertainTeed **H**

Quality made certain. Satisfaction guaranteed.

CertainTeed Corporation Siding Products Group 1-800-233-8990

www.certainteed.com CIRCLE NO. 396

Cedar Impressions® combines the look of real cedar shingle siding with virtually no maintenance in four authentic styles.

By Readers of residential architect

FIREPLACES/WOOD STOVES



Heatilator-The Hottest Fireplace on the Market

Known as the first name in fireplaces, Heatilator brings one of the broadest product lines of gas and woodburning fireplaces and inserts to the hearth industry. The first air circulating fireplace was patented by Heatilator in 1927, and since that time, Heatilator has remained a strong leader among fireplace manufacturers.

Manufacturing top quality products has contributed to Heatilator's long term success. Such stunning, recently released fireplaces as the 16" deep Novus, a space-saving direct vent gas unit, and the Icon, a premium woodburning fireplace, have experienced great success in today's market. With the recent introduction of several new stainless steel fireplace accessories and new gas and wood premium fireplaces on the horizon, Heatilator is paving a sure road to continued success in the future.

Heatilator's mission is to be a full-line supplier of fireplaces and related products to the home building and remodeling markets. Since 1927, Heatilator has remained committed to excellence in manufacturing the highest quality products. This commitment to excellence and the dedication of company Members has allowed Heatilator to grow into the industry leader that it is today.

For more information call 1-800-927-6841 or visit our web site at www.heatilator.com

The first name in fireplaces

CIRCLE NO. 200



by headers of residential architect

HVAC



Think Cool Thoughts

The Trane XL 1800 central air conditioning system can make a home totally comfortable, all summer long. With a SEER (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio, a standard measurement of air conditioning efficiency established by the US Department of Energy) rating of up to 18.00, the XL 1800 offers the unbeatable combination of energy efficiency and lower operating costs.

In addition to its high efficiency, there's something else unique about the XL 1800 air conditioner. It has side-by-side, dual Climatuff® compressors that allow for two-stage cooling. That means that most of the time your unit will operate comfortably and efficiently at low speed. But on extremely hot days when more cooling is required, the XL 1800 will switch to the second stage to provide maximum comfort.

For more information visit our web site at www.trane.com/residential, or call toll-free 1-877-99-TRANE.





It's Hard To Stop A Trane.

By Readers of residential architect

HOUSEWRAP

Pont Tyvek® Weatherization System

A Basic Building Practice for Outstanding Weather Protection

There's no doubt about it. Tyvek[®] is simply basic to better building. Wrapping a home in a "protective envelope" is a good building practice that helps combat a home's worst enemies: water, moisture, and air infiltration. Millions of homes wrapped in Tyvek[®] over the last two decades are saving energy costs for homeowners. Millions of homes have excellent secondary protection against water and moisture damage.

DuPont, the inventor of Tyvek, continues to re-invent new products, new techniques. Now, the Tyvek Weatherization Systems include Tyvek HomeWrap, Tyvek StuccoWrap, Tyvek CommercialWrap, Tyvek Wrap Caps, Tyvek FlexWrap, and DuPont Contractor Tape—providing the industry's best combination of

air, water and moisture management properties. That's why Tyvek[®] is your ideal secondary defense against the damaging effects of weather. And that's why you should know how Tyvek[®] works and what makes it superior to other housewraps and building papers on the market today. You and your customers will benefit from the difference.



Exclusive nationwide, on-thejob service: The DuPont Tyvek[®] Specialist Network

No other building wrap has a service network like Tyvek. More than 100 trained specialists are in the field, working hands-on with you, your builders, and your customers.

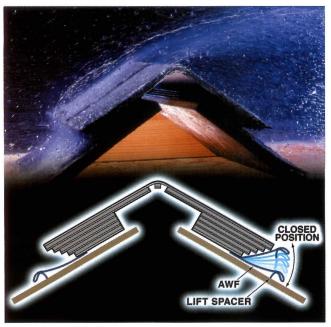
We're an architect resource We'll bring you the latest building test results We keep current on relevant code issues and changes Get the latest installation tips and best practices We'll help create educational model home displays Let us help train field installers And more... call 1-800-44-TYVEK for information or to find a local Tyvek specialist near you. Visit our web site at www.tyvekconstruction.com.



Build It Once, Build it Right

By Readers of residential architect

RIDGE VENT SYSTEMS



COR-A-VENT introduces X-5...

...the Complete Solution—superior ventilation plus the ability to stop rain and snow infiltration cold...even in weather extremes. The key is the AWF—the Active Weather Foil. It's an aerodynamically designed, wind-activated, weather impenetrable valve—permanently attached to the bottom layer of our X-5 vent material.

At 20 MPH, the leading (windward) edge of the AWF catches the wind and snaps shut. The **lift spacer** insures the valve doesn't stick or freeze to the roof in cold weather. Below 20 MPH, the valve opens completely for positive ventilation through both sides of the vent. The AWF effectively blocks any infiltration. Dade County acceptance and our own in house blizzard tests confirm this. The harder the wind blows, the tighter the AWF seals. With 17 sq. in. of NFVA, and power nailable too, it's the best venting, easiest to install ridge vent on the market.



The Leader in Innovative Rooftop Venti

COR-A-VENT. Inc. P.O. Box 428 • Mishawaka, IN 46546-0428 Phone: (800) 837-8368 • Fax: (800) 645-6162 E-mail: info@cor-a-vent.com Website: www.cor-a-vent.com

CIRCLE NO. 369

Brand Specified the Most

By Readers of residential architect

SURFACING-SOLID SURFACE

DuPont Corian® Brand Leader in Versatility and Design.



DuPont Corian, who pioneered solid surfacing more than 30 years ago, continues to be a leader in the industry today. Residential architects rely on DuPont Corian for keeping up with current design trends. Corian solid surfaces, now in more than 90 colors, can be inlaid with wood, tile, glass, metal or stone to create a warm, inviting look throughout the home.

Just as important is how pleasing Corian[®] solid surfaces are to the homeowners that architects work for. Corian[®] solid surfaces provide longlasting beauty and easy care options to suit any lifestyle. Since they are nonporous, they won't support the growth of mold or mildew and will resist liquid stains.

DuPont Corian® recognizes residential architect magazine for its contributions to the industry and thanks them for recognizing DuPont Corian® as the leader in solid surfacing. For more information on Corian® solid surfaces, visit www.corian.com or call 1-800-4-

CORIAN® (1-800-426-7426).

SOLID SURFACES

By Readers of residential architect

CLAY/CONCRETE/SYNTHETIC ROOF TILES

It is no wonder MonierLifetile is one of the rands chosen by builders and architects.

MonierLifetile helps builders achieve their goals with one of the industry's strongest commitments to quality. Each of MonierLifetile's new tile lines is subjected to rigorous testing, including exposure to every imagined climatic extreme. Sophisticated computer-controlled wind tunnel testing ensures maximum performance in wind-driven rain conditions. The tiles are also tested for resistance to fire, hail and seismic activity. MonierLifetile offers the widest selection of styles, colors and profiles to address a wide range of new and reroof applications.

Tile is the most durable roofing material on the market today. In fact, it isn't uncommon, especially in Europe, to see tile roofs that have lasted hundreds of years in the most severe weather conditions. All MonierLifetile products carry a limited lifetime, fully transferable and non-prorated warranty.

MonierLifetile products are environmentally friendly due to the low intensity production process and the recyclable features of the product if ever replaced. In addition to being

"Green," MonierLifetile regularly introduces new products to the market such as the blended-on-the-line, Monier 2000, with its unparalleled beauty and Cedarlite, the most realistic, shake-look product available today.





For more information on MonierLifetile and its products, go to www.monierlifetile.com or call 1-800-571-TILE.





MonierLifetile^{**}

Changing the way people think about roofs.

By Readers of residential architect

VINYL WINDOWS

ilgard Windows Chosen Most by Architects



When asked about vinyl windows, respondents to the *residential architect* 2000 Brand Specification and Perception Study said they specify Milgard Windows the most. Maybe that's because Milgard offers award-winning products with innovative design and outstanding performance. That's important to anyone designing a home.

To help architects best access the full line of options available from Milgard, Milgard Windows has launched the next generation of their award-winning web site, **www.milgard.com.** Known for its ease of navigation, the site will feature many downloadable design functions aimed at making window-specifying decisions easier.

Among the features is a CAD drawing library with downloadable DXF and DWG files. This allows architects the ability incorporate Milgard products into project drawings and specifications. Technical product

information is also offered, including structural rat-

ings, air infiltration and U-factors. You will be able to access installation and maintenance resources including the entire CAWM installation guide, and you may contact Milgard representatives via email with sales or service questions or to request product literature.

To view the site, visit www.milgard.com or call 1-800-MILGARD for more information.



CIRCLE NO. 91

Brand Specified the Most

By Readers of residential architect

DECORATIVE MOULDINGS/TRIM/COLUMNS

Fypon® Meets the Needs of Architects



Fypon® Molded Millwork® provides the ideal alternative to decorative wood elements such as entrance systems, balustrade systems, window and door trim and molding. Constructed of high-density polymer, Fypon offers the charm and elegance of wood, but is virtually maintenance-free, will not rot and is insect resistant, providing years of beauty and performance.

Fypon's product line has evolved to include over 4,000 standard items for both interior and exterior use. The architecturally correct designs range from simple to highly decorative for the discerning customer. Fypon also has the capability to match and reproduce almost any architectural pattern with the assistance of their own Custom Products Group.

Meeting the demands of the Molded Millwork® industry, Fypon has expanded and now operates three manufacturing facilities and a National Distribution Center to assure our customers the best lead times in the industry.

Fypon's large selection of Molded Millwork® is displayed on their new CD-ROM, which features CAD files, DXF files, architectural specifications and installation videos, and in their 5th Edition catalog.

Please visit www.fypon.com for more information.





1-888-636-3888 CIRCLE NO. 363

CITICLE NO. 303

By Readers of residential architect

PATIO DOORS, WOOD AND CLAD-WOOD WINDOWS

Open to New Ideas



With expanded product portfolios and new initiatives, Andersen Windows, Inc. helps make it possible for architects and designers to create highly functional, yet inspiring homes.

Known for its vast product line of more than 200,000 sizes, shapes and styles of windows and patio doors, Andersen recently expanded its offering with the Andersen \$\mathbb{@}\$ 400 Series and 200 Series. The 400 Series offers classic Andersen engineering, craftsmanship and performance and includes a broad array of products and accessories. Now available in white, sandtone, Terratone, and forest green—a new standard exterior color—the 400 Series sets the industry benchmark for quality and performance. The new Andersen 200 Series concentrates on the most popular sizes, styles and options in a more affordable product offering. Both series are built, backed and serviced with the quality and care customers expect from Andersen.

Andersen provides useful tools to aid architects in the design process. The Andersen Architectural Detail File contains valuable technical information and suggestions for integrating Andersen products into designs. In addition, Window Studio software gives users the ability to generate plan, elevation and detail symbols using either standard or custom Andersen products.

As the most recognized and used brand in the industry,
Andersen is committed to meeting the needs of architects and designers. Contact Andersen to order the latest product literature,
Architectural Detail File or Window Studio design software.



Andersen Windows

1-800-426-4261 ext. 1232

www.andersenwindows.com

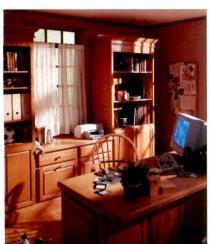
CIRCLE NO. 6

By Readers of residential architect

CABINETS (STOCK)

Merillat Introduces a Fresh New Way of Thinking

At Merillat, we believe cabinetry innovation should go beyond the latest door style, molding detail or finish. That's why we've introduced **Organomics**, an inspiring new concept that makes homes more efficient and functional. It's this kind of thinking that has made us #1.



Organomics goes far beyond beautiful cabinets, blending organization and ergonomics to make the entire home work harder and smarter. It can be applied to any space where functional storage is needed. We've created this unique selling proposition to help you help consumers simplify their lives, reduce clutter and restore order.

Our extensive selection of cabinetry solutions is available for any room in the home. Use them in home offices, entertainment centers, and specialty rooms like laundry and hobby rooms.

Visit our website at www.merillatbusiness.com to learn more about Merillat and **Organomics** cabinetry solutions.



Merillat.

CIRCLE NO. 366

Brand Specified the Most

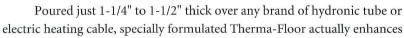
By Readers of residential architect

UNDERLAYMENT

Therma-Floor® Delivers the Heat with the Ultimate in Efficiency, Control and Comfort

Therma-Floor, the critical component of any radiant floor heating system, is the material that transfers heat from the system's hydronic tubing or electric cables to the living space. Therma-Floor turns floors into ultimate radiators, delivering luxurious heating comfort and efficiency to any home or commercial

building. It can be used for individual rooms, or throughout an entire home.



heating system responsiveness while gradually conducting heat to the living area and occupants. UL-tested and listed for fire resistance, it also creates a safer home and reduces sound transfer through the floor/ceiling system.



Therma-Floor weighs about the same as a typical tile bed. Its smooth, tough surface allows easy installation of any floor covering. From Maxxon—the underlayments specified the most. For a free Radiant Heat Installation Comparison Guide, call 1-800-356-7887, e-mail info@maxxon.com, or fax 1-763-478-2431.

THERMAFLOOK

The Ideal Underlayment for Radiant Floor Heat
Another Superior Product from Maxxon® Corporation

WWW.MAXXON.COM

By Readers of residential architect

LOCKSETS, HARDWARE

chlage Introduces the Broadway Collection

A unique collection of matching door hardware, plumbing hardware and decorative trim



The Broadway Collection by Schlage offers more than 9,000 design combinations as unique as the spaces they occupy

In the latest research conducted by *residential architect*, Schlage was voted by leading architects as a Triple Crown Winner! Schlage was voted #1 in brand recognition, #1 in brand specified in past 2 years, and #1 in brand specified most.

Suited Designs and Finishes

And Schlage, in its recognition that architects are continually looking for unique design and remodeling solutions, is about to introduce the most innovative concept in the use of architectural hardware. The *Broadway Collection by Schlage* is the finest collection of door, plumbing and deco-

rative hardware, which can be matched by both designs and finishes to create a matching look for any room or throughout the home. You can even mix and match designs and finishes to create your own unique décor. The *Broadway Collection* provides unlimited design and decorating possibilities.





Interchangeable Handles and Trim

But the *Broadway Collection* concept goes well beyond matching hardware. Our revolutionary chassis design allows the door handles, plumbing fixtures and trim to be quickly and easily attached or replaced. This unique and patented design enables you to choose and install your hardware trim at the end of the project, and update or upgrade any existing hardware as you redecorate or remodel, without replacing the chassis. The possibilities are endless.



Lifetime Satisfaction Commitment

For architects, professional contractors and remodelers, the *Broadway Collection* gets even better. We've created a lifetime satisfaction commitment that supports you and your customers throughout the life of the project. We call it *Broadway for Life*.

- 1st Our superior Grade 1 quality and craftsmanship come with the industry's best lifetime finish and mechanical warranties.
- 2nd We have a unique Design Exchange Program which allows you to exchange handles and trim after installation if the results aren't to your satisfaction.
- 3rd We have a service installation exchange program if the installation itself is faulty.

4th Our patented Universal Chassis design allows for the most versatile and easiest installation process.

And lastly, our Quick Ship order processing facilitates all special order requests and eliminates order errors and long lead times to maximize your project management effectiveness.

Broadway for Life

A new and unique concept in the use of architectural hardware as decorative concepts. Introducing the *Broadway Collection by Schlage*, unlimited design possibilities as unique as the rooms they will adorn. With the versatility no others can offer for a lifetime of interior and exterior design possibilities.



For more information on the Broadway Collection by Schlage, visit: www.broadwaycollection.com CIRCLE NO. 368

The Brands Architects Specify the Most





































APPLIANCES

Central Vacuums NuTone

Disposers In-Sink-Erator

Hot Water Dispensers (kitchen) Elkay

Range Hoods Broan

Ranges/Cooktops GE Appliances

Refrigerators Sub-Zero

Water Heaters A.O. Smith

CABINETS

Cabinetry (Semi-Custom and Custom) KraftMaid
Cabinets (Stock) Merillat

DOORS

Entry Doors Pella

Garage Doors Overhead Door

Interior Passage Doors Simpson

Patio Doors Andersen

EXTERIORS

Exterior Siding CertainTeed

Exterior Wall Sheathing U.S. Gypsum

Housewrap DuPont Tyvek®

Insulation Owens-Corning

EIFS/Stucco Siding Dryvit

FIXTURES

Bath Fixtures Kohler

Faucets Kohler

Kitchen Sinks Kohler

Shower Doors Kohler

Whirlpool Baths Jacuzzi

FLOORING

Laminate Flooring Pergo

illiate Flooring Pergo

Vinyl Flooring Armstrong

Wood Flooring Bruce

HEATING/AC

Fireplaces/Wood Stoves Heatilator

HVAC Trane

LIGHTING

Lighting Lightolier

Lighting Controls, Switches Leviton

PAINTS/STAINS/SEALANTS

Caulks and Sealants Dow Corning

Paints Benjamin Moore

Stains and Varnishes Cabot Stains/Samuel Cabot

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Asphalt/Fiberglass Roof Shingles CertainTeed

Clay/Concrete/Synthetic Roof Tiles Monier/Lifetile

Metal Roofing Alcoa

Ridge Vent Systems Cor-A-Vent

SURFACING

Ceramic Tile American Olean

Surfacing—Laminate Formica

Surfacing—Solid Surface DuPont Corian®

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advise and invent

architects and manufacturers are collaborating to bring high design to residential products.

by nigel f. maynard

nside every architect beats the heart of an industrial designer. After all, you use the same design approach whether a project is large or small, says architect Laurinda Spear, co-founder and principal of Miami-based Arquitectonica, and fandesigner extraordinaire.

Architects know that products complement architecture, so they are ever on the prowl for high-quality offerings with the perfect balance of form, function, and visual appeal. And if the perfect product doesn't exist, the architects may just design it themselves. Who better to design the item than the individual most likely to spec it?

product guides Manufacturers started asking themselves that very



Nicholas Grimshaw's cutleryinspired handle line for FSB combines aluminum castings and black thermoplastic.





question in the '80s, a time when the pickings were particularly slim. "Products back then were dreadful," says architect Bruce Tomb of San Francisco. "Plumbing fixtures were primarily white and ceramic. Manufacturers had no clientmandated desire to produce anything else."

Dornbracht, the German faucet company, was among the first to recognize the void and recruit an architect to help fill it. Convinced that good design was an important mark of quality, the manufacturer enlisted the services of architectcum-industrial designer Dieter Sieger, who designed the Domani faucet.

"That was the introduction of the first truly highdesign faucet," says Jon Spector, director of operations for Dornbracht USA in Duluth, Ga. "The response from consumers was great."

So great, in fact, that the company still uses top architects and designers to develop its products.

If the early '80s represented the low point for products, the ride has been dramatically uphill ever since. Manufacturers are churning out a dizzying array of stuff, in a range of styles and colors and price points. And as these companies wise up to the importance of good design, they are increasingly likely to rely on architects and designers for guidance, says Spector.

name brands

Hoesch, Dornbracht, and Duravit—companies that offer the Dreamscape suite by architect Michael Graves, the doyen of product design -have now collaborated with Italian architect Massimo Iosa Ghini to introduce Giorno. The collection

includes tubs, whirlpools, and shower travs for Hoesch; faucets and accessories for Dornbracht; and ceramics, furniture, and accessories for Duravit.

INOX Design's Cu

Collection features sinks and a pedestal

in gloss-coated copper.

New York City-based Valli & Valli USA offers high-end door handles and decorative accessories designed by Graves, plus selections by Richard Meier, Mario Bellini, Norman Foster, Adam Tihany, and Renzo Mongiardino. The roster at Astoria, N.Y.based Baldinger Architectural Lighting also boasts Graves and Meier, along with Robert A.M. Stern. the late Charles Pfister, and Kevin Walz, whose unique collection incorporates DuPont Corian.

Brooklyn, N.Y.-based FSB, the German handle manufacturer, uses the services of architects to bring some excitement to continued on page 108 Known to cause envy, strife and occasional drooling.

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doctor spec

the hardware market, says Patrick Coppee, export manager in Brakel, Germany. His company has tapped the talents of Richard Rogers, Nicholas Grimshaw, Hans Kollhoff, and Josef Paul Kleihues.

"It's not about creating a new line of door handles that can be sold to the richest 100 people," says Coppee. "We want broader appeal, so we try to stay popular with good design. And it has worked extremely well for us."

Ron Rezek is hoping a similar collaboration will work for his company. Until recently, Rezek, an industrial designer and founder of the Ashland, Ore.—based Modern Fan Co., had designed all of his company's products. No longer. Modern Fan now offers two new fans by Laurinda Spear.

Why the change? "Our products are applied architecturally," Rezek says, "and the fans are often specified by the architect. I felt that it would be ideal to have Laurinda's insights into the ceiling fan, which isn't used in all parts of the country as heavily as it is in her neighborhood." The company's "unspoken" plan is to add a product every year using an outside designer, though it may not always be an architect.

Spear, who also designs for HBF, Formica, and Skyline Design, enjoys doing products and being able to "specify them in our own projects," she says. "I wouldn't necessarily say



Douglas Adesko

there is a lack of quality products, but it's nice to have things that fit into our own design sensibilities."

nothing like it

From all accounts, many other architects share her feelings. Whether for purely practical reasons—the exact product they need doesn't exist—or for the pure joy of meeting a new challenge, they are striking out on their own, designing and manufacturing products that fit their own work.

Bruce Tomb designed his Sacred Basin in 1984, both as a sculptural piece of art and because there was nothing like it at the time. "The product was first conceived as a piece of furniture, so it was very radical," he says.

He went on to develop that piece of art into a sand-cast vessel basin with a rough-textured exterior and a satin-polished interior.

Known as the IF Basin, it comes in white bronze, silicon bronze, brass, and aluminum. Tomb used to sell about six each year, primarily from a New York City showroom. Today, his company, Infinite Fittings, sells

about 200 of the \$2,000 basins a year, from show-rooms across the country. Tomb attributes the remarkable increase to consumers, who he says are more discerning and educated than ever before and want sophisticated, well-designed products. Tomb is also working on other experimental products and will soon launch a new console for his basins, as well as a faucet set.

When architect John N. White Jr., AIA, and designer Cynthia R. Sours returned from practicing in Europe, where many standard products boast custom-level quality, they discovered a very different set of circumstances here. "When we came back to the States in '94, we realized that if a product doesn't come out of a suite or a graphic standard, it had to be custom," says Sours.

"We had an application where we wanted to use some really cool sinks, but we couldn't find something that we liked," White says. "That was the starting point." White and Sours, owners of INOX Design in Atlanta, designed and man-

In spite of a hefty price tag— \$2,000 apiece—sales of Bruce Tomb's IF Basins have surged.

ufactured the Cu Collection, their own line of copper sinks and pedestals. The collection contains six sinks and one pedestal, all of which are handcrafted and top-coated with a clear gloss. Available in 16 showrooms across the country, the fixtures sell for \$600 to \$3,000.

great news

Because of building codes and the rigorous UL approval process, it can be difficult for architects to design and manufacture some types of products, says Jack Moses, principal of Moses Architecture in Highland Park, Ill. But limited selection and cost make other categories ripe for customization, such as casings, baseboards, and fireplaces.

"Some products out there are cheap and the offerings are really bad," Moses says. "Take garage and entry doors. We do a lot of projects where we can't find the right size, shape, or specie." His solution: Chicago-based Showcase Furniture, a company he launched to manufacture his original furniture designs and customizable garage and entry doors.

The good news is that there are now enough manufactured products to suit most project needs, because manufacturers are finally catching up with more sophisticated sensibilities, says Tomb. And the great news is that if you can't find a suitable product, there's an architect out there somewhere thinking about how to create it for you.

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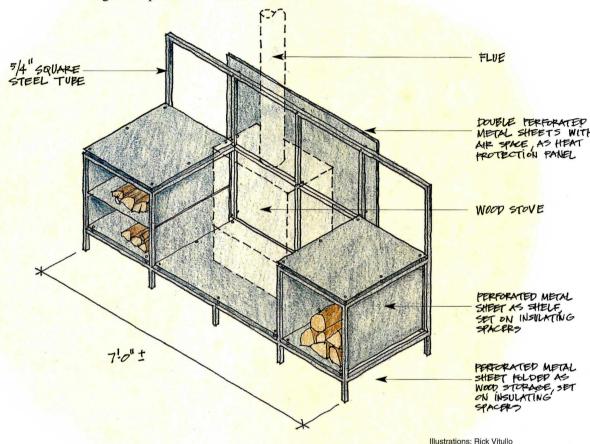
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grand stand

a maine architect designs the perfect container for hot stuff.



by rick vitullo, aia

n Maine, wood-burning stoves warm the heart of many a house. So Isaac Robbins, an associate with Elliott & Elliott Architects in Blue Hill, wasn't surprised when he got a call about a project involving one. But this was no ordinary wood stove-it was a sleek contemporary unit designed by the Danish company RAIS. The clients, a Central European-born couple who love the Bauhaus Style, wanted Robbins to devise a stand for the stove. They envisioned a structure that would work functionally—raising the stove up off the floor and providing storage for wood—as well as aesthetically, melding with the house's decidedly Modern decor and complementing its black-and-white palette and Le Corbusier chairs. (For photographs of the house, see *residential architect's* March 2001 story about Elliott & Elliott. The stove appears on page 55.)

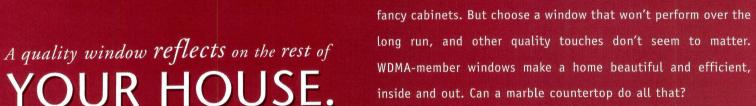
Other issues were important, too. Because the house's concrete floors contain radiant-heat tubing, Robbins needed to come up with an alternative to the conventional method of securing the stand directly to the floor with fas-

continued on page 112

The metal cabinet brackets the wood stove with an ample log bin and shelving for kindling and newspapers. Folded metal panels separate these storage units from the stove itself.



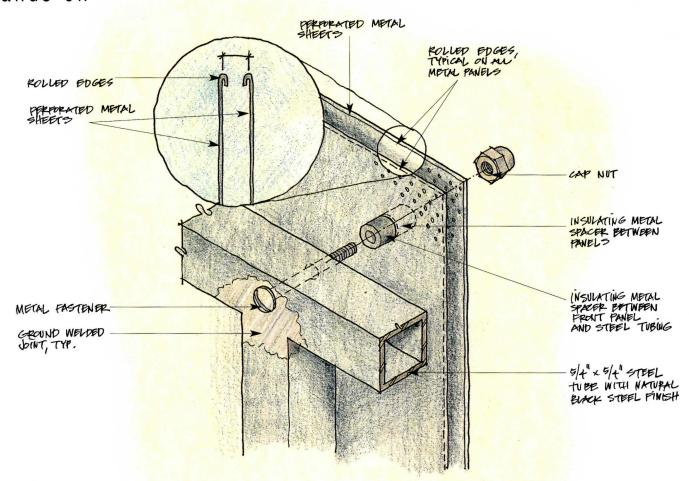
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teners. Moreover, the stand would divide the living and dining rooms, both heavily trafficked areas, so protecting people from the hot parts of the metal stove and stand was a necessity. Finally, a tight budget meant that fine craftsmanship and a clever design would have to compensate for inexpensive materials.

Robbins' solution? A simple but elegant freestanding "cabinet," visually light but physically substantial enough to hold the stove firmly in place without fasteners. By using a double layer of perforated metal sheets across the back of the unit, Robbins created an air space that serves as a heat shield, preventing burns. Stock materials kept costs down: The structure

consists of a 1-foot-8-inch by 1-foot-8-inch by 2-foot-3-inch grid of 5/4-inch-square steel tubing lined with perforated metal panels. Metal spacers at the fastener connections keep the panels afloat, off the frame—an arrangement, says Robbins, that eliminated the need for perfect seams. For safety's sake, the panels' sharp edges are rolled.

The completed stand presents the stove's warm front to the living room; its back side serves as a stylish divider for the dining room. Thus it enhances both the stove it harbors and the space it occupies.

Rick Vitullo, AIA, is principal of Vitullo Architecture Studio, Washington, D.C. Architect Robbins left the ground-welded joints between tubing sections exposed and unpainted, setting up a distinct contrast between the tubing's natural black finish and the shiny raw weld; the clients have subsequently waxed the steel to hold that finish permanently.

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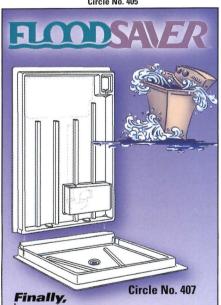
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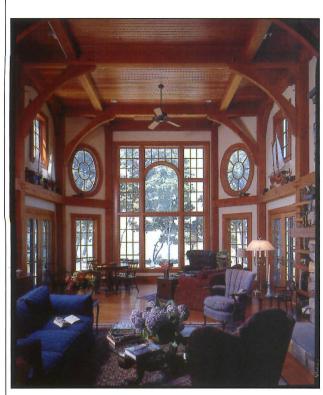












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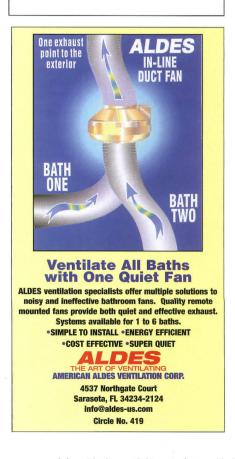
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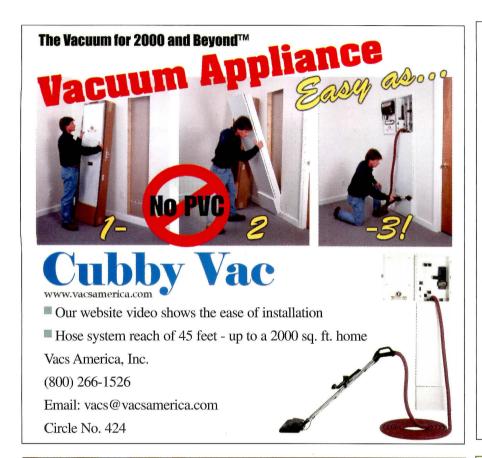


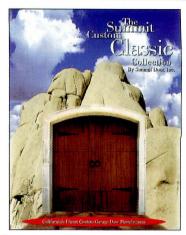
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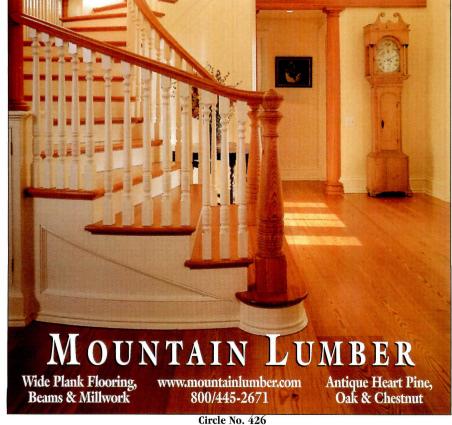


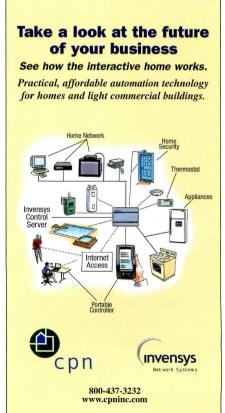
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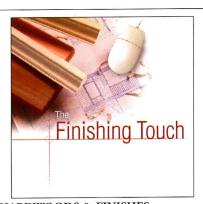
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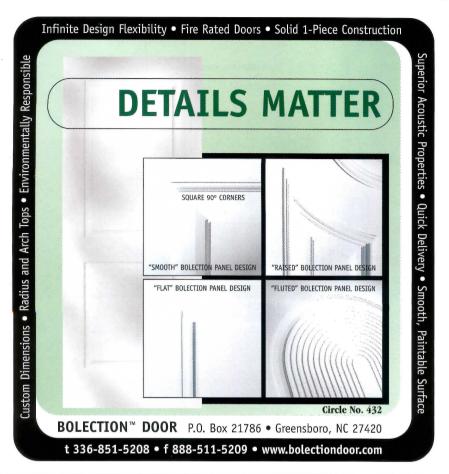
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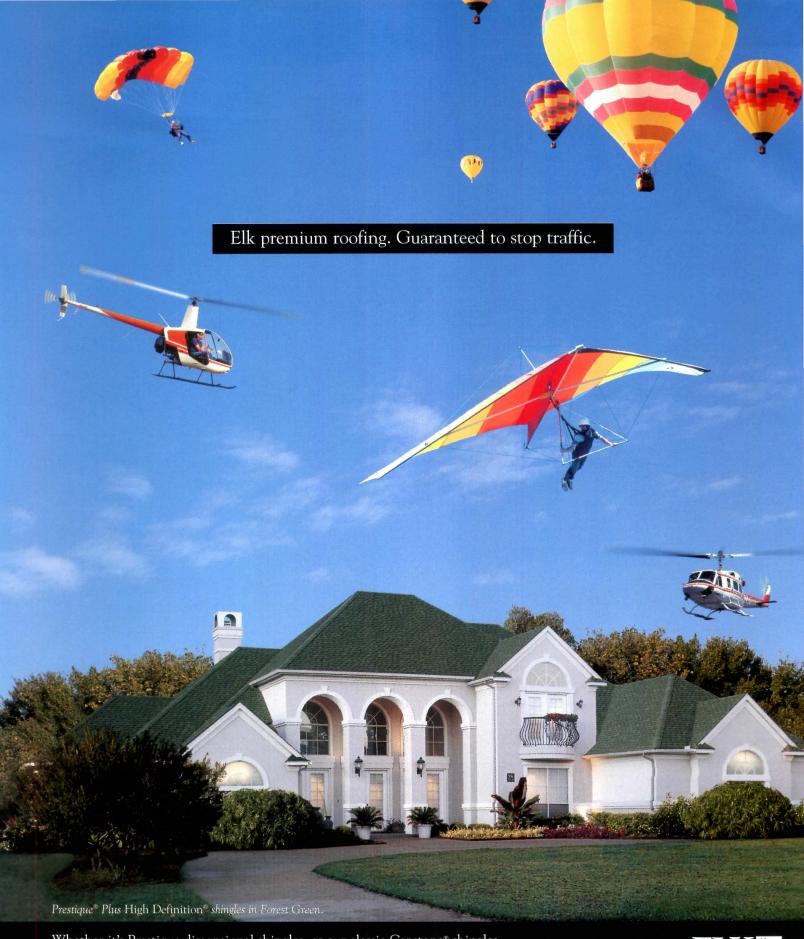


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Cor-A-Vent, Inc.	131,S-98	260,369	800-837-8368
Cultured Stone (div. of Owens Corning)	50	21	800-664-4487
Delta Faucet www.deltafaucet.com	129	350	800-345-DELTA
Designer Doors Inc.	72	74	800-241-0525
Dupont Corian	S-98	314	800-426-7426
Dupont-Tyvek www.tyvekconstruction.com	S-97	335	800-44-TYVEK
Eagle Window & Doors	109	71	800-453-3633
ebuild.com www.ebuild.com	121,123		
Elk Corporation	142	38	800-650-0355
Fantech www.fantech-us.com	8	343	800-747-1762
Fleetwood	114	379	
Fypon www.fypon.com	S-100	363	888-636-3888
Gaggenau	25	52	800-828-9165
www.gaggenau.com Heat-N-Glo	105	261	888-427-3973
www.heatnglo.com Heatilator	S-96	200	800-927-6841
www.heatilator.com Henderson Black & Green Inc.	42	231	800-264-4HBG
www.hbgcolumns.com .n-Sink-Erator	S-94	372	800-558-5712
www.insinkerator.com Inclinator Company of America	72	276	800-343-9007 x77
www.inclinator.com Interbath, Inc.	115	372	800-423-9485 x420
www.ondineshowers.com ado Bathroom & Hardware	45	315	480-951-2675
enn-Air Company	9	17	800-Jenn-Air
KitchenAid, USA	6-7	361	800-422-1230
vww.KitchenAid.com Knauf Fiber Glass	19	82	800-825-4434
www.knauffiberglass.com Koch Waterproofing Solutions, Inc.	4,S-90	392,391	800-DRY-BSMT
www.guarenteeddrybasements.com Kohler Plumbing Products	40a-b		800-4-KOHLER
www.kohlerco.com Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork Co., Inc.	27	277	800-955-8177
www.kolbe-kolbe.com Kraftmaid Cabinetry	S-91	353	
www.kraftmaid.com	J-71		800-361-1980

advertiser LiteTouch	page 75	circle 365	phone no.
Louisiana Pacific Corporation	44	351	800-450-6108
www.techshield.lpcorp.com Louisiana Pacific Corporation	117		
www.smartsystemhome.com Louisiana Pacific Corporation			200 (10 (200
www.normanrockwellsiding.com	120	362	800-648-6893
Marley Mouldings, LLC www.marleymouldings.com	86 	317	800-368-3117
Martin Industries www.martinfireplace.com	122	279	866-244-0744
Marvin Windows and Doors www.marvin.com	20-21	99	800-236-9690
Maxxon Corporation www.maxxon.com	S-102	368	800-356-7887
Merillat Industries, Inc. www.merillatbusiness.com	S-102	366	
Metallon www.metallon.net	107	323	
Mid-America Building Products Corp. www.tapcoint.com	127	303	800-218-8430
Milgard Manufacturing www.milgard.com	46-47,S-100	91,92	800-MILGARD
MonierLifetile www.monierlifetile.com	74,S-99	202,374	800-571-TILE
North Country Slate www.ncslate.com	33	295	800-975-2835
Northern Roof Tile www.northernrooftiles.com	114	310	905-627-4035
Owens Corning www.owenscorning.com	48-49	375	800-GET-PINK
Pella Corporation www.PELLA.com	C2-1,S-92	19,371	800-54-PELLA
Pittsburgh Corning www.pittsburghcorning.com	31	328	800-624-2120
Reemay, Inc. www.reemay.com	113	388	800-321-6271
Reward Wall Systems www.rewardwalls.com	41	341	800-468-6344
Rocky Mountain Hardware www.rockymountainhardware.com	88	325	888-788-2013
Schlage www.broadwaycollection.com	S-103	368	
Simpson Door Co. www.simpsondoor.com	S-94	370	800-952-4057
Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc. www.strongtie.com	119	26	800-999-5099
Softplan Systems Inc. www.softplan.com	131	79	800-248-0164
Sony Corporation www.sony.com/directbiz-pnt	87	302	877-879-SONY
Sub-Zero Freezer Company www.subzero.com	C4,S-93	266,329	800-222-7820
Superior Clay Corporation www.rumford.com	88	383	800-848-6166
Trane www.trane.com/residential	S-96	373	877-99-TRANE
Trex Decks www.trex.com	2-3	33	800-BUY-TREX x676
Velux-America, Inc. www.velux-vse.com	14-15,114	23,24	800-283-2831
Weather Shield Manufacturing. Inc. www.weathershield.com	10-11	25	800-477-6808 x2496
Whirlpool Corporation www.insideadvantage.vet	6-7		800-253-1301
Window and Door Manufacturers Assoc.	111	298	800-223-2301
Windsor Window Company www.windsorwindows.com	37	27	800-887-0111
	39	28	888-838-8100
Wolverine Siding Systems www.siding.com	39	20	888-838-8100



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charles cunniffe



ow has Aspen changed over the years?
Up to 1984, it was kind of dead. A 1985 tax-law change and construction of the gondola generated interest and brought a lot of people with money.

What is it like designing a house for a famous client?

Fortunately, most of the movie stars and high-profile people we have worked with are pretty down-to-earth. They are normal by Hollywood standards.

What do your Aspen clients typically ask for?

Most often a log home. In every case, we have been able to take them from a log home, which is fraught with problems, and show them an alternative that has the same mountain flair.

What is the smallest home you've designed for a famous person? 2,800 square feet.

What is the largest? 73,000 square feet.

Do you ever talk clients out of square footage?

Yes, all the time. We sometimes cut it in half.

Do you give clients what they want, even if you disagree?

I never say no, but I ask them why that feature is important. Invariably, we come up with something more appropriate.

How do you pick your clients?

I select on personality and taste as much as I do on the project. I turn down more work than I accept. It's a matter of the quality of the client and the quality of the project.

Do you ski? Yes.

Have you ever hit a tree?

I have never hurt myself—at least not yet.

Ever met a potential client on the slopes?

Yes. I've met clients on the slopes, in the hot tub, on airplanes. It's amazing.

What else do you do in your spare time, besides ski?

Design, go on architectural study tours, read, play drums, play golf, and fly my plane.

What kind of plane do you have? A 210 Turbo, which seats six passengers.

Do you live in a house that you designed?

No. An Aspenite named Jack Walls designed it when he was a student of Frank Lloyd Wright at Taliesin West.

Charles Cunniffe, AIA, is principal and CEO of Charles Cunniffe Architects in Aspen, Colo. The firm won a 2000 Gold Nugget Honor Award for the Fireside Townhomes in Aspen.