WESTERN RED CEDAR MODERN ARCHITECTURE SERIES

the CEDAR BOOK XII

CELEBRATING
WESTERN RED CEDAR
ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

REAL CEDAR

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INTRODUCTION

What is architecture? It is a structure, certainly. It can be simple, even primitive, or it can be elaborate. At its most pared down form, architecture is a building that provides shelter, protects from the elements, and marks a place. But, architecture is abundantly more than that. It becomes a place to live, work, shop, create, be happy, be sad, raise a family, run a business, and make memories.

I cannot think of a greater privilege as an architect than to be invited into the purpose of our clients, to help create a building that reflects those and those purposes that will reside within our created spaces. So often, especially as residential architects, we are asked to create spaces that are warm, inviting, comfortable, and natural. Cedar is one material that speaks to all of these descriptions, adding sense of character.

Practicing modern architecture in the midwest has at times been a challenge, especially working to overcome the conservative and traditional nature of our local architecture that is so common. As more people are exposed to, or visit our projects where we are using Western Red Cedar, we hear over and over that "we didn't know modern could feel so warm like this."

We always strive to create architecture that is linked to its site, as if its always been there. Using Western Red Cedar, a truly natural and beautiful material, complements the homes' settings and brings clarity to the connection between the built and natural environment.

Western Red Cedar is truly one of the secret weapons in our designer toolbox that we can always rely on to add those characteristics into a project. ◆

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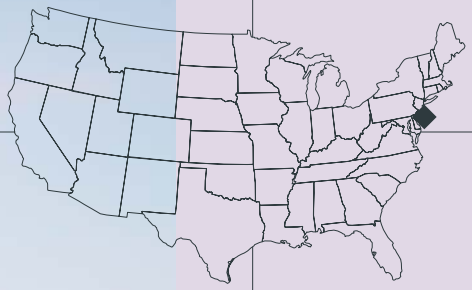


BEACH HAVEN RESIDENCE

BEACH HAVEN, NEW JERSEY, USA

Construction had just begun on this project when Hurricane Sandy swept through in 2012 causing major damage in the surrounding area. Shortly thereafter, FEMA changed all the regulations regarding beachfront houses, which required the Specht Architects team to a "start from scratch" and redesign the whole house. The clients, obviously, were not happy, but understanding, and worked closely with lead architect Scott Specht as he reworked the design in accordance with the new regulations.

The finished product is a modern house that serves as a model of architectural ingenuity, illustrating how to design and build a home that is resistant to winds and storm surge, yet still remain very aesthetically appealing.

INFO

SPECHT ARCHITECTS
architect

STEPHANIE & CRAIG LOFGREN
client

DOMINICK R. PILLA ASSOCIATES, PC
structural engineer

ROLF DEMMERLE, DEMMERLE BUILDERS, INC.
general contractor

TAGGART SORENSON
photography

WEEKEND HOME FOR A FAMILY OF FIVE
project type

01

"It not only responds to the clients' needs, but to the extreme environmental conditions of the Jersey Shore," explains Specht, founding principal at Specht Architects. "It employs materials and techniques that have proven themselves over time as maximally durable in a marine environment, yet the design is not traditional, but modern, compositionally distinct, and takes great advantage of its beach setting."

For the exterior, they needed a high performance building material that could stand up to these kinds of conditions but still make a statement architecturally. They chose Western Red Cedar, which is naturally resistant to rot, decay and insects. It is also pitch and resin free, which means it accepts and holds a wide range of finishes beautifully–something Specht took full advantage of with dramatic results.

"We stained and bleached it to create different shades and textures, to emphasize the sculptural quality of the house." ◆

> "Cedar has proven over time to be extremely durable in a beach environment."
>
> —**Scott Specht,** AIA, SPECHT ARCHITECTS

Post Master

Embracing the fact that Beach House had to be elevated, a series of exposed pilings form linear colonnades that integrate with the overall form of the house.

INFO

Western Red Cedar

Specifications

Grade
KD Select Knotty

Fastening
blind-nailed

Size
6" and 10" nominal

Finish
stained and bleached

Seaworthy Structure

Boat building techniques were used in the construction of this house. The roof is all fiberglass, and the windows are of the highest hurricane-rating available.

BASECAMP

RESIDENTIAL

PROJECT

BASECAMP

BEND, OREGON, USA

When asked to create a townhouse complex that would "connect people to the majesty of the high Cascades and amplify the Oregon experience," Hacker Architects proposed a series of unit plans that could be alternated to add spatial variety and provide options for different ways of living. And thus the Basecamp vision was realized.

"Imagine a larger than normal, irregularly shaped city block with two adjacent sides that are straight and two that are gently curved as they slope down towards a meandering bend in a river," explains project designer, Corey Martin. "The straight edged streets are fronted by brick townhouses and the parking lots of office buildings and restaurants across the street. Despite this fairly active urban context, there is a big clear sky with views of several snow-capped volcanic peaks beyond."

INFO

HACKER
architect

PROJECT^
client

SCE ENGINEERS
structural engineer

WALSH CONSTRUCTION, PACIFIC CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
general contractor

LARA SWIMMER
photography

MULTI UNIT TOWNHOMES
project type

02

"In the center of all of this," continues Martin, "lining all sides of the block, are a series of dark and textured three story volumes punctuated by large inset decks and entries carved into the blocks, clad in contrasting natural cedar. The windows are large, floor to ceiling, arranged in alternating locations throughout. The large windows and cedar-clad porches allow views into the interior and there is a feeling that a fire is glowing within."

For this project, the Hacker team utilized a custom cedar profile on the body of the buildings, stained with a semi-solid dark brown oil with accents of naturally finished cedar. Custom cedar louvers were also added at the corner decks to create a signature architectural detail.

INFO

Western Red Cedar

Specifications

Grade
KD 'A' & Better, VG

Fastening
painted nails

Size
1 x 6 channel siding, 1 x 1, 1 x 2, 1 x 4, 2 x 2, 2 x 4

Finish
semi-solid oil and clear oil

Green Living

The Hacker team incorporated several sustainable strategies including using natural materials because they believe it's of critical importance to design and build with a higher standard for the environment.

"The contrast of the weathering and clear finished cedar is the defining visual characteristic of the exterior of the buildings," says Martin who chose Western Red Cedar for this project because of its beauty, value, longevity and versatility. "The material is of the region, and there is no other material that could have provided the same combination of durability, beauty, character and appropriateness to the region." ◆

Let There Be Light

In addition to the contrasting colors and textures of cedar siding, the most celebrated aspect of this design is the window orientation, which allows for vast amounts of warm natural light.

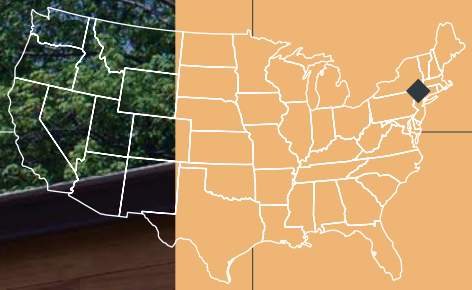
> “The minimal formal language of the design relies on the character, texture, and elegant weathering of cedar to make it more approachable and humane.”
>
> —**Corey Martin,** PRINCIPAL, HACKER

Blending Into Bend

By using naturally beautiful Western Red Cedar, Basecamp honors its scenic surroundings as well as the town's lumber mill heritage.

HILLCREST HOUSE

RESIDENTIAL PROJECT



HILLCREST HOUSE

NEWBURGH, NEW YORK, USA

When award-winning architect Jeff Jordan came onboard for this project, the historically situated building had already undergone a major renovation—from storage shed for an apple orchard to a modest, well-loved mid-century home. His client wanted to honor both these origins but at the same time, create something modern and refined.

The result is a stunning structure that stands as a testament to the transformative power of good design and high quality building materials. Originally clad in beautiful, long-lasting Western Red Cedar, the inner home was rife for fresh new paneling that could rival its outer beauty. Jordan chose Western Red Cedar… or was it the other way around?

INFO

JEFF JORDAN ARCHITECTS architect	PRAETORIUS AND CONRAD PC structural engineer	STEVE GROSS, SUSAN DALEY photography
STEVEN CITRON client	KIMMEL BUILDERS general contractor	WEEKEND RETREAT project type

03

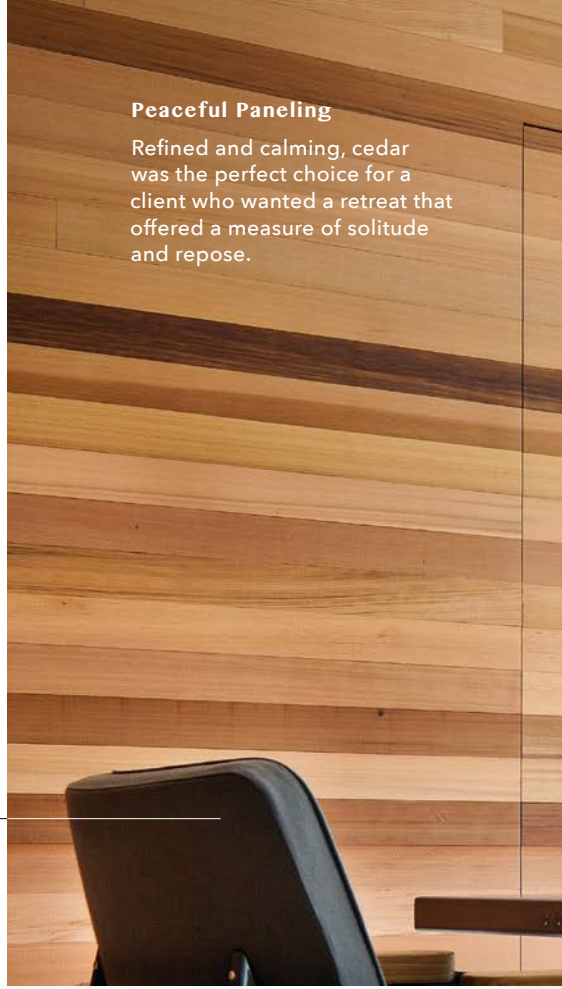
"It was already chosen for us," he explains. "We simply decided to extend it into the interior to help blur the lines between inside and outside. And frankly, we love the warmth it provides with its varied hues. When coupled with an almost sterile white floor and ceiling, the walls are that much more dramatic and warming."

Revamping the interior with Western Red Cedar was also a green choice. For starters, wood such as cedar leave the smallest carbon footprint than any other building material. Plus, there's the fact that taking design cues from the original structure meant less material heading to the landfill.

"The primary environmental objective was to work with the existing structure and not create unnecessary waste," says Jordan. "We were able to expose and retain much of the original structure while enhancing day-lighting with lots of new windows."

And the client, who values great design and having a strong connection to the surrounding environment, couldn't be happier with the choice in material.

"Our client loved cedar then and still loves it now," says Jordan before later adding, "I think he may even be trying to figure out how to use it in a future master shower renovation." ◆



Peaceful Paneling

Refined and calming, cedar was the perfect choice for a client who wanted a retreat that offered a measure of solitude and repose.

INFO

Western Red Cedar

Specifications

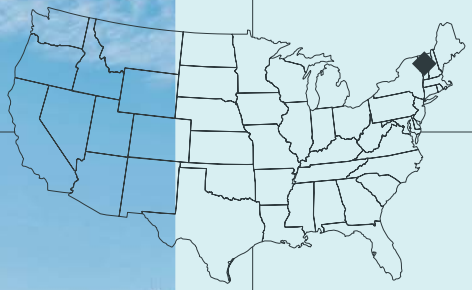
Grade	Size	Fastening	Finish
KD 'A' & Better	1 x 4 T&G	blind-nailed	clear polyurethane

> Beyond the conceptual motivation, the cedar adds a warmth and sense of domesticity that are unmatched."

—**Jeff Jordan,** JEFF JORDAN ARCHITECTS

LIFT HOUSE

RESIDENTIAL
PROJECT



LIFT HOUSE
KILLINGTON, VERMONT, USA

As a ski-house at a higher elevation in Vermont, the primary objectives of Lift House were to create a tight thermal envelope and to clad the residence in weather-resistant durable materials. The lower volume is clad in corten steel to anchor the house to the mountainside and the adjacent ski trail. For the upper volume cladding, the project's lead architect Brian Mac suggested Western Red Cedar.

"Materiality is an important aspect to all our projects," explains Mac. "We carefully consider which materials can best enhance our designs while providing the protection needed in our climate. Western Red Cedar is often a natural choice for our projects, not only for its long life-cycle, but also for its inherent beauty and added warmth for our contemporary designs."

INFO

BIRDSEYE
architect

PROFESSIONAL COUPLE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN
client

ENGINEERING VENTURES
structural engineer

COLBY & TOBIASON
general contractor

ERICA ALLEN STUDIO
photography

VACATION HOME
project type

04

Western Red Cedar

Specifications

Grade
KD 'A' & Better

Fastening
10D stainless steel ringshank nails

Size
1 x 8 shiplap

Finish
natural

Hitting the Slopes

The cedar-clad residence is adjacent to a ski run making it a ski-in, ski-out house. The unique site is steep and narrow with panoramic views of the Green Mountains.

In this case, the natural beauty of Western Red Cedar harmonizes the modern, provocative form with its stunning surroundings in more ways than one. Accentuated by the cantilevered porch and roof, the cedar-clad form visually integrates the architecture into the trees, sky and view beyond. The dramatic cedar-paneled overhangs, meanwhile, protect the house and provide solar shading in the summer and solar heating in the winter.

To complement the natural beauty of the exterior, Western Red Cedar was used on the ceilings throughout the interior creating warm inviting living spaces for the homeowners and their guests. As with the outside, Mac specified a transparent stain to really showcase cedar's inherently rich tonal range and texture.

“The cedar cladding adds a natural palette on an unorthodox form and helps ground the house into the landscape.”

—**Brian Mac,** FAIA, BIRDSEYE

Considering the clients' overall vision for the project, they were very open to the idea of highlighting nature's most versatile building material as one of their home's main design elements.

"They wanted the house to have a low maintenance exterior and a warmth in the mountainside landscape," says Mac. "They were thrilled with both the house and the cedar. The natural material really creates a dimension of intimacy and scale to the house." ◆

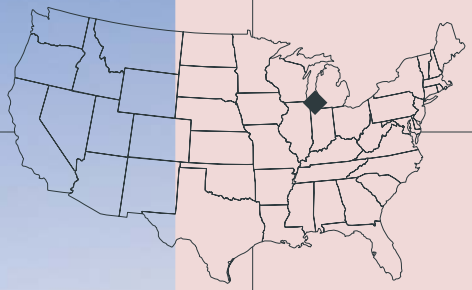
Cedar Summit

The upper level is defined by an open living arrangement with floor-to-ceiling glass and a generous covered porch. The spaces are oriented to provide a treetop view of the surrounding landscape.

LONG BEACH RESIDENCE

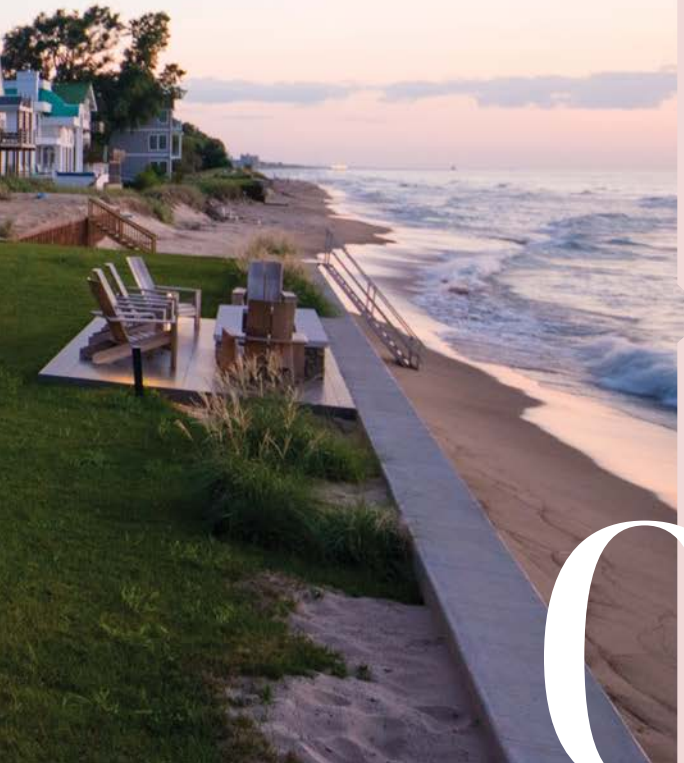
RESIDENTIAL

PROJECT



LONG BEACH RESIDENCE

LONG BEACH, INDIANA, USA



On this particular strip of Lake Michigan shoreline, houses are built immediately off the road and navigate the steep slope to the beach. Consequently, this Indiana vacation home appears low and linear from the street, somewhat modest.

Once inside, however, the full splendor of this design is revealed with a large window system that opens out to the deck offering spectacular views of the lake as well as a peek of Chicago's skyline across the water. The space that houses the glass wall is a stunning, two-story high opening with a fireplace that wraps up and across the ceiling. The lower level, that is beachside, accommodates a relaxed beach and entertaining lifestyle. It's from these latter vantage points, the use of beautiful Western Red Cedar is fully appreciated.

INFO

LUCID ARCHITECTURE architect	ENGINEERED STRUCTURES structural engineer	LUCID ARCHITECTURE photography
LARGE EXTENDED FAMILY client	MIKE SCHAAP BUILDERS general contractor	VACATION HOME FOR FAMILY project type

05

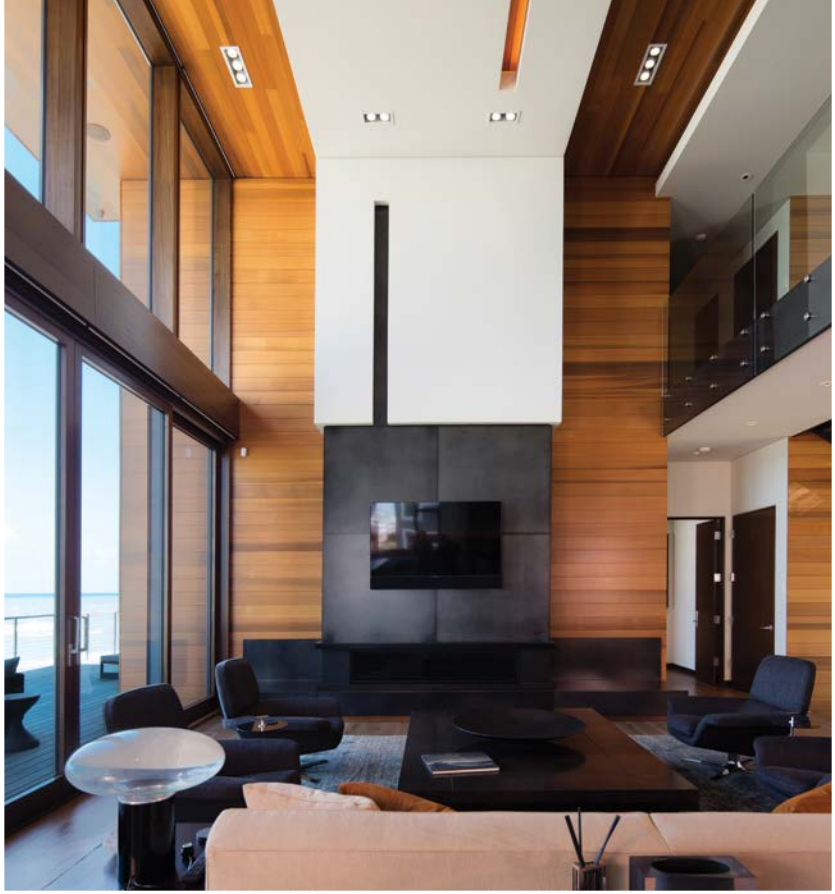
Curb Appeal

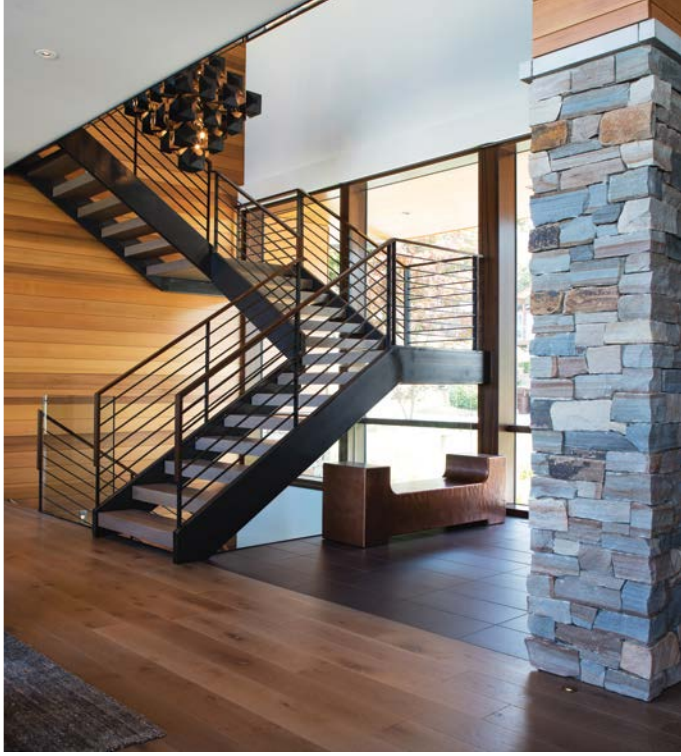
Horizontal vertical grain cedar on the home's street side accentuates the design's horizontal qualities while alluding to a stunning interior.

> “The light stained cedar provided a way to visually connect the home with the sandy shore.”

—**Eric De Witt,** AIA, LUCID ARCHITECTURE

“The tongue and groove cedar siding wraps the home and pulls into the interior past glazing to form the backdrop of the main level fireplace feature as well as the custom, open stairway,” explains lead architect, Eric De Witt. “Cedar accents are present on recessed ceiling areas that define dining and kitchen spaces. Cedar soffits blend into cedar ceilings in the two story high space, a continuity that is obvious through the tall window wall.”





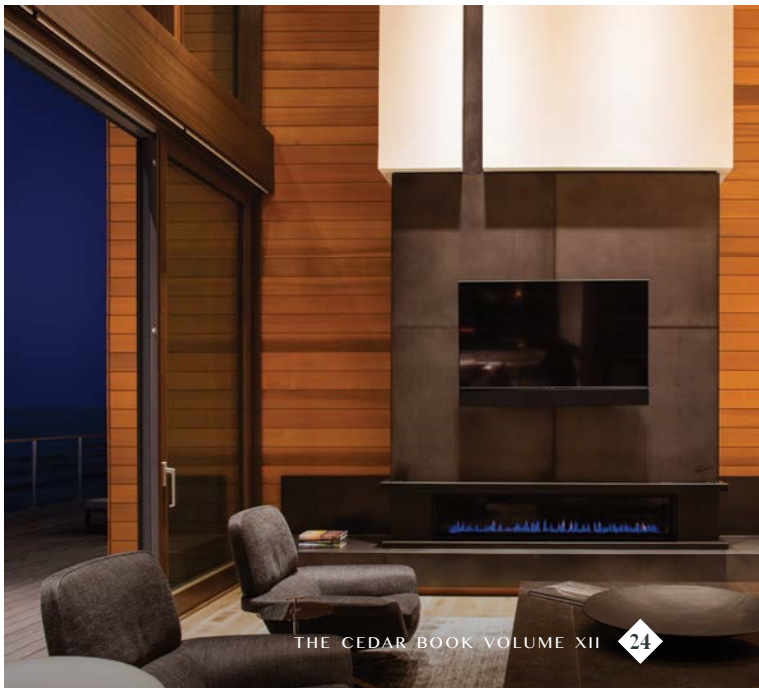
Beautiful Inside Out

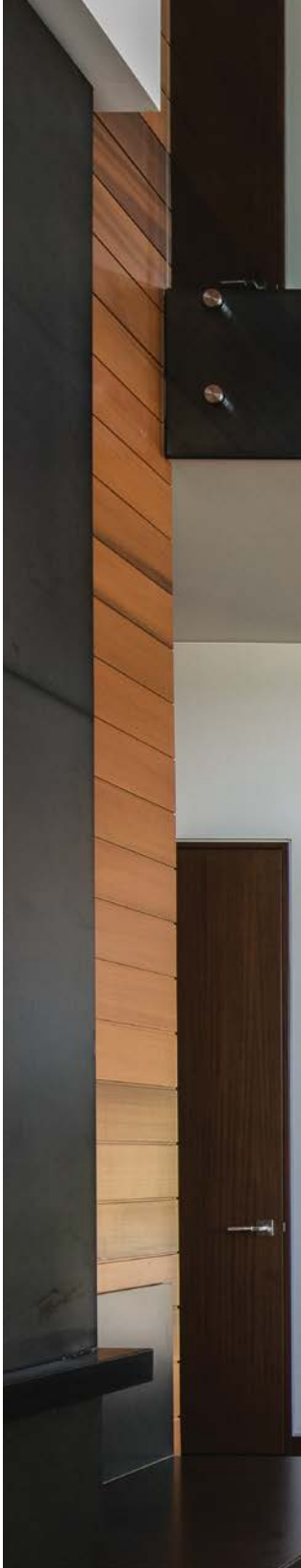
T&G cedar siding pulls into the interior to form the backdrop of a two-story high fireplace feature and custom, open stairway.

For this project, the Lucid team wanted to customize their staining products to obtain the exact tonal range and level of protection they were looking for, something they knew could be easily achieved because Western Red Cedar is pitch and resin free, which means it accepts and holds a wide range of finishes beautifully.

"We used a multi coat film building finish on the exterior to provide maximum life and durability," says De Witt. "We were able to develop a similar color interior stain and used lacquer finish to add depth and luster to the wood while also providing easy cleaning and maintenance."

Blurring the lines between indoor and outdoor with nature's most versatile building material resulted in the ultimate family retreat, one that more than thrilled De Witt's clients.





INFO

Western Red Cedar

Specifications

Grade

KD Clear, VG

Fastening

blind-nailed
stainless steel nails

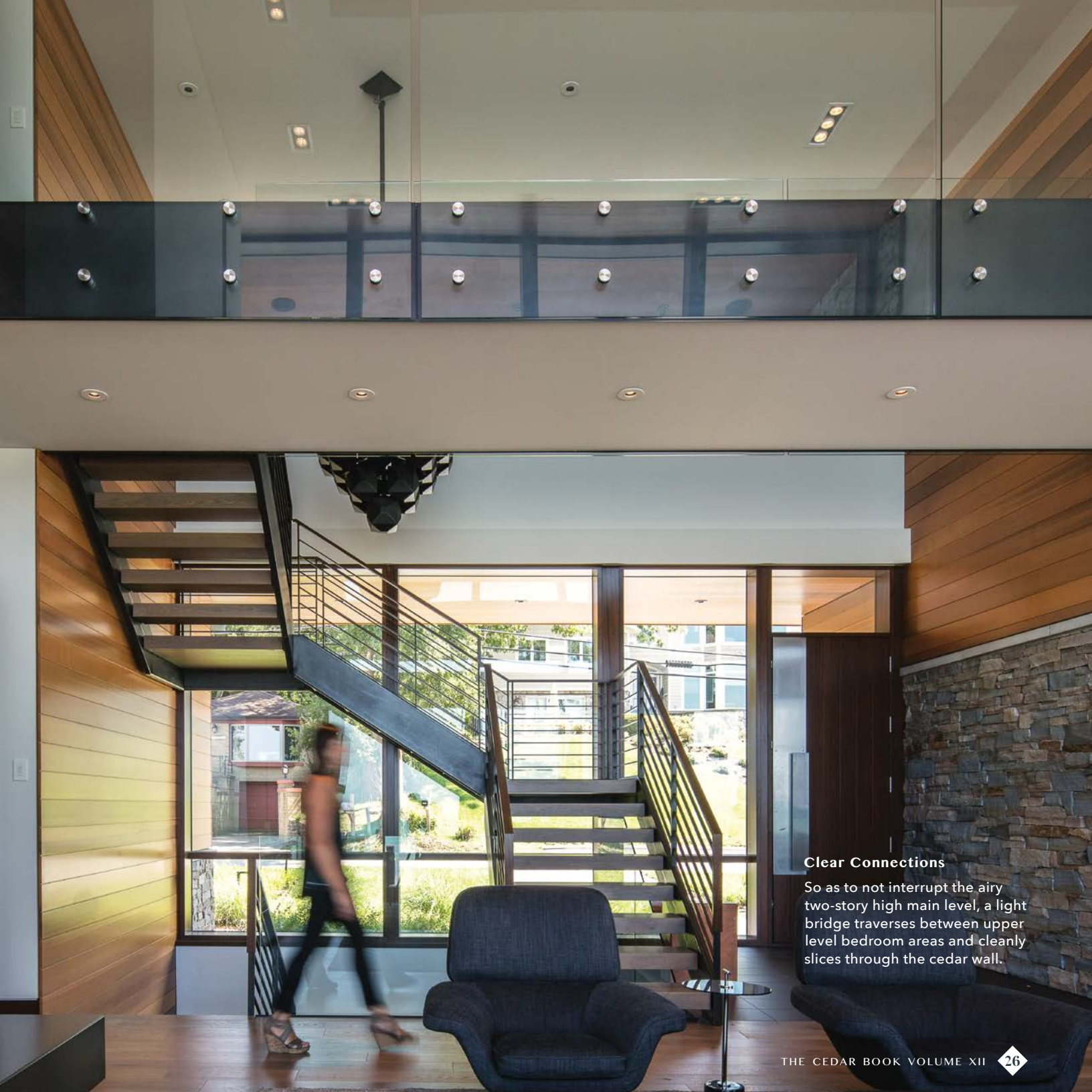
Size

1 x 6 T&G with custom profile siding, 1 x 6 T&G with flush profile (soffit & ceiling)

Finish

semi-transparent stain on the interior and primer and semi-transparent stain on the exterior

"WRC provided a natural material with a stunning warmth that we were able to use on both the interior and exterior, where as other wood species can only be used on the interior," says the award-winning architect, adding, "This allowed us to seamlessly tie together the interior and exterior finish palettes." ◆



Clear Connections

So as to not interrupt the airy two-story high main level, a light bridge traverses between upper level bedroom areas and cleanly slices through the cedar wall.

MALANGEN RETREAT

MALANGEN RETREAT

SAND, MALANGEN, TROMS, NORWAY

Located well above the Arctic Circle; temperatures in Malangen can drop down to -30C° degrees during the winter months. So the biggest challenge when planning and building on this site was of course the elements. Another major consideration for this program was staving off cabin fever during epically long stretches of exceptionally cold weather.

"It was important to the clients that all guests could enjoy a relaxed atmosphere that offers both social interaction, but also privacy," explains project lead, Snorre Stinessen. "The organization into individual volumes ensures that you can have visitors for longer periods without feeling overwhelmed by it.

INFO

SNORRE STINESSEN, STINESSEN ARKITEKTUR AS
architect

FAMILY WITH TWO CHILDREN
client

TERJE SMITH-MEYER
general contractor

FAMILY RETREAT
project type

TERJE ARNTSEN (NORWAY) & STEVE KING (USA)
photography

06

Western Red Cedar

Specifications

Grade

KD 'A' & Better

Size

95mm width with 2–3mm visible gap and machined drainage for roof boards. 40 x 40mm in the sauna.

Fastening

stainless nails

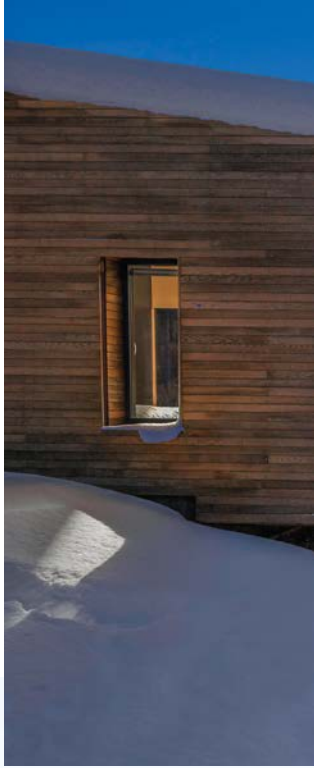
Finish

weathering agent

Further, in this climate it was also important that the retreat not only connects to the outdoors, but also offer spaces for indoor activities."

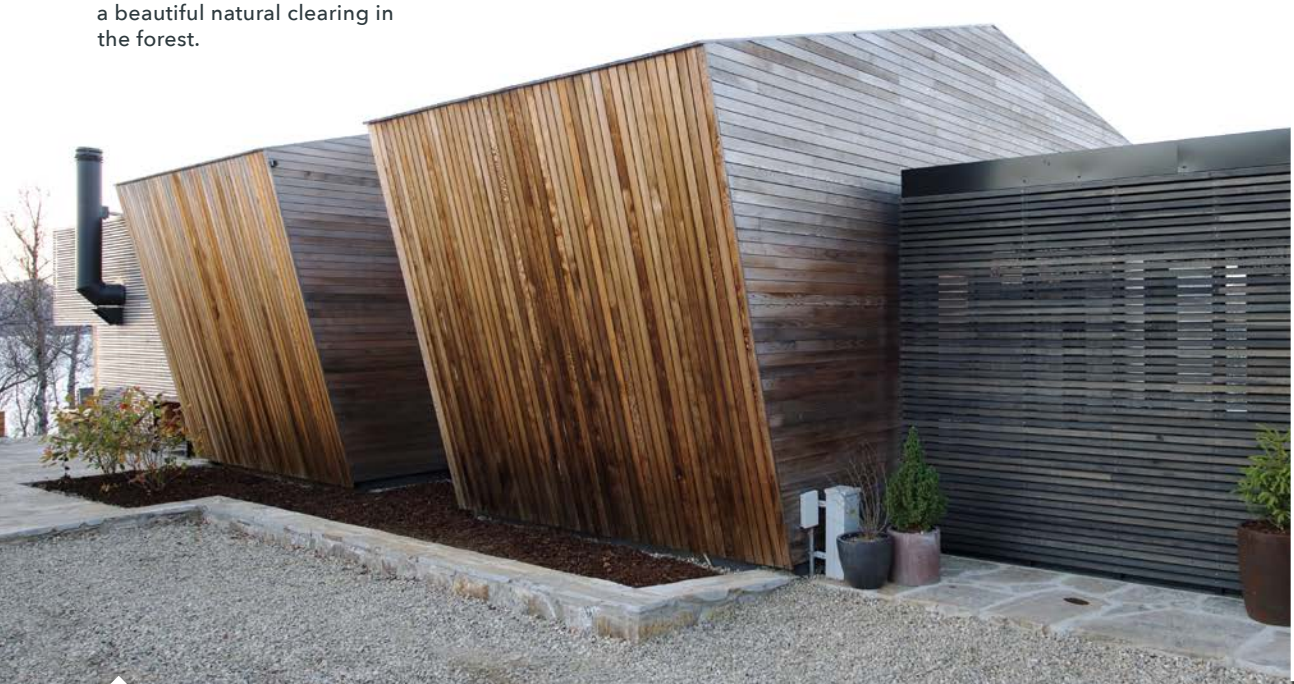
The building material for this project, meanwhile, had to offer the highest thermal insulation value, enough stability to contend with 6,5kN per sqm snow loads and, as with all projects, a beautiful appearance. He chose Western Red Cedar.

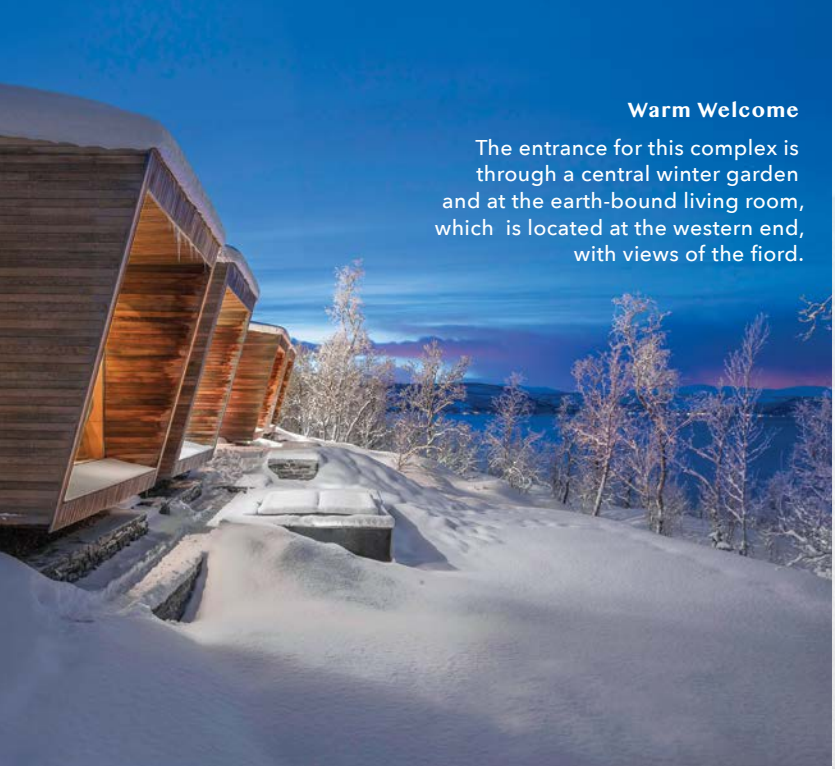
"I have worked with Western Red Cedar on projects in this climate earlier and it has proven to have unique properties," says the award-winning architect. "In particular, the relative stability in the cedar boards and the available lengths of the boards make it uniquely suited to function well in a design where all sides of a volume are treated equal."



Minimal Impact

The building is positioned on a rocky shelf in the landscape overlooking, but also protecting, a beautiful natural clearing in the forest.





Warm Welcome

The entrance for this complex is through a central winter garden and at the earth-bound living room, which is located at the western end, with views of the fiord.

Thusly, the exterior cladding, including the roof, is cedar as well as some undersides of the volumes and the walls that extend from the interior spaces to the in-between spaces.

"To preserve the visual connection between the indoors and outdoors of the paneling, the cedar was pre-treated with iron sulphate and then left to weather outside for six months to reach an even patination," says Stinessen adding, "For the sauna, we chose cedar for its hygroscopic properties and left the wood unfinished." ◆

Clear Choice

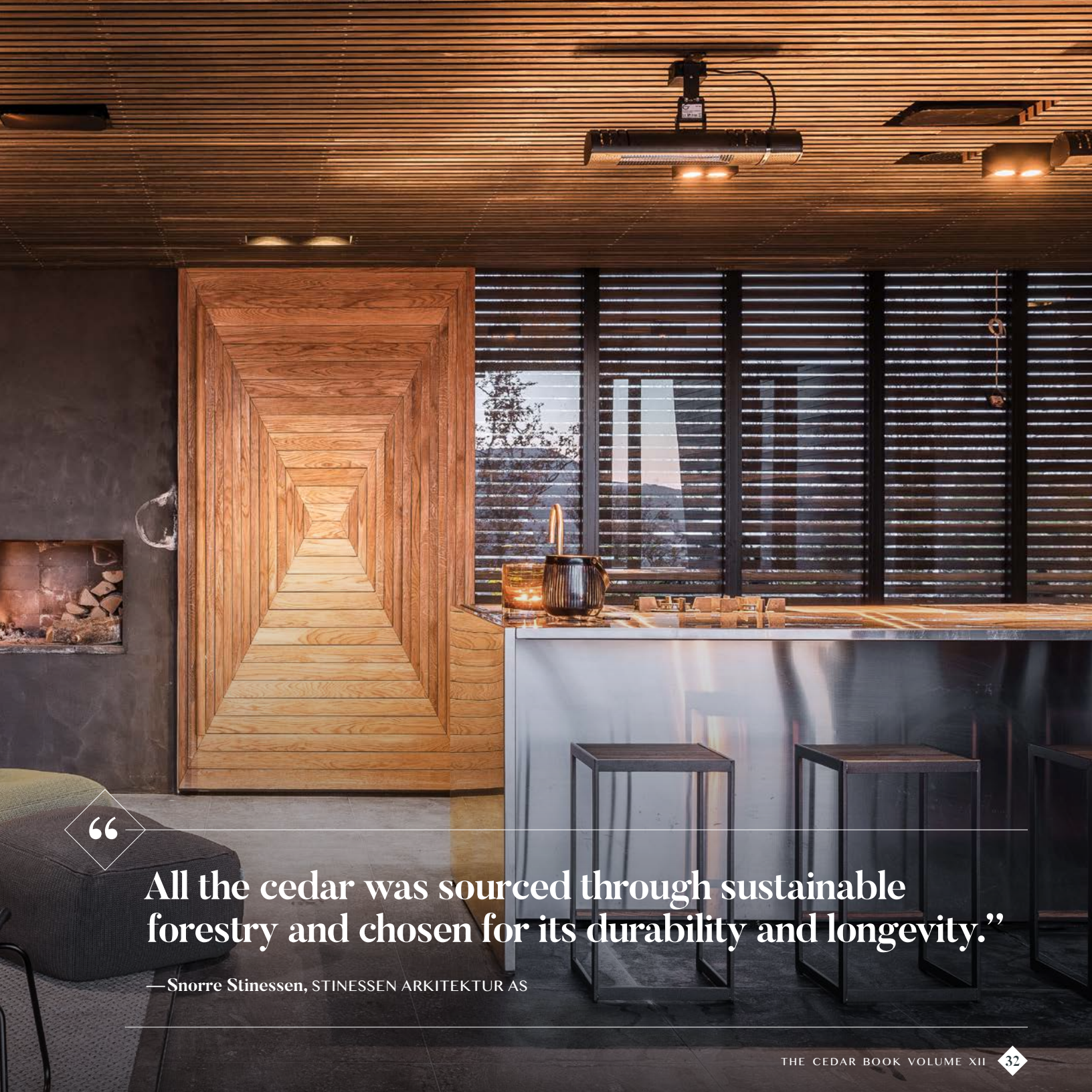
In this case, the architect selected cedar for its stability first and foremost, but also for the visual appearance.

Neutral Territory

The in-between spaces emphasize the journey between spaces, but also give room for other activities.

Well Organized

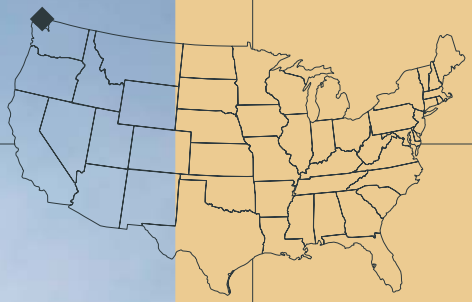
The orientation ensures privacy and provides views from within. The volumes each house different functions; master bedroom, children´s bedroom, guest bedroom and sauna.



> “All the cedar was sourced through sustainable forestry and chosen for its durability and longevity.”
>
> —**Snorre Stinessen,** STINESSEN ARKITEKTUR AS

ORCAS ISLAND RETREAT

RESIDENTIAL PROJECT



ORCAS ISLAND RETREAT

SAN JUAN ISLANDS, WASHINGTON, USA

Prior to the current owners, this family compound consisted of several cedar cabins sprinkled around a private cove with low-bank beachfront, as well as acres of forests and meadows. The existing main house was plunked right in the middle of the property, close to the shore and blocking the view from several of the smaller cabins. Not anymore.

DeForest Architects convinced the new homeowners to build the main structure further back along a rocky outcropping at the edge of the woods. It now serves as a glowing gateway to the property and the central hub with a family wing for the owners as well as large spaces for cooking, entertaining and gathering. Naturally, the homeowners envision this vacation property being used for generations. As such, they were also interested in the life-cycle costs and impacts of materials, as well as their longevity.

INFO

DEFOREST ARCHITECTS
architect

YOUNG FAMILY
client

SWENSON SAY FAGET
structural engineer

KREKOW JENNINGS
general contractor

TIM BIES PHOTOGRAPHY
photography

RETREAT FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS
project type

07

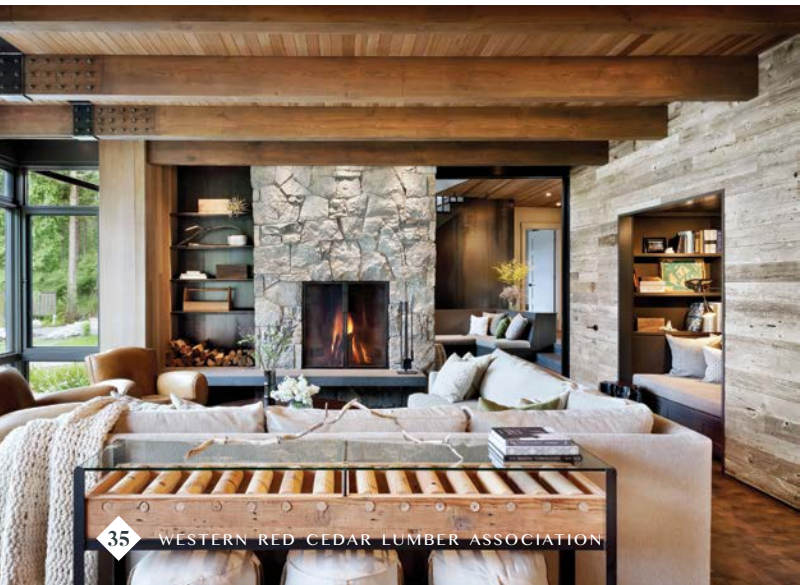
In Perfect Harmony

Large windows and doors opening to the landscape allow for a flow of light, air and activity all year round.

"Western Red Cedar was a clear choice for this project, both for its exceptional durability and the fact that it is a natural, sustainable material sourced from the Pacific Northwest region," explains associate, Rosie Donovan. "It is long-lasting and low-maintenance, but with an amazing natural patina and tactility that expresses its unique natural character as it changes over time."

DeForest specified a smooth clear vertical grain cedar for the interior ceilings and soffits, a nice contrast to the rougher sawn timbers and other more textured materials in the palette. For the exterior trim, he chose a tight knot grade of cedar and stained

> **We chose cedar as a material whose natural variation and tactility would create a calming backdrop for the project's dramatic walls of windows and doors."**
>
> — **John DeForest,** AIA, DEFOREST ARCHITECTS



Community Center

The new home is a vibrant gathering space for friends and family, in large crowds and in small, more intimate groups.

Western Red Cedar

Specifications

Exterior/interior wood siding & outdoor cabinet faces

Grade	Fastening
KD 'A' & Better	2" stainless steel ringshank nails
Size	**Finish**
1 x 6 with shiplap square edge	dark grey semi-transparent stain

Exterior wood trim

Grade	Fastening
KD Select Knotty	2" stainless steel ringshank nails
Size	**Finish**
varies	latex paint

Exterior soffits & main level wood ceilings

Grade	Fastening
KD 'A' & Better	1 ½" stainless pin, finish nails
Size	**Finish**
1 x 4 with shiplap square edge	custom colored semi-transparent stain

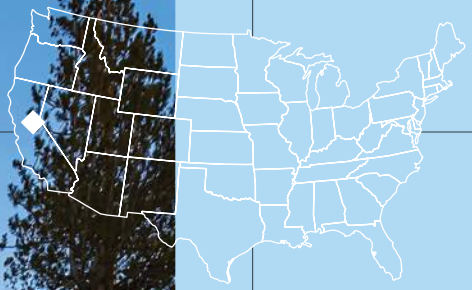
it with a dark satin finish, thus creating a beautiful accent for the rich, velvety board-and-batten cedar siding—a timeless pattern that had been used on most of the other buildings on the property for decades.

"By installing it vertically and using a shiplap profile, the new house siding has a more modern feel," says DeForest, "but the new and the old are clearly part of the same family." ◆

OVERLAND TRAIL CABIN

RESIDENTIAL

PROJECT



OVERLAND TRAIL CABIN

SUGAR BOWL SKI RESORT
CALIFORNIA, USA

Overland Trail Cabin was designed and built with the objectives of providing a welcoming dwelling for use in all seasons, and with an attention to detail, character and sense of place in keeping with the overall community. And considering its location, the design also factors in the elements.

"Sugar Bowl is known for having some of the heaviest snowfall in the region, averaging 500 inches annually," explains Hans Baldauf, the project's principal in charge. "The often extreme weather in the high Sierra contributes to challenging building conditions and the necessity of using durable materials."

INFO

BCV ARCHITECTURE + INTERIORS
architect

SUGAR BOWL RESORT, MT. LINCOLN, LLC
client

NISHKIAN MONKS
structural engineer

STEVEN BENNETT CONSTRUCTION, INC.
general contractor

VANCE FOX
photography

FAMILY HOME
project type

08

With that in mind, BCV chose Western Red Cedar for the soffits, siding and trim. As well as being naturally resistant to rot, decay and insects, cedar is also a green choice. In fact, woods such as Western Red Cedar leave one of the smallest carbon footprints compared to other building material—something that's important to the BCV team. "As a firm we strive to use not only sustainable materials, but ones that transform over time," says Kathryn Callander, one of the project's architects. "Western Red Cedar is a species of wood popular in the Tahoe area as it is grown in the Pacific Northwest and adapts well in the often extreme climate."

Stunning Scenery

The home is organized as a horseshoe that marks the path of the sun, opening to the south and west, and in doing so provides panoramic views of the forest and Mt. Disney slopes.

> **The board on board cedar cladding on the building helps warm the character of the façade and brings a high quality, crafted aesthetic to the structure."**
>
> —**Asa Prentice,** AIA, BCV ARCHITECTURE + INTERIORS

Wooded Wonder

The dramatic wood structure of the house and simple shed roof celebrate the strength required to tame the heavy snow loads unique to Donner Summit.

Another high-performance characteristic of Western Red Cedar is that it's pitch and resin-free, which means it accepts and holds a wide range of finishes beautifully.

"We chose a semi-transparent stain on the siding of the house," says Callander. "The stain allowed for a darker color for the siding while the natural characteristics of the wood remained visible. Along the soffit of the house we chose a lighter, almost clear stain, allowing the roof to feel brighter despite the assembly requirements in the climate."

For grades, they specified a beautiful mix of clear and knotty cedar. Not only did that selection add some alpine-esque warmth and texture to the exterior, it also played a part in keeping the project on budget.

"The combination helped both reduce the cost as well as offer a more traditional mountain feel to the design," notes Callander. ◆

A Modern Classic

The design balances modern amenities with material selection and application that feels timeless and in dialogue with the history of the resort.

Forest Bathing

The large sliding doors give the second level an almost treehouse-like quality, further evoked by the WRC cladding.

INFO

Western Red Cedar

Specifications

Grade
KD 'A' & Better and
KD Select Knotty

Size
8x channel and
8x board on board

Fastening
face nail

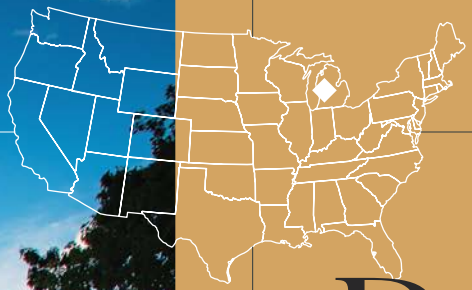
Finish
semi-transparent stain

Sustainable Strategies

The shared areas of the house take advantage of the southern exposure, as the roof overhang allows the sun to heat the space in the winter months, while shading it in the summer months.

ROGUE RIVER RESIDENCE

RESIDENTIAL PROJECT



ROGUE RIVER RESIDENCE

ROCKFORD, MICHIGAN, USA

Perched on an irregular shaped property with a dramatic drop down to a river, this site posed more than a few topographical challenges. But in the end, the Lucid Architecture team met those challenges with a design that takes full advantage of its natural surroundings. Modern, yet incredibly warm, this vibrant family home boasts exciting rooflines and a jaw-dropping outdoor living space that overlooks the flowing freshwater below—perfect for hosting cookouts and patio parties.

"They are entertainers at heart, so a large kitchen that opens up to living and dining areas were designed for ease of use and connectedness—perfect for larger groups of guests," explains Eric De Witt, principal at Lucid Architecture. "Immediately adjacent to the public spaces of the home is a large covered outdoor area that includes a bar and seating area as an extension of the home entertainment area."

INFO

LUCID ARCHITECTURE
architect

YOUNG COUPLE
client

ENGINEERED STRUCTURES
structural engineer

BERGHUIS CONSTRUCTION
general contractor

LUCID ARCHITECTURE, ASHLEY AVILA PHOTOGRAPHY
photography

MAIN RESIDENCE FOR A MARRIED COUPLE
project type

09

“The coloration, durability, ease of working make Western Red Cedar an incredibly sensible choice.”

—Eric De Witt, AIA, LUCID ARCHITECTURE

Form and Function

T&G cedar on the exterior of the home contrasts the cement board, while the cedar soffit extends opportunities for outdoor living.

A beautiful cedar soffit covers this outdoor area, providing privacy and spectacular views while extending the number of days that the clients can live outdoors in the West Michigan climate. The home itself is clad in that same T&G cedar, with one exterior wall stretching into the interior of the home past the custom front door. It’s a welcoming gesture that pulls and transitions guests into the home. Cedar reappears as a ceiling material over the kitchen area to define that space within the open floor plan. For De Witt and his clients, thoughtfully using this much Western Red Cedar throughout the project surpassed all expectations.

Western Red Cedar

Specifications

Grade

KD 'A' & Better

Size

1 x 6 T&G with flush profile

Fastening

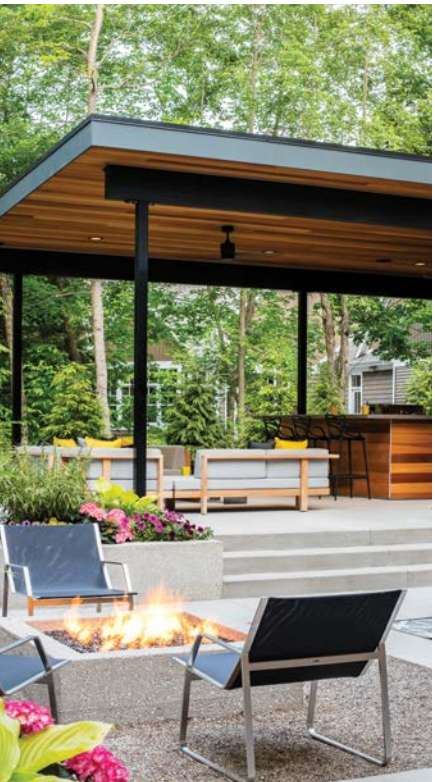
blind-nailed stainless steel nails

Finish

Cabot Woodtone "Cedar"

Deep Design

Well-designed floor plans and focused windows offer small intentional moments where one can peer all the way through the house and out to the tree filled site.



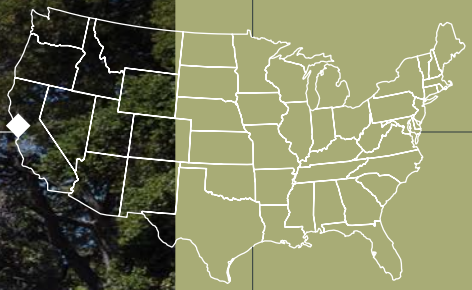
Positive Spaces

Cedar between steel beams defines the outdoor kitchen and creates a welcoming entry transition from exterior to interior.

"The beauty of the wood provided a stunning contrast to dark cement board siding and helps integrate the home into its wooded site," says the award-winning architect. "On the interior spaces, the lining of walls and ceiling with cedar demarks important spaces, allows for the blurring of interior and exterior, and offers warm, thoughtful accents to an otherwise black and white modern interior." ◆

ROOFLESS HOUSE

RESIDENTIAL PROJECT



ROOFLESS HOUSE

ATHERTON, CALIFORNIA, USA

Craig Steely's main design challenge for this Silicon Valley project was to create a space that connected the homeowner to the outdoors as much as possible. Unfortunately, floor-to-ceiling window and sliding door systems weren't going to cut it. That's because the only views this particular site really offered was the backside of huge, blank suburban dwellings. But all was not lost.

"Above these neighboring houses, the mature tree canopy and sky were alive, constantly changing and breathtaking," explains Steely, an award-winning architect. "Focusing on this view 'up' rather than horizontally 'out' we created a seemingly roofless house that surrounds the living spaces by huge outdoor courtyards that direct the view up."

INFO

CRAIG STEELY ARCHITECTURE
architect

SINGLE PROFESSIONAL
client

STRANDBERG STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING
structural engineer

DREW MARAN CONSTRUCTION
general contractor

DARREN BRADLEY
photography

SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE
project type

10

The core of the sinuous, single-story structure is sheltered by a flat roof and surrounded by a curving wall. The stunning space in between, which is accessible from every room in the home, provides all the privacy of interior living, plus all the sunlight, fresh air and natural wonder of outdoor living.

To further enhance this dialogue between interior and exterior areas, Steely specified nature's most versatile building material: Western Red Cedar.

"All interior walls are clear vertical grain T&G cedar while exterior walls are T&G Select Tight knotty cedar," says the award-winning architect. "We used the two different types of cedar to help differentiate and explain interior space and exterior space."

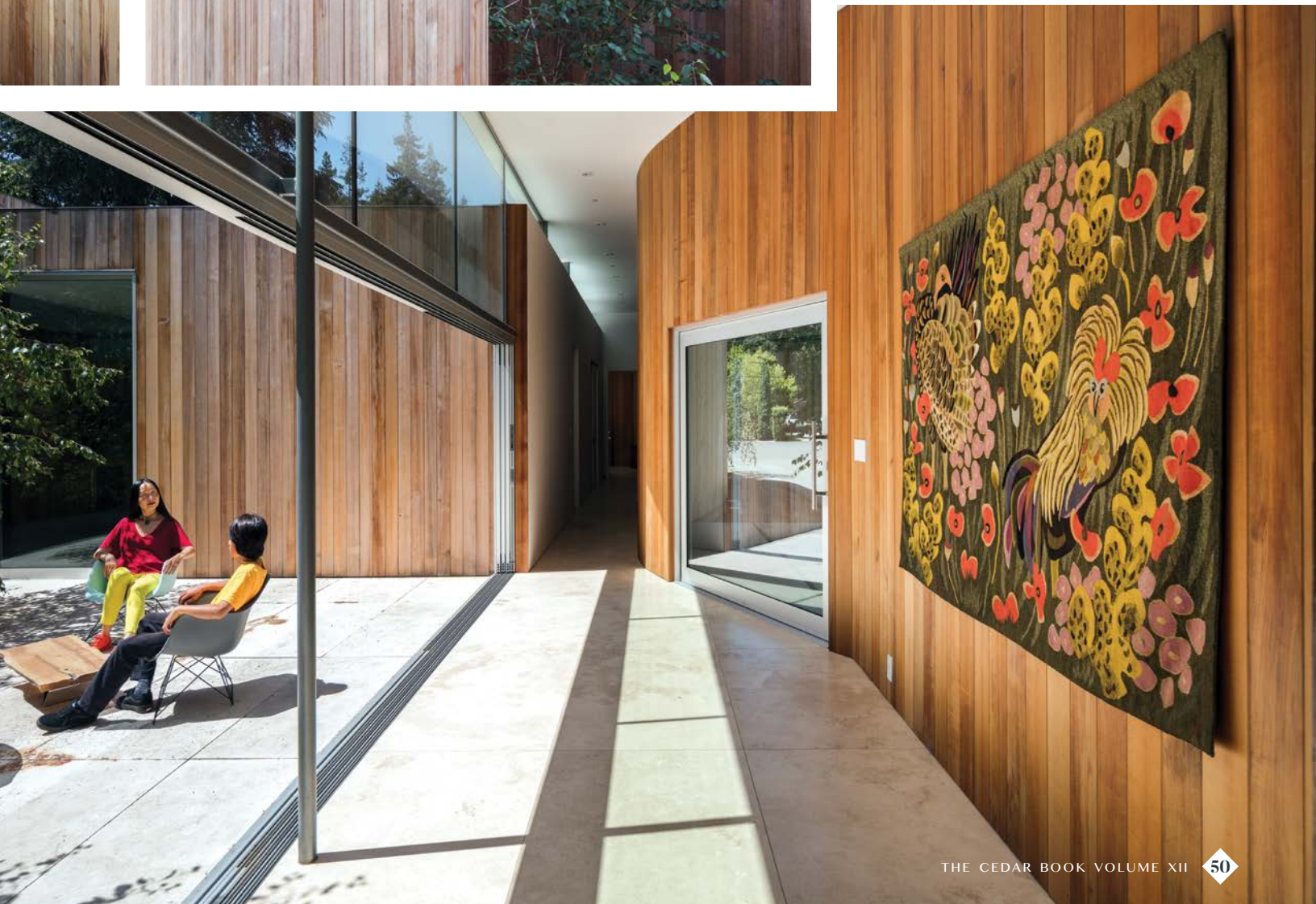
And as Steely explains, selecting durable WRC was as an easy choice for the homeowner as well.

"She was onboard from the beginning, she loved the idea of a house clad in natural material," he says. ◆

> **"At it's most elemental, the curving cedar wall creates a visual backdrop seen through the interior landscape of plants and birch trees, animated by the shadows moving across it all day."**
>
> —**Craig Steely,** AIA, CRAIGS STEELY ARCHITECTURE

Passive Heating and Cooling

Instead of using mechanical air conditioning, courtyards and living spaces are oriented to catch sun early in the morning and shade in the hot afternoon and evening.



No Fencing Required

A meadow of native grasses flow from the sidewalk with existing oaks, redwoods and newly planted birch trees flowing inside and outside of the curving wooden wall.

Winning Wall

A beautiful knotty grade of cedar adds a natural warmth and texture to this contemporary wall design.

INFO

Western Red Cedar

Specifications

Grade

STK Western Red Cedar (exterior),
Clear Vertical Grain
Western Red Cedar (interior)

Size

1 x 6 T&G with flush profile

Fastening

rainscreen system

Finish

natural oil

KAWARTHA TRADES & TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

NON-RESIDENTIAL PROJECT

KAWARTHA TRADES & TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO, CANADA

As a new addition to Fleming College's Sutherland Campus, the Kawartha Trades Technology Centre is designed by Perkins + Will to seamlessly bring together theoretical teaching and applied learning in a state of the art new facility. Another key aspect of the design is its access to natural light and connection to the site's surrounding nature. As the project's lead designer, Duff Balmer, explains, both elements are important indexes of student satisfaction and productivity

"This, combined with a careful rebranding of the spaces through bold signage and graphics has helped create a greater sense of inclusiveness and collegiality within the facility," says Balmer of the integrated building that houses classrooms, faculty offices, administrative spaces, bulk storage and a 27,000-square-foot flexible multi-disciplinary project space called the "learning factory".

INFO

PERKINS + WILL
architect

FLEMING COLLEGE
client

STEPHENSON ENGINEERING LTD.
structural engineer

ELITE CONSTRUCTION LLC.
general contractor

TOM ARBAN & SCOTT NORSWORTHY
photography

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION
project type

11

Another way the Perkins + Will team ensured the new trades school would imbue a welcoming vibe was through the inclusion of a warm, expansive, 20m cantilevered overhang at the main entrance. For the soffit of this key entryway feature, they opted for a knotty grade of naturally beautiful Western Red Cedar.

"The use of cedar helped to punctuate this area, which is used heavily by students and faculty lending a refined and inviting appearance at this key gateway to the campus," says Balmer. "The choice of cedar also helped complement the more industrially inspired palette of poured concrete, fiber reinforced cement panels and Corten steel used for the building cladding, while at the same time maintaining the commitment within the design to naturally sourced materials."

As part of the project's LEED Gold certified status, the design team also needed a material that was environmentally sound, and since the overhang extended outside, it had to be a material that could stand up to the elements.

Smart Space

The KTTC brings together theoretical teaching and applied learning in a dynamic, new environment that emphasizes program visibility, technology, collaborative learning and the simulation of real-world conditions.

> "The client was delighted by the choice of wood given its warmth and naturally renewable property."
>
> —**Duff Balmer,** OAA, PERKINS + WILL

Satisfied Customer

The client was delighted by the end product and the ability of this unique roof element to make a strong design statement at this key entry point.

"Western Red Cedar was chosen for its natural durability in resisting moisture and rot within an exterior application," Balmer says. "It was also chosen for its naturally renewable properties in supporting the overall sustainable vision of the building and for its natural warmth and beauty at this prominent location." ◆

INFO

Western Red Cedar

Specifications

Grade
Select Knotty

Size
39 x 89 mm
T&G V-Groove

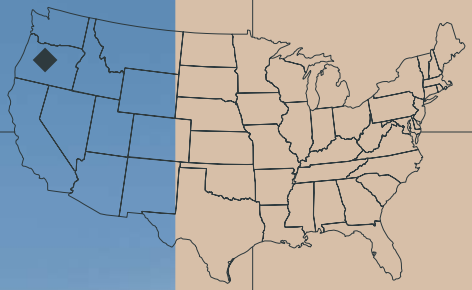
Fastening
hot dip galvanized, cedar horizontal slats fastened to strapping from back

Finish
CCA preservative

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF CENTRAL OREGON

NON-RESIDENTIAL

PROJECT



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF CENTRAL OREGON

BEND, OREGON, USA

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Central Oregon wanted their new home to reflect their congregation's core values: inclusiveness and community spirit.

They also wanted a program that honors the relationship between the building itself and the glorious lava-formed land on which it was to be built. And finally, they wanted to enrich their parishioners' lives with the power of music by including a state-of-the-art, acoustically designed concert venue.

To meet all these architectural needs, the Hacker design team needed a building material that's naturally warm and welcoming, honors the natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest and provides optimal sound reflection. They opted for Western Red Cedar.

INFO

HACKER
architect

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF CENTRAL OREGON
client

WALKER STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING
structural engineer

KIRBY NAGELHOUT CONSTRUCTION CO.
general contractor

LARA SWIMMER
photography

CHURCH & COMMUNITY CENTER
project type

12

The result is a series of low, silvery grey cedar volumes that spread in a linear fashion across a slightly sloping site and harmonize with surrounding sagebrush and small groves of ponderosa pines.

"The boxes are tucked in between the groves, with low volcanic stonewalls extending beyond the buildings, curving and rising in concert with the surrounding landscape," explains Hacker principal, Corey Martin.

INFO

Western Red Cedar

Specifications

Grade

KD 'A' & Better and
KD Select Knotty

Size

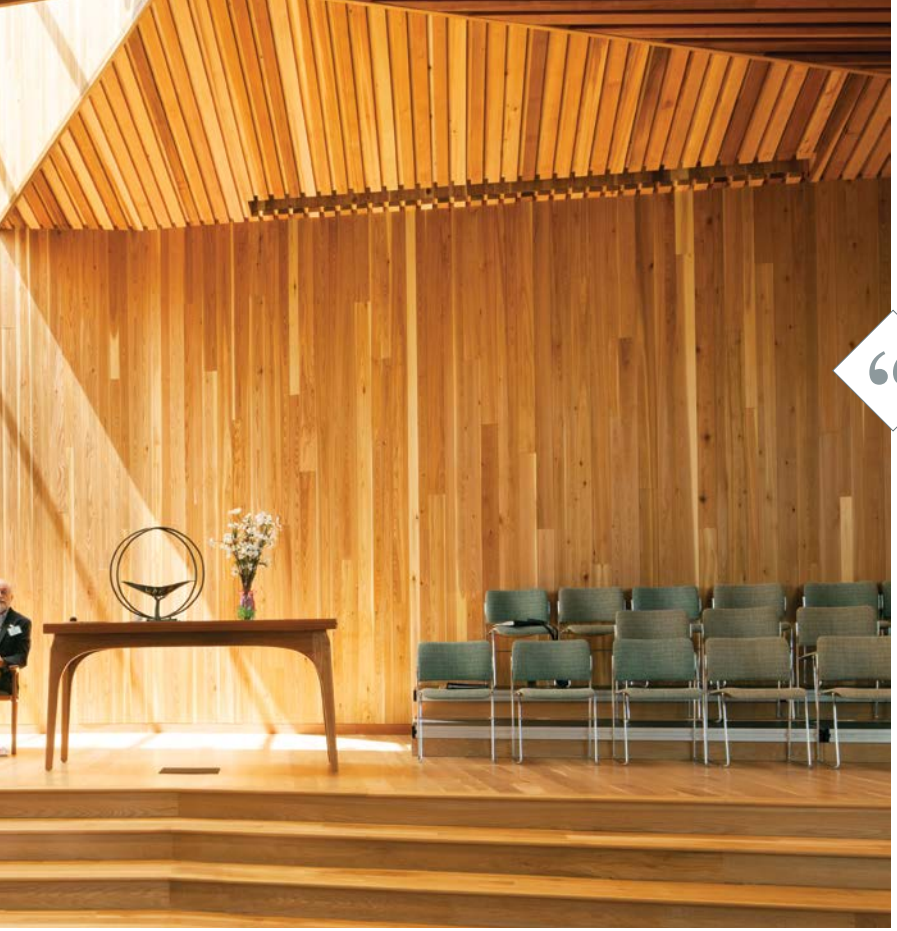
1 x 4, 1 x 6, 1 x 8

Fastening

hot dipped galvanized nails

Applied Finish

semi-transparent stain (exterior), natural oil (interior)



For the exterior, they selected a beautiful knotty grade of Western Red Cedar T&G siding in three custom profile shapes and two finishes. Inside, a majority of the interior walls are finished in clear Western Red Cedar T&G siding in two custom profile shapes and they didn't stop there.

> **The use of cedar inside helps to create warm, inviting and extremely humane spaces."**
>
> **—Corey Martin,** Principal, HACKER

Good Vibrations

Solid cedar boards were gapped to provide an open area for acoustic insulation. Above the choir, a cedar band shell reflects and refracts the choirs' sound, tuned to throw to the back of the room.

"Large sliding Western Red Cedar doors are located between the sanctuary and the gathering hall, as well as between the multi-purpose room and the gathering hall," says Martin. "These doors were carved by CNC machining and hand worked further. A cozy wood-paneled fireside room can be closed off to the larger spaces to hold private meetings or comfort crying babies."

Hacker's innovative wood design maximized Real Cedar's versatility so much, it's hard to imagine this project featuring any other building material.

"The concepts that define the design are inextricably connected to cedar," concurs Martin. "The way the building is formed came from our long relationship and understanding of the material. The design could not be made from another material—the design is about the material." ◆

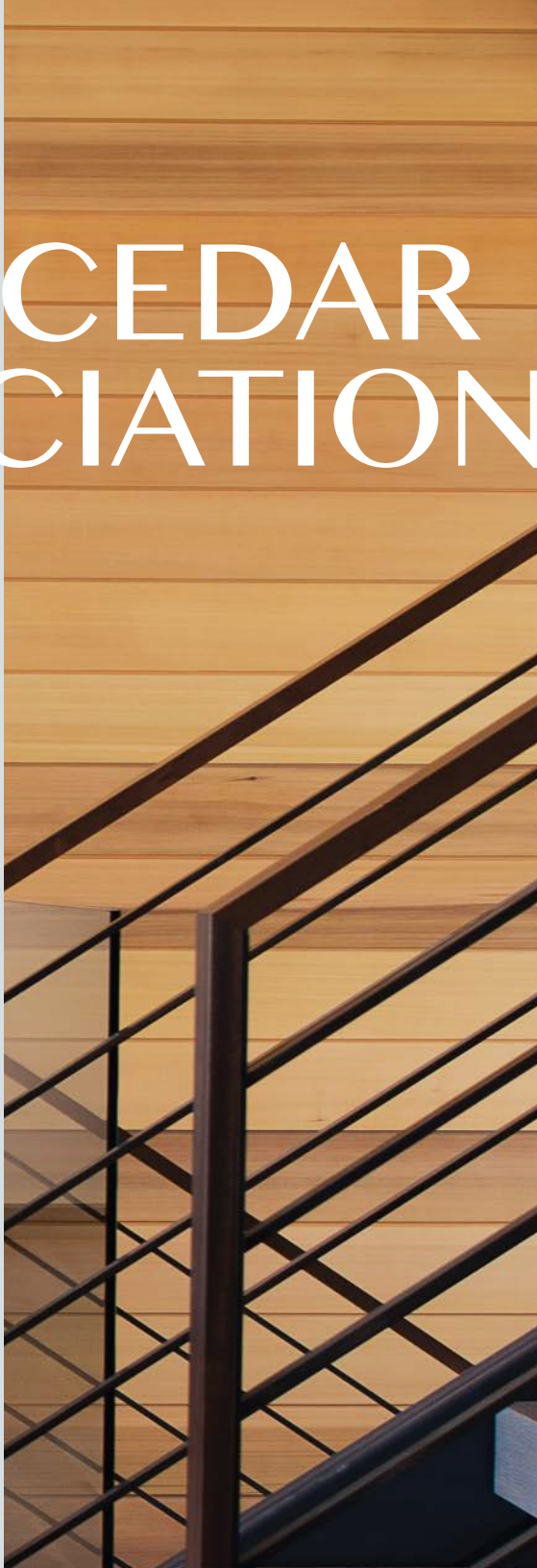
ABOUT THE WESTERN RED CEDAR LUMBER ASSOCIATION

The 12th volume of the *Cedar Book* profiles stunning and award-winning architecture from inspired architects around the world. These architects continue a tradition that started centuries ago when the Indigenous Peoples of the Pacific Northwest recognized the value of using this unique wood species.

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

Western Red Cedar is one of nature's truly remarkable materials. It absorbs and stores greenhouse gases (CO_2), generates less water and air pollution, requires less energy to produce than alternatives, and comes from a renewable and sustainable resource. More than ever before, we must find ways to reduce the pressure on our planet's environment and finite resources.

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



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