

NATURAL ORDER

WRITTEN BY JOY OVERBECK
PHOTOGRAPHY BY TIM MURPHY

THE BOLD ROOF OF THIS STEAMBOAT SPRINGS HOME SOARS MORE THAN 20 FEET OUT OVER THE MOUNTAIN VIEWS, IN AN EXUBERANT DECLARATION OF ITS CONTEMPORARY SPIRIT. But the statement is as much about sensibility as bravura style; the cantilevered overhang was planned as a practical sunshade to shield the residents from summer's intense light and heat, while allowing the winter sun's lower angle to enter and warm the living spaces. "After the original pencil sketches were done, we input the plan into the computer and generated shadow studies so that we could meticulously plot the sun's progression throughout the day and the year," explains Steamboat Springs-based Joe Patrick Robbins, of Joe Patrick Robbins Architect.

ARCHITECT	Joe Patrick Robbins, Joe Patrick Robbins Architect		
INTERIOR DESIGNER	Annette Stelmack, Associates III Interior Design		
HOME BUILDER	Joe Gillaspie, Joe Gillaspie Construction		
BEDROOMS	4	BATHROOMS	5
SQUARE FEET	7,000		



STYLE SELECTION

The ingenious form of this walnut rocking chair, designed by Jack Roger Hopkins, honors an American tradition in furniture. *Rocking Chair*, \$45,000; merrillantiques.com

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 235

The sun's daily habits also directed the home's plan, which is curved around the site in three distinct forms: the great room with three bedroom suites and family room tucked below, the bridge to the master suite, and the private master wing. The owners wake up with light streaming into their bedroom as the sun rises over Mount Werner, then it tracks around to the great room, and ends the day with a farewell appearance in the dining room and the outdoor barbecue deck, reflecting off the beautiful rock gardens and landscape designed by Tom Altgelt of Boulder-based Altgelt & Associates.

"Each part of the home has a different orientation, so we get the best of both worlds," says the man of the house. "We can enjoy the sunrise, and then in the evening we see the alpenglow off Mount Werner."



PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES RAY SPAIN

DINING OUT
In the open kitchen, clear cherry cabinets were custom built by local Steamboat Springs firm, Rustic Woodworks.

WINNING BRONZE

The owners asked sculpture artist Wayne Brungard and glass craftsman Albert Young from Michigan to collaborate on a massive sculpture that hangs above the honey LedgeStone fireplace.





CONTINUED FROM PAGE 236

The mountain and forest turn orange and reflect the glow of the setting sun through the tall great room windows. The landscape that Tom created is extraordinary, and it continues to age like a fine wine.”

The owner had carried the home’s basic concept around in his head for some time, starting shortly after he and his wife purchased the 10-acre property in 1997. “One look at the view and it was the quickest decision I ever made,” he chuckles. The couple credits Robbins, and associate architect Brian Moravcik, with significantly improving the original idea in what proved to be a truly egoless collaboration. The owners had just

COLOR PLAY

The home’s color palette is inspired by the hues of the fall season—browns, golds and greens—to further bring the breathtaking landscapes indoors.



GOOD CONNECTIONS

A glass-enclosed bridge leads from the great room to the master suite. Landscape designer Tom Altgelt of Altgelt & Associates created the dramatic rockscape gardens from boulders found on the site.



ELEGANT ELEVATION
The windows descend in height with the mountain horizon; great room windows frame Mount Werner, and dining room windows drop lower to take in the Yampa Valley and the distant Flat Tops.



STYLE SELECTION

Inspired by the fluidity of water, this organic and modern dining table is a unique way of bringing the elements indoors. *Thalasa Dining Table, \$15,000; farragodesign.com*

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 240

one non-negotiable instruction to the architects: make it contemporary. They felt strongly that modern, flowing interior spaces and expansive windows would work best given the extraordinary outdoor panorama. “I call the look ‘swelegant,’” says the lady of the house, “simple yet elegant. A clean design works best for us; we feel like we can breathe easier.”

According to contractor Joe Gillaspie, of Joe Gillaspie Construction in Steamboat Springs, the precision demanded by clean, contemporary design takes more time and effort than a traditional home. “To build a curved front wall of glass panels in wood frames, then to join that wall





NATURE INSPIRED
The owners selected artwork to reflect the natural surroundings. An abstract painting by Gregory Deane hangs above the stairs; a wood patina piece by Pascal Pierre is opposite.

STYLE SELECTIONS

Add a pop of color and dimension with this hand-blown glass vessel, designed with an organic approach and modern color concepts. *Lollipop Vase, \$535; johnpomp.com*



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 243

with the curved ceiling, those details must be perfect because the joinery is all exposed without any trim to cover it," he says. The massive arched roof is anchored by a beefy steel frame concealed within it and tied into the great room's stone fireplace. Putting the curved steel frame together piece by piece was also an exacting task, says Gillaspie.

The home's palette evolved one luminous autumn afternoon when the owners joined interior designer Annette Stelmack on the site. "The homeowner loves fall colors—russet, gold, sienna, and soft sage green—all the colors of nature," says Stelmack. "It was also very important to



PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES RAY SPAHN

STYLISH SKYLINE

The stylish dining room furnishings are from Berman Rosetti, selected for their purity of line, and comfortable, contemporary aesthetic.




COPPER MINE

The master bath features stone countertops and a copper tub from Diamond Spas, ideal for soaking and communing with nature, just outside.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 246

them that the furniture, fabrics and finishes be environmentally sound, so we went with natural wool, silk and linen, and low VOC paints and finishes,” notes Stelmack, who was formerly with Denver-based Associates III Interior Design, and is now a sustainability and green building consultant with her own firm, Inspirit.

“We love that this is our sanctuary and that our home invites the spectacular natural surroundings in,” says the lady of the house. “We both have such a deep appreciation for the changing of the seasons, and the awesome beauty that we see the minute we wake up until the minute we fall asleep. While we’re protected and sheltered, we’re almost one with nature...which was done by design.” 



STAR QUALITY

Massive boulders and rocks were turned into an outside path and garden by landscape designer Tom Altgelt.