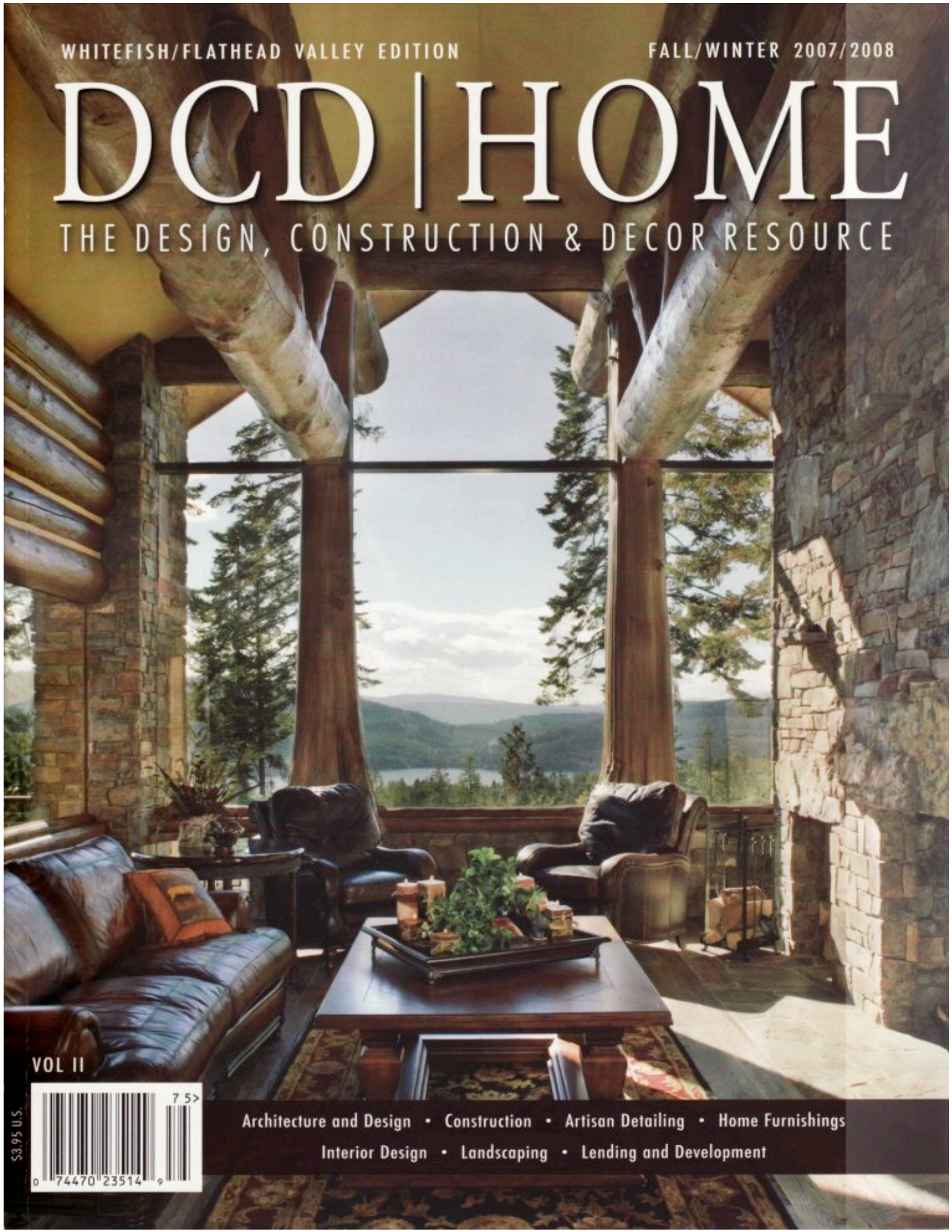


WHITEFISH/FLATHEAD VALLEY EDITION

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DCD | HOME

THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION & DECOR RESOURCE



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Architecture and Design • Construction • Artisan Detailing • Home Furnishings
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With the supporting beams of the home framing the view like a magnificent oil painting, you question what is inside and what is outside in this home. The support beams are large cedar logs, carefully selected and custom harvested below grade to include the flare of the roots.

Blending Native Materials

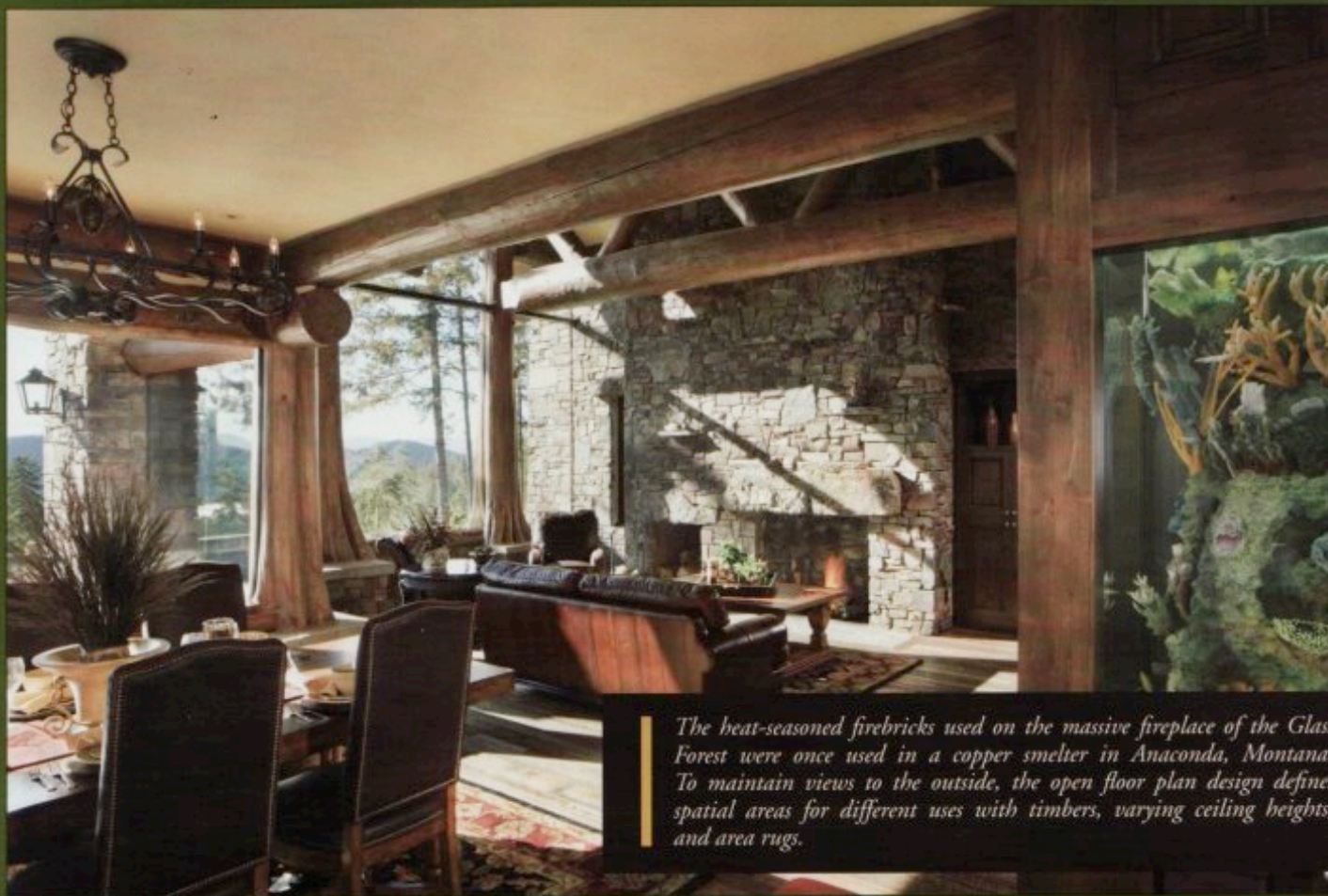
with MODERN LIFESTYLES

Consistently winning awards for the quality and character of their homes, High Country Builders is synonymous for quality and livable designs that blend gracefully and appropriately with the land and the views. Building in Whitefish and the Flathead Valley, the people at High Country Builders understand why people choose the area, and how the home's design can enhance day-to-day life. This is accomplished through a design that embraces place and the surroundings, and sets the background for enjoying the company of family and friends.

Seventeen years ago, Walt Landi hung up his ranching spurs and brought his work ethic, innovative thinking, love of the land, and

experience making things happen to Whitefish, Montana, where he founded High Country Builders. Now a sizeable firm of 43 employees, High Country Builders is a one-stop, full-service design-build firm specializing in the Montana look of natural logs, timber, and stone.

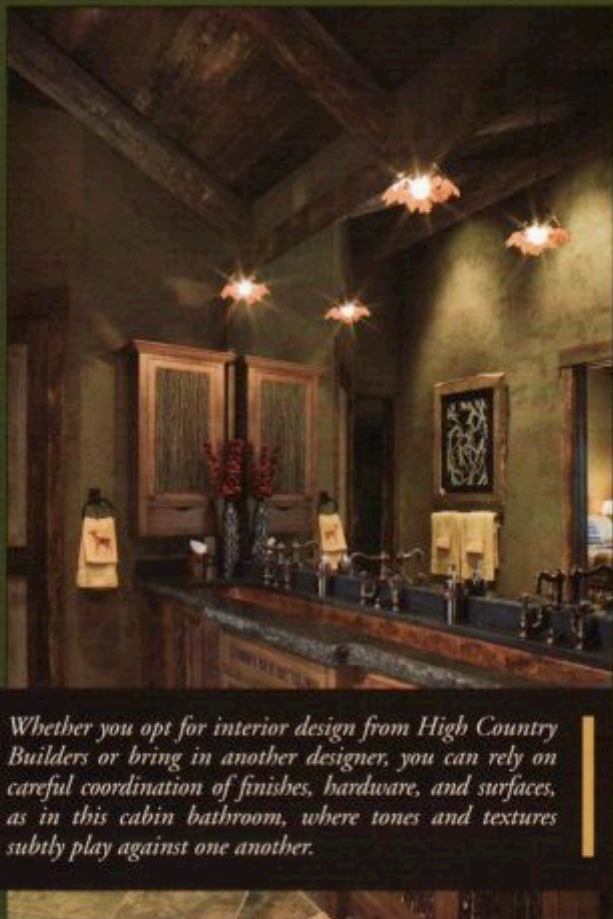
Walt Landi explains his approach, "There are several things that set us apart from other builders, but the first thing is that our homes fit harmoniously into the mountain setting, and accentuate the site's natural beauty. This, along with our careful craftsmanship, brings aesthetics, functionality, and value to the client. It's a quality that people sense with our homes, but can't always put a name to it."



The heat-seasoned firebricks used on the massive fireplace of the Glass Forest were once used in a copper smelter in Anaconda, Montana. To maintain views to the outside, the open floor plan design defines spatial areas for different uses with timbers, varying ceiling heights, and area rugs.



This building at the Homestead rests rooted in space and time with reclaimed hand-hewn log siding and cedar shakes. There is a sense of a covered bridge as you arrive through the protective porte cochère.



Whether you opt for interior design from High Country Builders or bring in another designer, you can rely on careful coordination of finishes, hardware, and surfaces, as in this cabin bathroom, where tones and textures subtly play against one another.

The key to this design approach is maximizing the aesthetics of the building site and its surroundings. High Country Builders start with a careful topographic study and map out the most commanding views to lakes, valleys and mountains. Included is attention to the solar orientation and planning to avoid glare and summer heat gain by the orientation of the windows and treatments like overhangs.

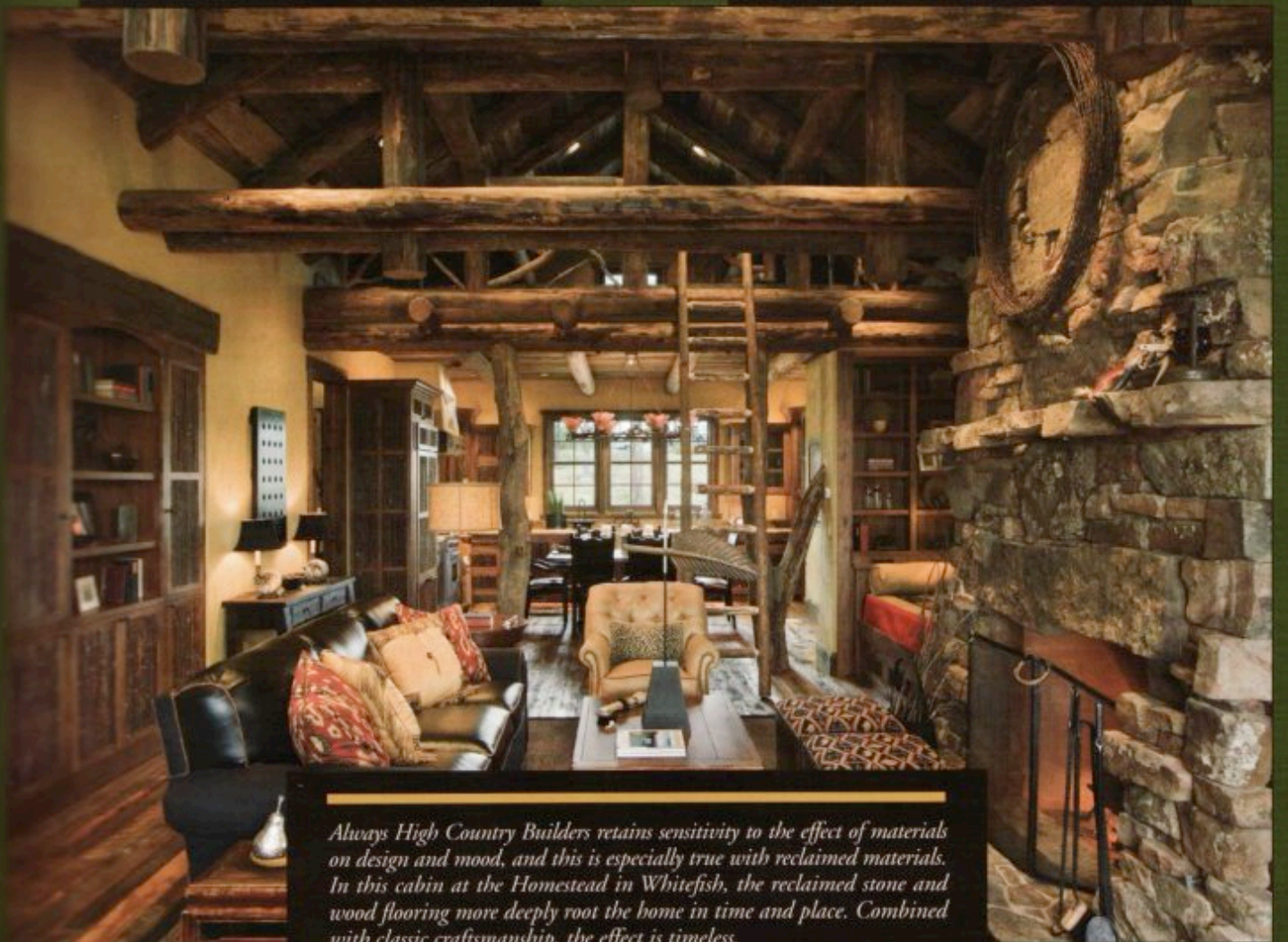
The design process is an ongoing collaboration with the client. Discussions start early and continue right up to the point that the keys to the front door are turned over. Throughout the home's construction, budgets and schedules are regularly updated and sent to the client along with photos showing the progress of construction. It is a process designed so the client gets just what they want for the price they are anticipating. "A design-build process needs relaxed and open communications, so when you face decisions, you can work through them creatively together," says Landi.

By combining the home design, site preparation, construction, and interior design under one roof, communications are simple with one point of contact. They also work together toward one common vision and timetable under the same guidance. Walt Landi adds that by having skilled people in-house, there is minimal reliance on subcontractors and risk that they will be overbooked or unavailable and hold up the schedule and drive up costs, "We can put together reliable costs based on past projects without the risks of a potential 20% fluctuation in subcontractor costs."

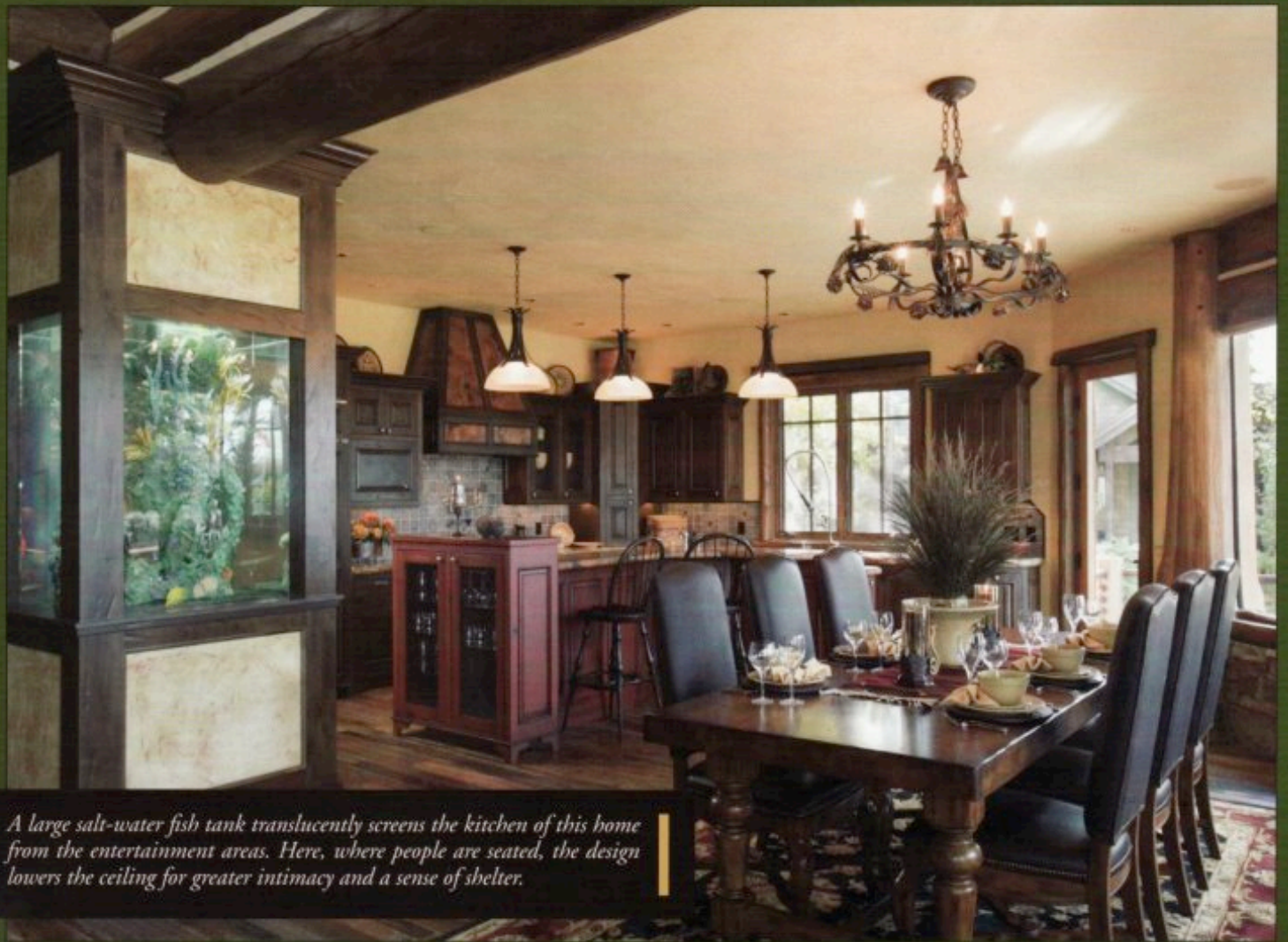
With its roots in the Montana mountain cabin tradition, this log and timber home gracefully climbs the wooded hillside. Entering, visitors are treated to an explosion of views through the abundance of windows. The immaculately stacked stone on the exterior extends to a low wall around the lower patio and then repeats in the small retaining wall and the stairs leading down the sloping lot.



Determining how much is just the right amount of space is the hallmark of good design. Here in the Homestead Cabin, the kitchen features all the important amenities a good cook could expect in a cozy, inviting, harmonious setting with views to the forest.



Always High Country Builders retains sensitivity to the effect of materials on design and mood, and this is especially true with reclaimed materials. In this cabin at the Homestead in Whitefish, the reclaimed stone and wood flooring more deeply root the home in time and place. Combined with classic craftsmanship, the effect is timeless.



A large salt-water fish tank translucently screens the kitchen of this home from the entertainment areas. Here, where people are seated, the design lowers the ceiling for greater intimacy and a sense of shelter.

With care to the siting throughout design, each home balances privacy with views, and the floor plans are unique to each client. Says Walt Landi, "We create only spaces our clients will use and enjoy on a daily basis, and not space only for the sake of increasing square footage. Downsizing in this way means that you can emphasize and upgrade the spaces you will use, and our homes become cozy and inviting instead of overwhelming."

While each home design is different, High Country Builders' homes share the commonalities of livability, wholeness, flow, and comfort. These were the findings of various independent judging panels, as they have recognized High Country Builders for both craftsmanship and design with a long series of awards: Best Interior Design; Best Craftsmanship; People's Choice; and Judge's Choice.

Walt Landi finds Whitefish and the Flathead Valley to be a truly special place with the Flathead River system, Whitefish and Flathead Lakes, skiing, outdoor recreation, and the expanses and views. "At High Country Builders, we work to create homes worthy of this unique area, one of the last great places."

You can learn more about High Country Builders on the web at www.highcountrybuilders.com, and you can make the first step toward creating your own home by calling Walt Landi and his experienced colleagues.

High Country Builders is located at 903 C Wisconsin Avenue in Whitefish, Montana 59937; (406) 863-9511; www.highcountrybuilders.com