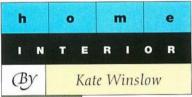


Summer Wind

A JACKSON HOLE STONE-AND-LOG COMMISSION SHOWS ARCHITECT JERRY LOCATI'S TALENTS AT THEIR FINEST





ometimes the best thing you can take home from a trip to Alaska is the notion that you'd rather be in Wyoming. At least that's what David Barnard

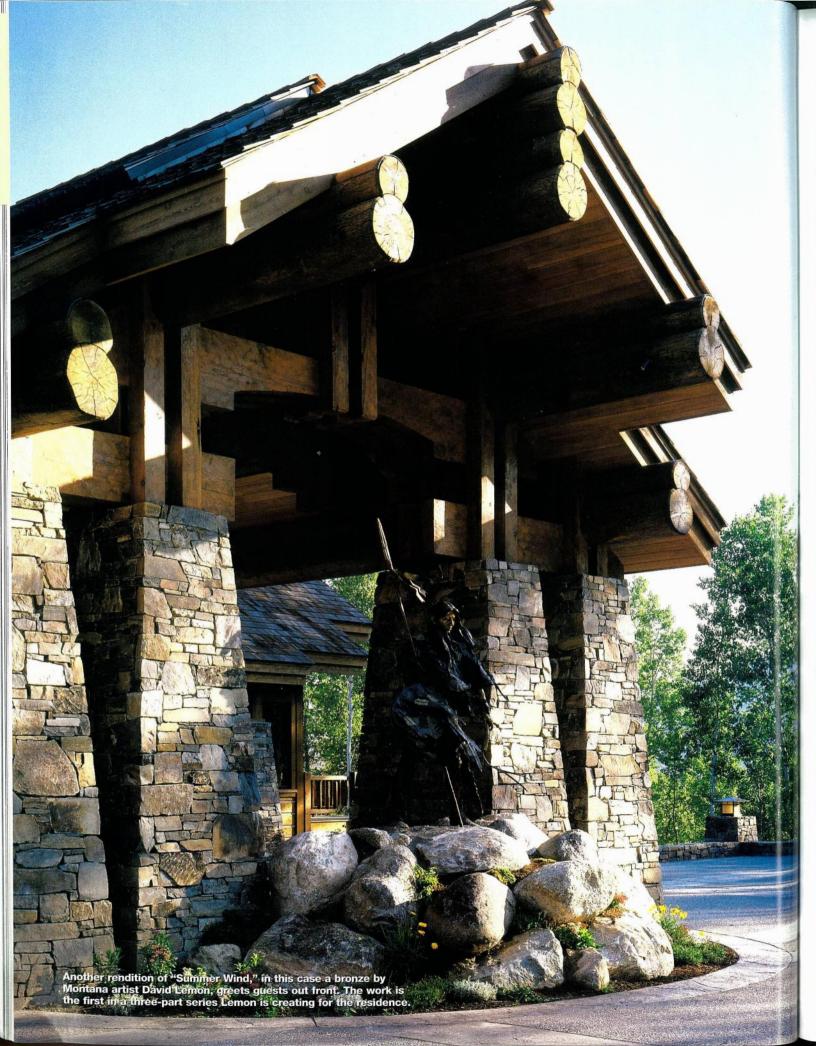
concluded several years ago. The Houston-based portfolio manager and his son were visiting Alaska when Barnard commented on Alaska's gorgeous scenery. His son's response? "It's not as pretty as the Tetons."

Barnard found himself agreeing with his son, and soon he was scouring the market for Jackson Hole real estate. After closing on several acres, with magnificent views of the Tetons and the ski valley, he set his sights on an architect. Fortunately for Barnard, he hooked up with Jerry Locati.

For those in the know, Locati is the darling of the Western architecture scene. His log- and stone-accented structures are sprouting up in Montana, Utah, Colorado, and California, and his Bozeman, Montana, firm has received commissions as far east as Chicago. Working together Barnard and Locati devised a 10,000-square-foot masterpiece of wood and stone whose lofty character and airy vistas earned it the name "Summer Wind."

photography by Roger Wade





In the West, if you create the right type of place, you'll spend more time outside than you will in.

—Jerry Locati

That breezy moniker appears throughout the residence. A sculpture of an Indian man, his bronze hair and feathers rustling in the air, greets visitors entering at the house's front entrance. This nearly life-sized piece by Montana artist David Lemon is the first of three elements to an installation named "Summer Wind." Barnard has commissioned Lemon to create the second piece, of a young Indian boy, to stand about 30 yards beyond the house. The third, a bronze deer, will stand across the road from the boy. The story? A father guides his son through his first hunt.

The theme, "Summer Wind," reoccurs again in the home's great room. This time it's the name of a painting by Santa Fe artist Rocky Hawkins that hangs above the mantle of the huge stone fireplace. The great room actually comprises the kitchen, the dining room, and, to spectacular effect, the living room. Locati designs huge spaces, but his trademark is that he makes them feel intimate by breaking them up with indirect, recessed lighting and by incorporating plush, oversized furniture in sumptuous fabrics and warm hues.

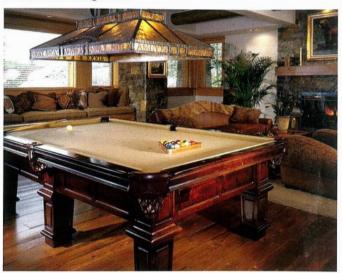
He does this to perfection in the living room section of the great room, which features lustrous hardwood floors, puzzle-pieced stone columns, and ceiling tresses three sturdy logs deep. Locati says that because of this lighting scheme, come nightfall the I8-foot tall great room doesn't appear cavernous but instead offers a much inviting intimacy.

Locati's firm includes a talented interior design department, and he's just as concerned with the choices of chairs, end tables, and fabrics: "I don't like making it look like it all came off the showroom floor. All of this furniture was new to Dave, but 30 to 40 percent of it is antiques that we picked up from around the country."

Even though the Barnard home is newly built, it has a feel of well-loved familiarity. Like a symphonic conductor, Locati strikes a balance between large and small, booms and whispers. "The great room has a really incredible feel to it," the architect says. "There are a lot of dynamic views that really change with the seasons and with the day. It feels like a whole different space in the morning and at night." And Barnard himself says that



The dining area is a key component to the great room with its kitchen and living room.

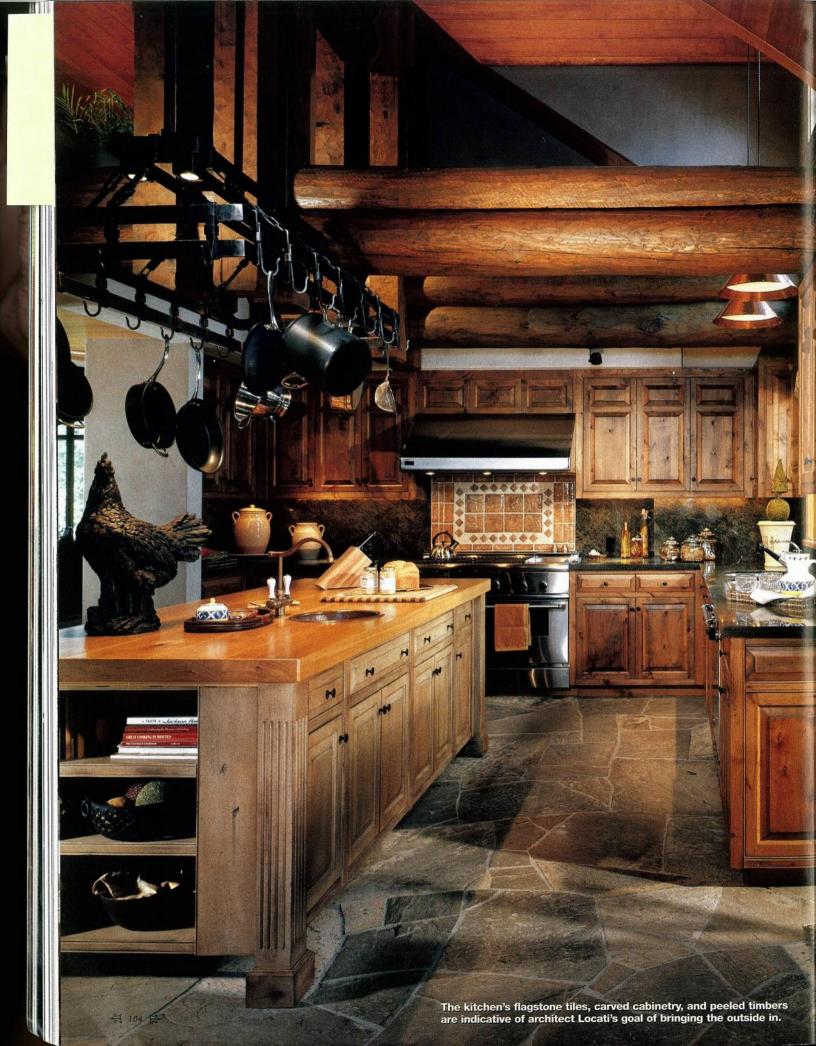


Lower ceilings and plush sofas help to give the billiard room a cozy, clubby feel.



Although it appears to be made of wood, the beautiful bar is actually wrapped leather.

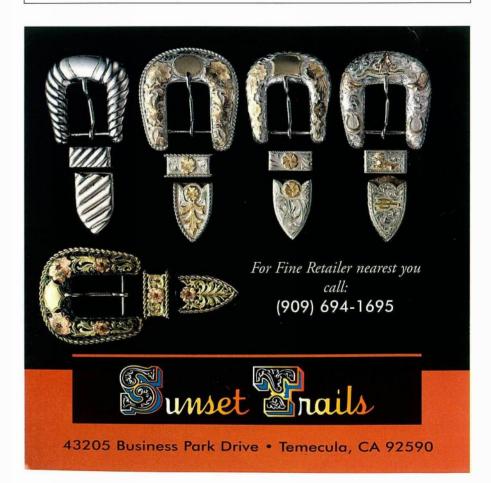


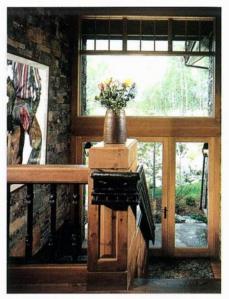




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Architect Jerry Locati uses indirect, recessed light to great effect throughout the 10,000-square-foot residence.

different spots in the house call to him at different times of the day. Sometimes it's the mahogany study, when he has to catch up on work, or it might be the great room for reading, particularly when magnificent light sweeps in.

Regardless of season or time of day, Locati says that he and Barnard endeavored to pull the inside out and the outside in. "In the West," Locati says, "if you create the right type of place, you'll spend more time outside than you will in, for three or four months of the year."

That said, the architect created welcoming decks around the residence. Barnard claims they are his favorite space. Only a few steps into the forest and one can appreciate the structure's Douglas fir planking and Boston ridge roofs, a sort of overlapping pitched roof system that is designed to circulate air flow from the eaves to the ridge and melt winter's heavy snows.

And when the Wyoming winter hits, as it inevitably does, there are plenty of hideaways for hibernating. In the billiard room one can pull up a cowhide-covered barstool to the hand-tooled leather bar. Locati had the wooden panels wrapped in fine leather, then shrunk to fit. From a distance the bar appears to be made of mahogany; elbow up to feel its soft, satiny finish. A cozy feel emanates thanks to

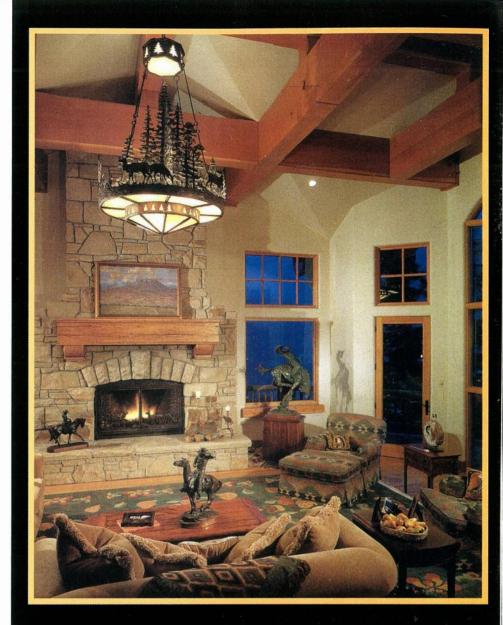


For owner David Barnard, the spacious decks are a favorite place to relax and enjoy Wyoming summers.

lower ceilings, a smaller fireplace, plush sofas set in windows, and, of course, the intricately detailed pool table. Another getaway is the home's media room where Locati installed a sound system that literally shakes the floor when watching bassheavy movies. Perfect for when Russell Crowe and his companions take center stage in *Gladiator*.

Hi-tech gadgetry aside, Locati says, "The neatest thing about these types of jobs is getting to use natural materials in new ways." That's especially apparent in the master bathroom where a hardwood floor mimics and reflects the wooden, cathedral ceiling. Large square windows look out through tall trees and invite the outdoors in. "You don't really have to worry about privacy on this sort of lot," Locati laughs. Elegant limestone countertops give the room an antique look, which is accentuated further as the limestone curves into the tub.

Stone crops up in the grand kitchen, a woody, earth-toned affair featuring lovely flagstone tiles that instantly invites. An expanse of carved cabinetry is broken by a lofty alcove of windows that, in a more solemn home, would feel almost churchlike. But the rustic wood and rich stone bring the space down to earth. A very comfortable place to be, indeed.



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