A photograph of a rustic cabin interior. The room features large, multi-paned windows that let in bright, natural light. In the center, a large, ornate wooden chair with a high, arched backrest is decorated with a colorful geometric pattern. To the right, a lamp with a wide, shallow, wooden shade sits on a table. A red and black patterned blanket is draped over a chair. In the foreground, a wooden table holds a basket of nuts and a small squirrel figurine. The walls and floor are made of wood, creating a warm, cozy atmosphere.

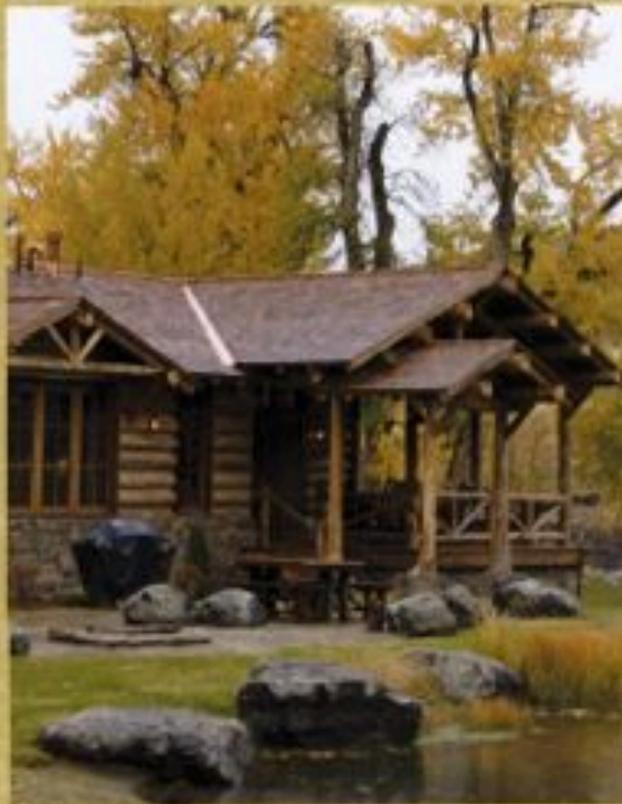
CABINS

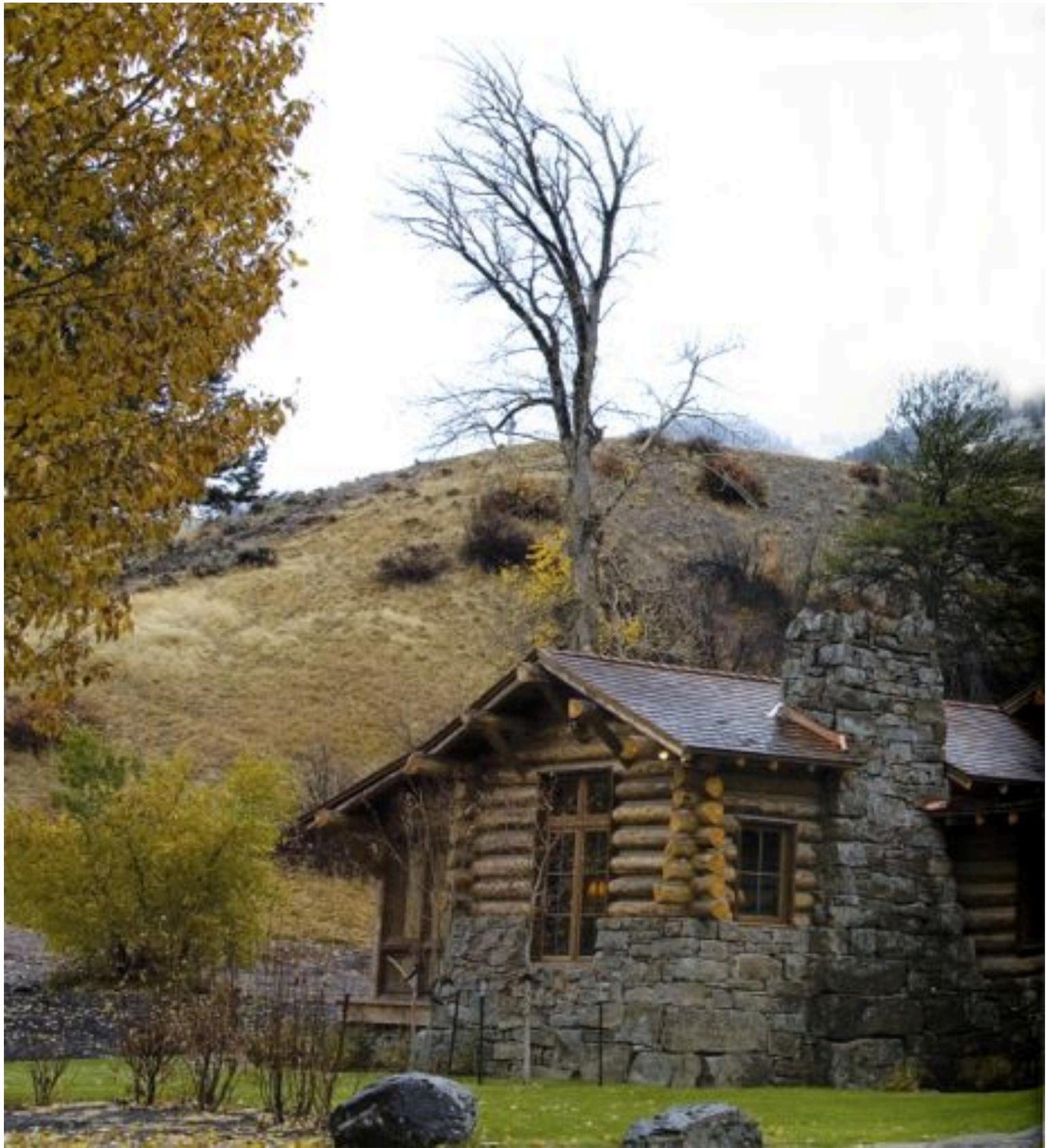
Written and Photographed by
RALPH KYLLOE

360 RANCH

It was a gorgeous fall day, and literally hundreds of deer jumped on the late season grasses spread over the prairies we passed. Counting their numbers was out of the question. Occasionally a few antelope popped into view. The region, just north of Yellowstone National Park, had a pack of wolves that occasionally howled in the darkness of night. Black bears and an occasional grizzly wandered the area; during my visit, the local paper carried a story of an aggressive bear attacking hunters just a few miles from the project. I chose to stay out of the woods to avoid both caffeine-happy hunters and aggressive bears.

Mature cottonwood trees presented their radiant colors and occasionally shed a few leaves, reminding me of the ever-changing seasons of life. (At sixty years old, I seem to have a semiconscious persistent thought that life does not go on forever.)



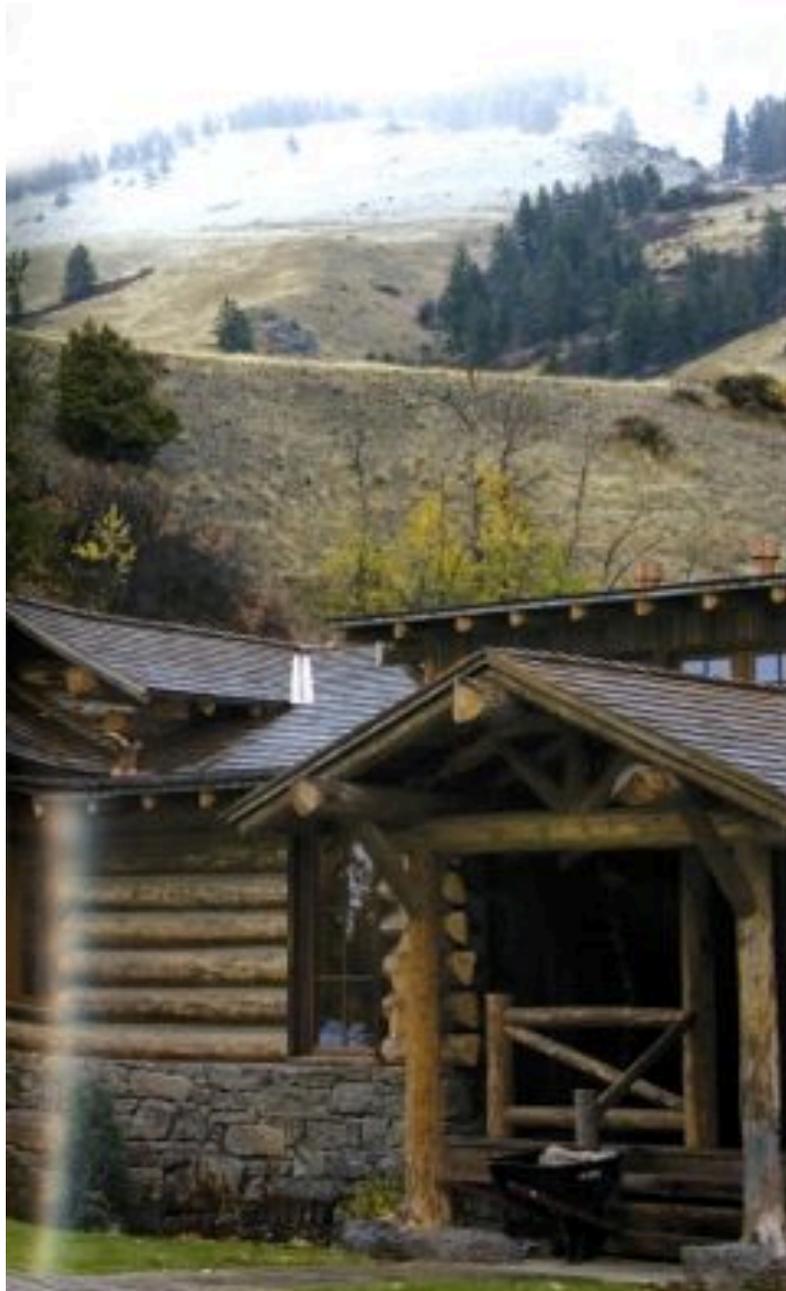


Having visited this area for many years and fished every corner of the local rivers and streams, I was familiar with the regional architecture and the local environment. The setting that slowly appeared before me was nothing less than a thrill to behold. It reminded me of all the good things in life.

After entering a gate, we progressed slowly down a rutted dirt road. Around a sharp corner, a gorgeous building complete with aged beams appeared before us. "Oh, that's only the caretaker's house," my guide mentioned. "The main house is a bit farther down the road. Just keep going." I would have been perfectly satisfied with the house at hand. Around a bend, we crossed a bridge that traversed a small trout stream. Another meadow with tall grasses opened up. Farther down the road we came to an unusual symmetrical cabin tucked neatly in a gully (more technically referred to as a bench); there was a half-acre pond in the backyard. I struggled to acknowledge that this was just a guest cabin, upon learning that the large main home would be located near the stream and other buildings such as a horse barn would be placed throughout the property in the coming years.

Nonetheless, the owners also wanted a guesthouse for their adult children. Architect Candace Miller of Livingston, Montana, worked with the owners to carefully and thoughtfully plan the site. Garret Janinski from Yellowstone Traditions served as project superintendent during construction. Ed Matos of Bridger Engineering served as engineer. The interiors were provided by Haven of Bozeman, Montana.

The result is a duplex with individual porches on the back to accommodate individual families and guests, thus ensuring some seclusion. All in all, this is a rather astonishing guesthouse that should knock the socks off anyone invited to spend the night! 🍷



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100





Far Left:
Designed as a duplex, the structure offers two completely different living quarters so guests can have some privacy. Separate porches overlooking the lake are on opposite ends of the building.

Left above:
A steel bridge made by the Bross Steel Company allows access to the property.

Left below:
The building exterior is rendered more interesting by different patterns inlaid into the walls. The diamond pattern is a classical example of Adirondack design.

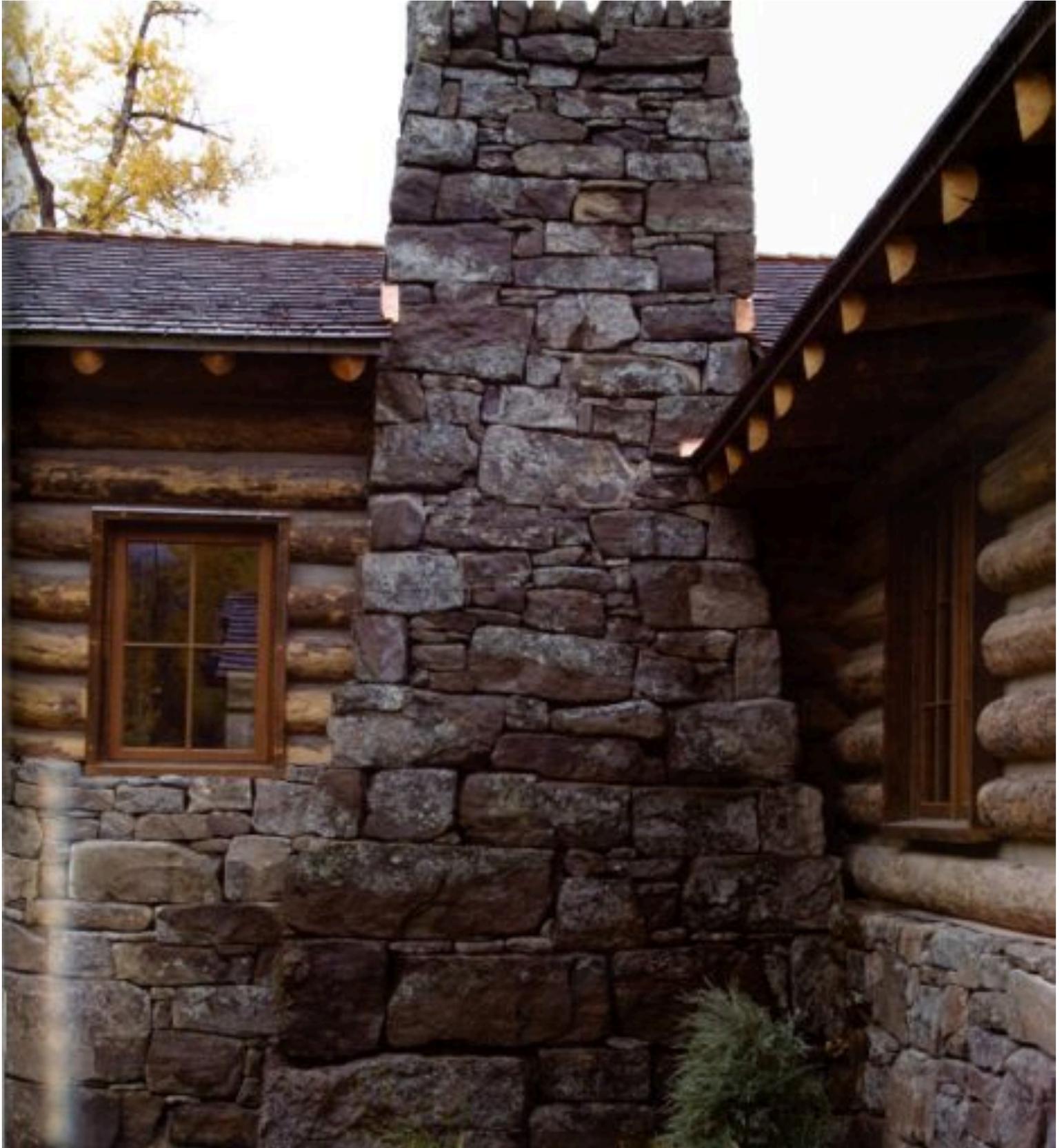


Right:

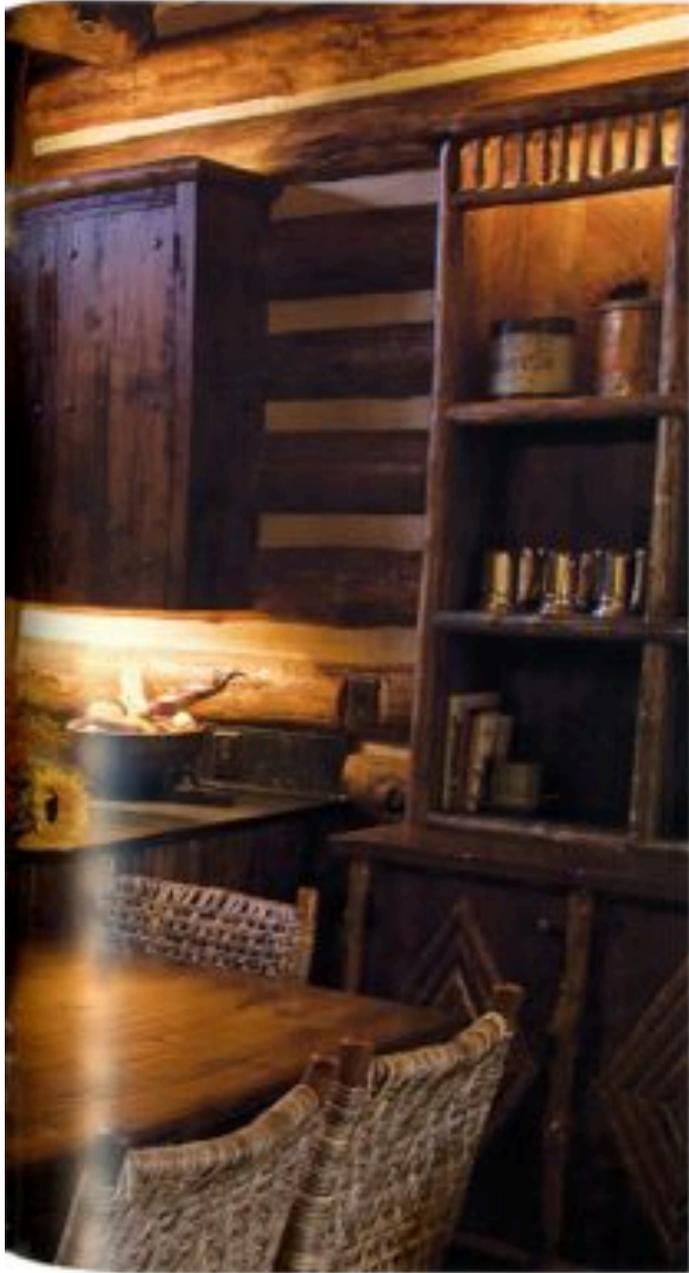
The home was built by the creative people at Yellowstone Traditions. Custom hardware, including door lugs and knockers, was created by blacksmith Bill Moore of Big Timber, Montana.

Facing

Masonry was completed by Brent Esp. The stone used in the building is called Montana snow rock.







Left and above:

As in many rustic kitchens today, the refrigerator is hidden behind antique ferns here. The countertops are soapstone. The iron hood over the range is custom made, and the island is faced with half-round branches from dead standing lodgepole pines. Recycled barn boards were turned into a custom cabinet set with interior lighting. Flooring was also created from reclaimed boards.

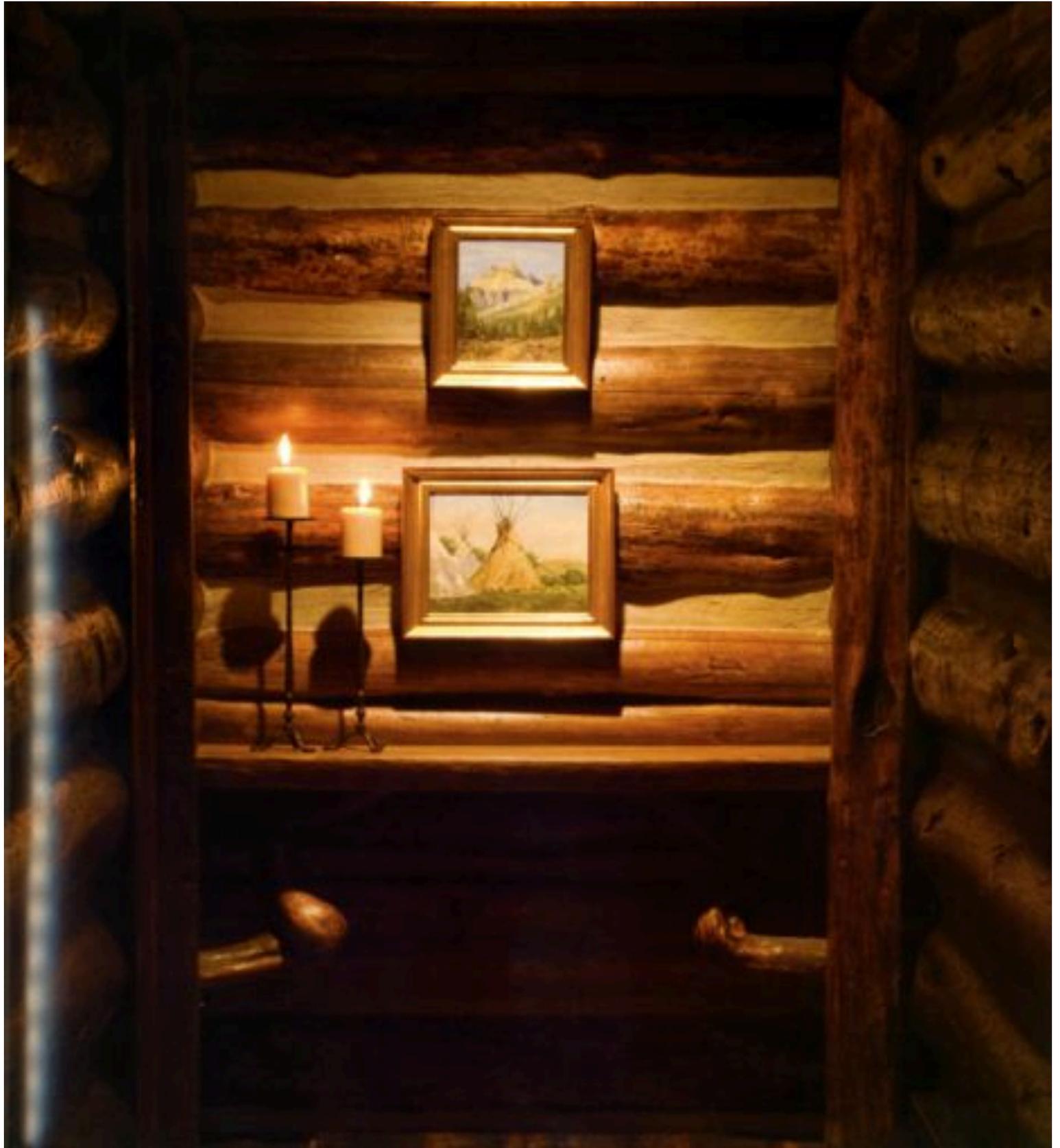
Light

This freestanding display case was created by the cabinet builders at Yellowstone Tradition. The oval mirror applied to the pane on the branches of lodgepole pine trees.

Facing

Hallways create a sense of personal space, as one can disappear into a private room. The white material between the logs is commonly referred to as chinking. Most chinking material used today has the ability to expand and contract, depending on the humidity and weather.









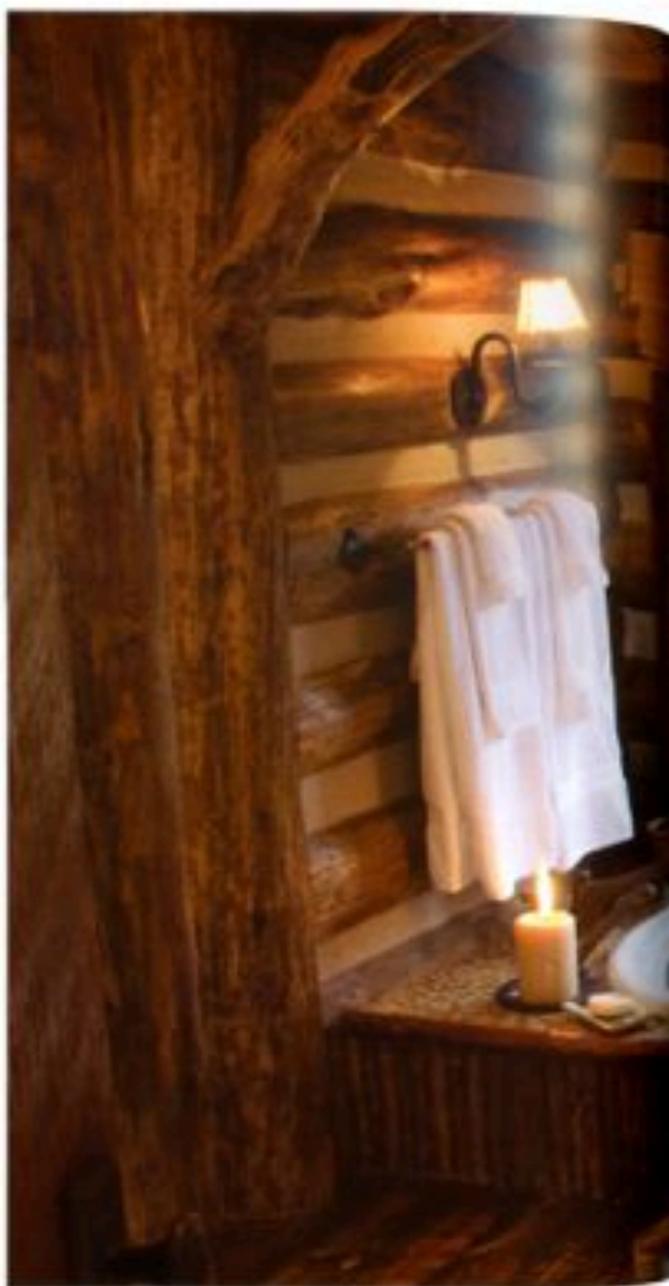
Facing:
The interior styling is by Hixon of
Beeman, Montana. The layering of
pillows and other textiles adds depth to
the scene, while subtle woodline treat-
ments complement the setting.

Left:
This bedroom fireplace was created
from locally quarried Montana soap-
stone. The mantel is granite.



Above:
Bathroom accessories were created
from recycled barn beams.

Right:
Down blinds cover the bathtub
window when needed. The tub
surround is a mosaic of small tiles.







Right
Another bathroom offers a
tub/shower deckered with a
knockout pattern of tiles.

Facing
A second guest bedroom has a full
fireplace, comfortable chairs, a desk
area and a queen bed complete with
relaxful accents.







Facing
A built-in vanity built in back
hubs and direct access to the back porch
and lake.

Left
The walls in the guest powder room are
covered with pages from vintage and
other magazines. This unique decor
also makes for interesting reading while
getting ready for the day.



Each wing of the house boasts not only a back porch but a private sleeping porch as well.

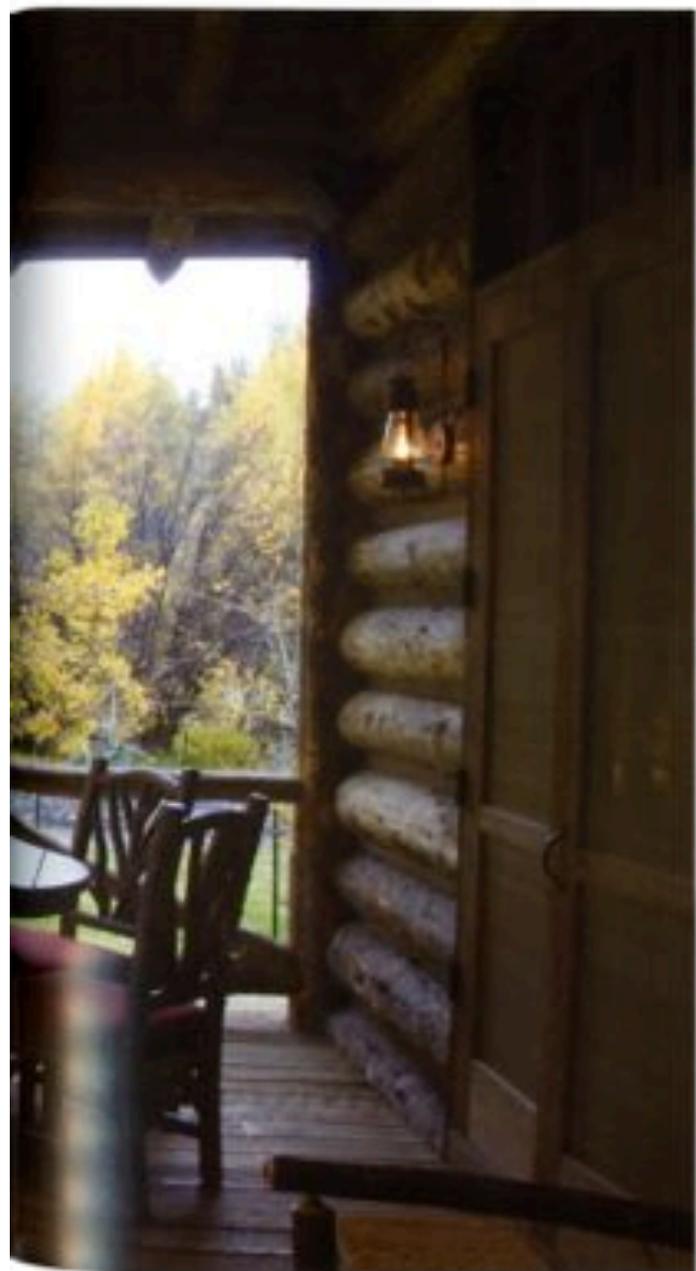


Above:
The geometric lines of the bed coverings mirror the patterns inherent in the log walls. The platform bed offers a clear space below the mattress for bike and gear storage.

Right:
The geometric form of the ceiling fixture complements the linear forms of the logs. The fixture is lined with amber mica.







Left
The back porch (one on each end of the house) is occupied with different styles of rustic furniture. Electrified antique lanterns light the exterior of the house.

Above
The color and pattern of the textiles blend well with the fall colors.