

NEW WEST MEETS **TRUE WEST**

A MODERN VERSION OF
THE MONTANA **HOMESTEAD**

DEEP TIES TO THE
LAND MAKE THIS
JUST-BUILT HOUSE
FEEL LIKE IT'S BEEN
HERE FOR CENTURIES.

WRITTEN BY SALLY FINDER WEEPIE PHOTOGRAPHY BY WHITNEY KAMMAN



Beams for the home's front porch, *below*, rest on Montana boulders, providing a sense of permanence and oneness with the land. Rockers on the back porch, *opposite*, take in mountain and water views.

Wood, plaster, and steel elements introduce the home's mix of materials at the front door, *right*. A clean-lined contemporary bench offers a handy seat beneath colorful Western art.



Life here gets a little wild sometimes. “Can you hold on a minute?” interior designer Kathy Tatom says. “A big momma black bear and two itty-bitty cubs are meandering by right now. The cubs are making the cutest little noises.”

The neighbors—bears, deer, elk, antelope, even moose—are a big part of the appeal of Park County, Montana. “There’s such an interest now in connecting with nature,” Tatom says.

That’s easy to do on land nestled into the sprawling Absaroka mountain range outside Livingston.

“The allure of the views really captivated the couple who wanted to make their home on this spot,” architect Jamie Dugaard

says. His Centre Sky Architecture firm partnered with Tatom Design and Sievert Construction to build the new house, a contemporary take on the quintessential Montana homestead.

Dugaard’s vision of the architecture is deeply rooted in the land itself. “I walked the site and saw how it was bathed in the southeast sun—and how its views went beyond the mountaintops. There’s also the glacier hills, which are filled with trees and shrubs that give such great fall color. We wanted to capture that.”

The home takes in the landscape and is a part of it—thanks to its siting and a materials palette composed of reclaimed timbers and wood, Montana stone, traditional plaster, and contemporary black steel.





“The idea was creating what felt like a homestead—a trapper’s cabin to a point—that was added onto and evolved through the years,” Daugaard says.

Living spaces all sit on the ground floor (except a snug loft for the grandkids) and embrace the family with a cozy cabin feel. “A mix of reclaimed wood is soft on

the eye, with grays, tans, and browns,” Daugaard says. “Plaster walls also exude a warmth—and the light finish sets off the wood, allows it to really be appreciated.”

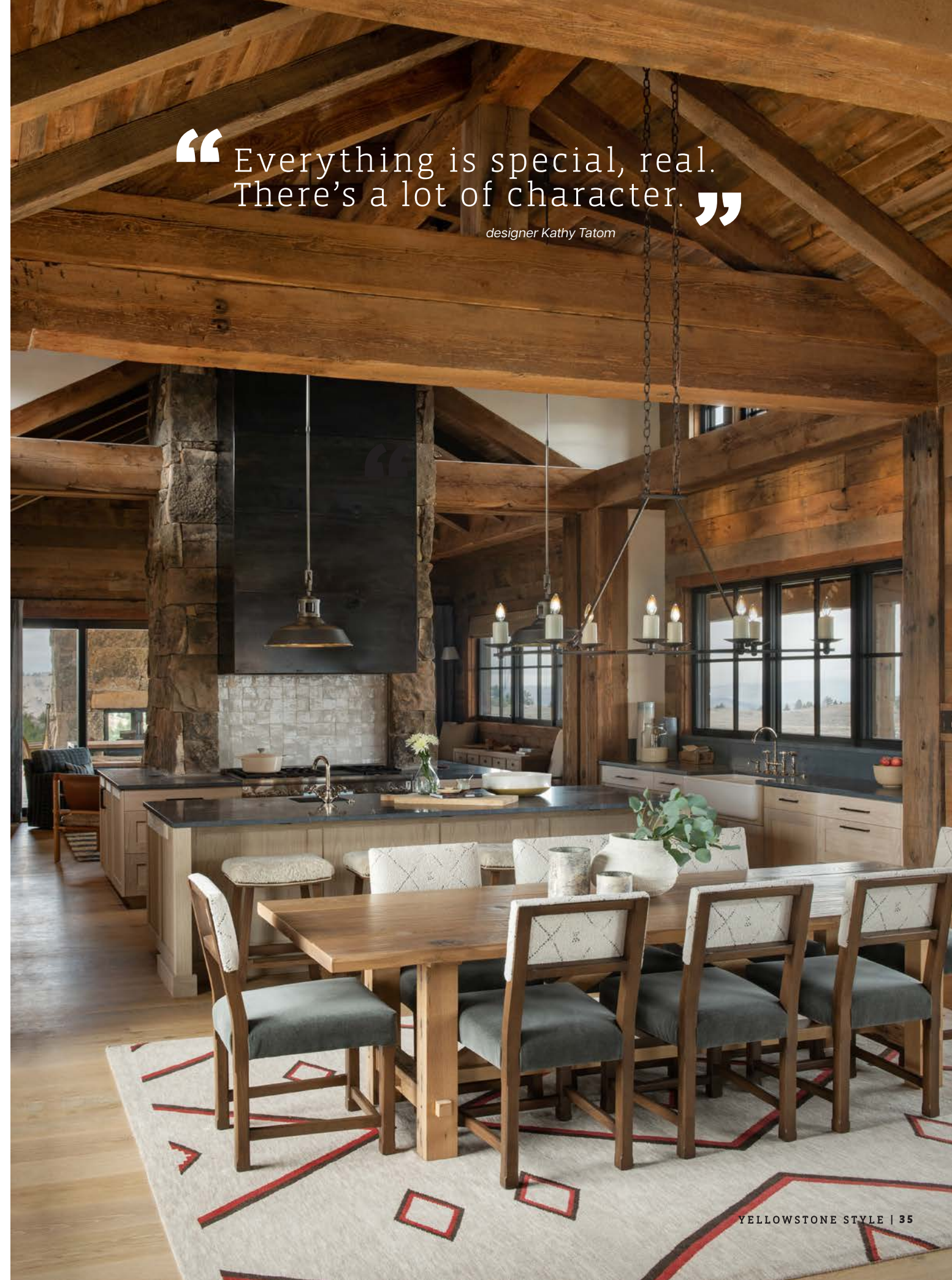
Spans of black metal also play foil to wood as they add a contemporary edge that ensures the rustic-traditional homestead lives for today.

Glass hallways lead from the heart of the home to the guest wing. Architect Jamie Daugaard melded rustic wood with modern plate steel to shape the staircase to the loft.

Chunky beams bring down the height of the vaulted ceiling in the great room, giving a space designed for family gatherings comfortable human scale.

“Everything is special, real. There’s a lot of character.”

designer Kathy Tatom





The living room fireplace features handcrafted Montana stone that the design team picked for its centuries-old aesthetic.

A covered patio and open-air sitting area off the hearth room take full advantage of Montana's wide-open spaces.



“Here, you really want to put your boots up and play the part.”

designer Kathy Tatom



“Everything is special, real,” Tatom says. “There’s a lot of character.”

To mesh with the integrity of the architecture, the designer furnished rooms with pieces crafted by local artisans. Fabrics continue the home’s texture story—a tactile array of wool, sheepskin, leather, cotton, even corduroy.

The color scheme pulls from the landscape viewed through expansive steel-

mullioned windows: sky blues, sagey greens, and tawny buffs, spiked with reds and terra-cottas in patterned rugs.

“It’s a wonderful mix of the West with a bit of Southern charm for the homeowners, who are from North Carolina,” Tatom says. “I love that it’s cowboy-inspired, Native American-inspired. It’s all about comfort and quality that will last.”

The intimate hearth room caters to quiet conversation. Interior designer Kathy Tatom used soft ottomans rather than coffee tables throughout the house to be grandkid-friendly.



A steel vent hood feels like a new addition to a kitchen encased in reclaimed wood. Rift-sawn white oak cabinetry and handmade white subway tile further the contemporary vibe. Sheepskin cushioned barstools lend a soft note.



Twin vanities and mirrors in the primary bathroom let the couple get ready to greet another Montana day with ease.

Like the rest of the house, the primary bedroom offers beautiful mountain views—and splashes of color pulled from the landscape.

Whether you're sitting down for dinner with extended family at the handmade dining table, reading with your feet up on the ottoman next to the crackling fireplace, or watching the wildlife from a rocker on the porch, this home just plain feels good.

"It's filled with Montana warmth," Tatom says. "Sitting here at the original gateway to Yellowstone Park, this area—Livingston—is still truly Western, with cattle ranchers and real cowboys. Here, you really want to put on your cowboy boots and play the part."



A four-step whitewash process gives shiplap siding character and a finish that contrasts the reclaimed-wood ceiling.

Handmade Tabarka Studio tile brings the energy of pattern to the primary bathroom. The freestanding tub, however, is all about unwinding.



Guest quarters for the couple's grandchildren tuck under the eaves in a fun loft space. One bedroom features a gloss-white ceiling treatment for a light, airy mood.

A twist on the bunkroom, this upper-level kids' space features low-slung twin beds and a space-saving vanity niche tucked beneath a snug wood-plank ceiling.

