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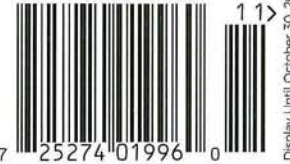
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# cowboy KEEPSAKE

STORY BY AMY LAUGHINGHOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES RAY SPAHN

HOME BY TIMBER WORKS INC. &  
SUNLIT ARCHITECTURE



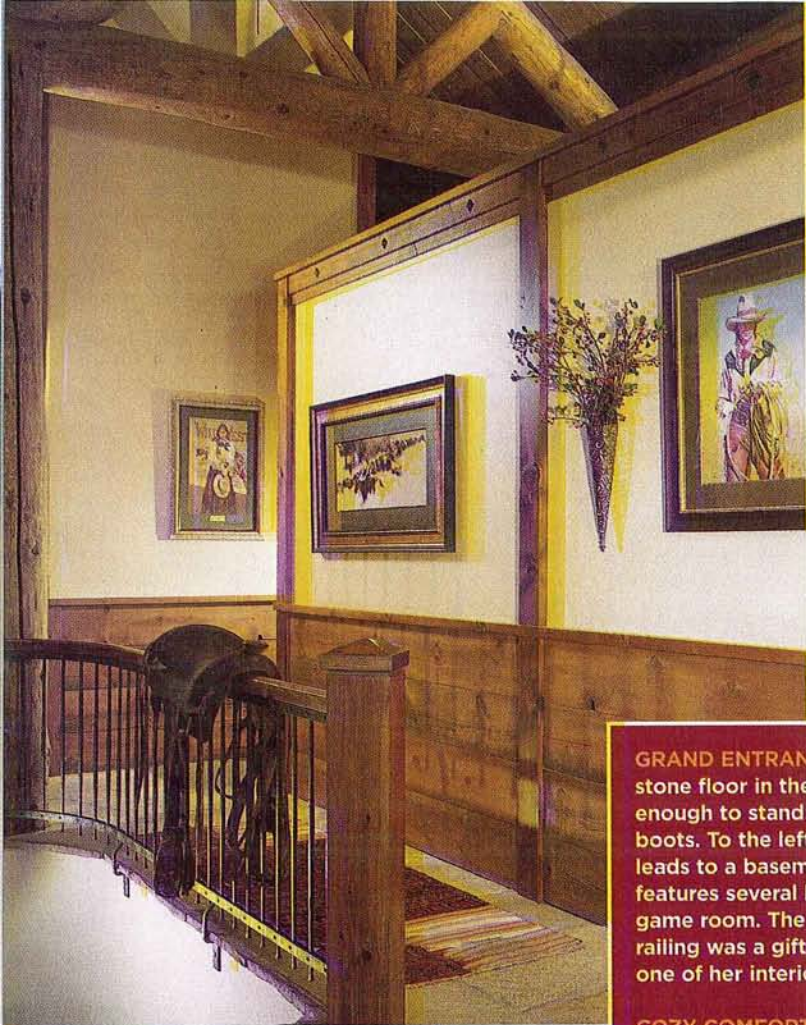
**A Florida family lassoed a rugged and rural mixed-media Colorado vacation home that's heavy on utility and style.**



**HOME ON THE RANGE.** Colorful wildflowers fill the fields surrounding the Logans' home. Multiple covered decks make these outdoor spaces more functional in rough weather.







**GRAND ENTRANCE (top).** A stone floor in the foyer is sturdy enough to stand up to muddy boots. To the left, a stairway leads to a basement level that features several bedrooms and a game room. The saddle on the railing was a gift to Susan from one of her interior design clients.



**COZY COMFORT (bottom).** Susan juxtaposed a red leather armchair against a weathered-leather sectional “to add a little zing” to the living room. In place of a coffee table, she chose a soft leather ottoman painted with a Native American design. “You can just come in and put your feet up here,” she says.

# W

While visiting a friend in Crested Butte, Colorado, a decade ago, Florida resident Kevin Logan eschewed typical souvenirs, such as refrigerator magnets and key chains. Instead he wanted a more lasting memento to bring home to his wife Susan: the deed to a 1-acre lot offering panoramic views of the snowy ski slopes.

Susan recalls that the keepsake was a welcome but very unexpected surprise. “Those mountains just call to you,” explains Susan, who fell in love with Colorado years ago. “Besides, Kevin’s enthusiasm was contagious,” she says.

“He said, ‘You’re going to love the town,’” Susan continues, noting that Crested Butte is home to roughly 1,600 residents. “It’s one of the last cowboy towns left—small, remote and laid-back.”

Kevin and Susan were a perfect pair when it came time to design and build their second home: Kevin owns a lumber company in Florida, and Susan is an interior designer. Together the couple envisioned a home that captured the charm of an Old West lodge where they could vacation with their three daughters, Annie, 16, Sarah Jane, 14, and Katie, 11.

Susan also welcomed the chance to spread her designer’s wings to create a warm ranch welcome—a definite departure from the beach cottages and Mediterranean-style

homes she’s grown accustomed to outfitting in Florida. But that didn’t mean she was gung ho for Grizzly Adams’ style, either.

“We didn’t want just a log cabin,” she explains. “I like a mixture of different textures and treatments to give it a little variety.”

The designer’s solution? Structural log trusses paired with stick-framed walls that introduce wood accents to the home without locking Susan into the wall-to-wall-log look.

## Home Sweet Hybrid

The Logans weren’t the first to appreciate the versatility and style of a mixed-media design. Architect Bob Brotherton of Sunlit Architecture began designing this type of hybrid home 15 years ago at a client’s request.



**COWBOY CUISINE.** To avoid blocking the Logans' mountain views, architect Bob Brotherton positioned a pass-through fireplace as a room divider between the living and dining areas. Stonemason Dave Sheefer earned high praise from both the architect and the home owners for his artistic placement of dry-stacked local stone. The chandelier, made of rusted old six-shooters, spur horses, horseshoes and arrows, provides an additional focal point in the dining room.





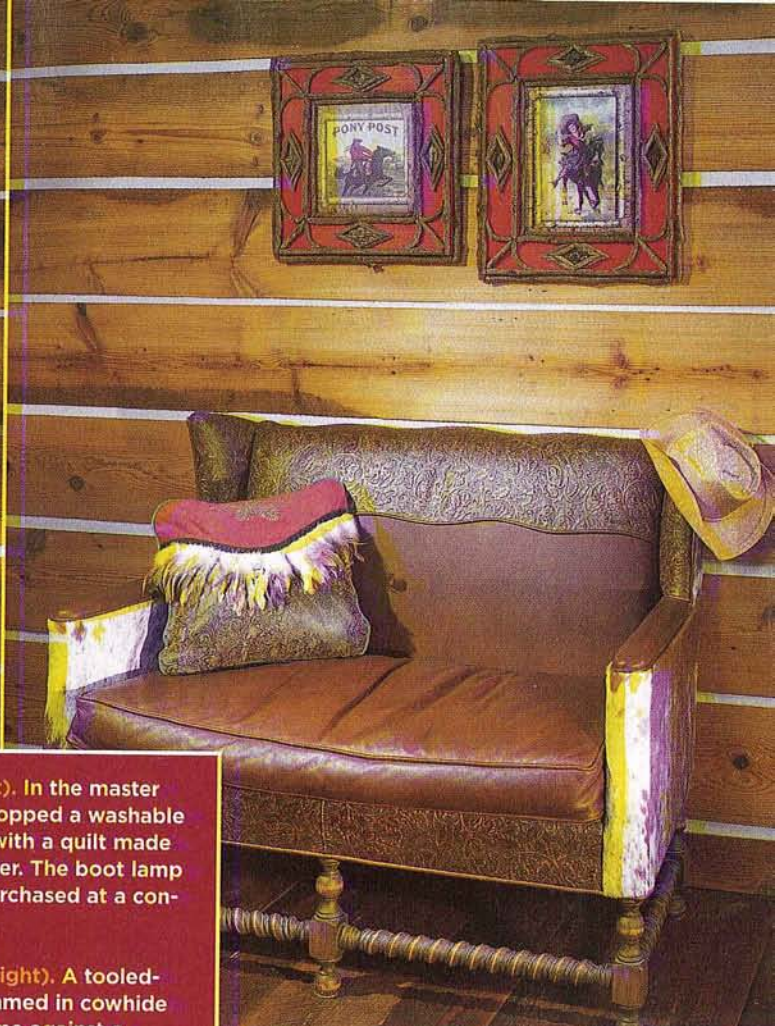
**DOWN-HOME COOKING.** Massive spruce trusses soar above kitchen cabinets that combine alder wood with barn-wood inserts. Susan downplayed the presence of the six-burner stove by integrating it into an island that boasts rusted-tin panels and a copper counter. Copper is repeated in the vegetable sink nestled in a sandstone countertop. The chiseled edge echoes the rough-and-tumble Colorado countryside.







**RUSTIC REST (left).** In the master bedroom, Susan topped a washable suede comforter with a quilt made by her grandmother. The boot lamp is one of a pair purchased at a consignment store.



**SITTIN' PRETTY (right).** A tooled-leather settee trimmed in cowhide seems right at home against a chinked "log" wall in the master bedroom.

"Those owners didn't want a log wall in the house, but they wanted big trusses and big beams, akin to a timber frame," explains Bob, who applied similar principles to the Kevin and Susan's 5,000-square-foot floorplan, though their home does bear more interior woodwork.

According to Timber Works Inc. president Scott Moss, who manufactured and erected the Engelmann-spruce fan trusses that support the Logans' roof, this hybrid design has multiple advantages for both the owners and the builder.

"On a full-stack log home, you're going to have movement, shrinkage and settling," he says. "In these post-and-beam configurations, we eliminate that."

Incorporating a fair amount of drywall and other non-log surfaces is easier on the subcontractors, too, Scott explains. The reason being that running mechanicals, such as wiring and plumbing, is much easier to do behind hollow drywall than through solid logs. "Trying to chase plumbing through log walls can be a bit of a challenge," Scott says.

## New Life, Smart Style

The Logans' general contractor, Scott Hargrove of Hargrove Construction, complemented the home's log

accents by adorning the exterior stick-framed walls with 3-inch-thick slabs of Colorado spruce. He dovetailed the planks at the corners of the home and used chinking in between, creating the illusion of stacked square logs.

Inside, Scott used reclaimed Douglas fir salvaged from an old slaughterhouse in Pueblo, Colorado, to fashion the exquisite architectural details found throughout the home. "I like the history, the nail and bolt holes and the stains," he says of the richly hued timber, which he used to create the doors, trim, paneling, bookcases and bar. "It has a little different patina and luster than new wood. It's the real deal."

The impact of the reclaimed lumber is obvious from the moment guests walk through the front door. An 8-foot-high wall of recycled timbers stretches to the height of a chair rail, separating the foyer from the kitchen. Above the chair rail, drywall painted in neutral tones provides gallery space for paintings of cowboys and girls, establishing the theme of the home.

In the master bedroom, Kevin and Susan turned to the old fir paneling once again, but here, they added chinking between the slabs to create a more casual feel. "It gives it an Old West look," Susan notes, especially when paired with accessories like a tooled-leather set-





**SOAK IN THE VIEW.** In the master bathroom, an old lantern, a slate floor and a copper sink nestled into a cherry cabinet accented by tin inserts evoke a rustic Western charm. The carved wooden mirror belonged to one of the construction crew members who planned to sell it at a yard sale. "He showed me a picture, we measured it, and I said, 'We'll take it!'" Susan recalls with a laugh.





**SINKING IN (left).** The powder room contrasts the elegance of a hand-blown glass sink with a distinctly Western mirror trimmed in leather.

**RACK 'EM UP (right).** The main level of the home features a built-in bar adjacent to the pool table, where the couple and their daughters hone their billiards skills in friendly family tournaments.



tee and bedside lamps crafted from well-worn cowboy boots.

Throughout the home, rough-hewn wood treatments overhead and underfoot further enhance the home's rustic character. Circular-sawn Douglas fir planks cover the vaulted ceilings, and 100-year-old reclaimed heart-pine floors, scarred with age, seem only to improve with each generation of abuse. Scott used a buffer on the floor to eliminate any splinters. "But we didn't sand it down because we wanted the old surface to show through," he says.

"I was looking for durability," explains Susan, who furnished her home with leather and sturdy antiques that can withstand her family's active lifestyle. "I want people to sit down, hang out and have a cup of hot chocolate, especially after we've been skiing, snowshoeing or hiking all day. It's not just a showcase house," she insists.

Indeed, it's a home: a comfortable Colorado getaway that has enabled Susan and Kevin to collect the best souvenirs of all—memories of time spent with family and friends. ■



2nd Level

Main Level



Basement Level

## HOMESPECS

**Square footage:**  
5,000

**Architect:**  
Sunlit Architecture  
970-349-5311  
[www.sunlitarchitecture.net](http://www.sunlitarchitecture.net)

**Builder:**  
Hargrove Construction  
970-349-5816  
[www.hargroveconstruction.com](http://www.hargroveconstruction.com)

**Log Company:**  
Timber Works Inc.  
970-209-6724