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kitchen: scenic overlook

Peaks View Residence comes by its name honestly. Located at the base of Wyoming's Teton Pass, it stands in a former hay meadow shadowed by towering snow-capped mountains. Architect Eric Logan paid tribute to the setting by designing the house's primary living space as a kind of land-based observatory. Encompassing kitchen, dining, and living functions, the room salutes the peaks with a long shed roof that rises toward the west. "The kitchen is tucked back at the low end," explains Logan, from which the sloping ceiling directs attention upward and outward.

While leaving the kitchen open to the surrounding spaces, Logan used millwork to organize work and seating, and to conceal cooking operations from the dining and living areas. Three freestanding elements—two sink islands and a bank of cabinets containing wall ovens and the main refrigerator—give the room its shape, which is reinforced by a ceiling-hung cabinet between the kitchen and the dining area. "We called it 'the UFO' or 'the Tube,'" Logan says. "It's a container for glassware behind these sliding glass panels, lit from within." Only the range and its surrounding cabinets anchor to a wall. A pantry with a third sink and a second refrigerator keeps smaller appliances off the main counters but within easy reach. A windowed breakfast bay projects toward the south, with a lower ceiling, a more intimate scale, and a view of the property's nearby pond.

Sapele millwork and ceramic tile backsplashes contrast with the lighter-colored madrone flooring, hemlock ceiling, and stone composite countertops. Stainless steel cabinet hardware helps integrate the built-in appliances and range hood. Square recessed lighting fixtures keep overhead space clear, blending discreetly into the ceiling board pattern. The simple materials palette and crisp detailing lend a sense of order that doesn't compete with the main event outside, resulting in a platform for family life that's as efficient as it is uplifting. "These clients were interested in having it all happen in one room," Logan says. This one should fit the bill nicely.—*bruce d. snider*

A tall backsplash (above) conceals the sink counter from the adjacent dining area. Free-standing banks of cabinetry define the cooking spaces (right).



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Photos: Matthew Millman

project: Peaks View Residence, Wilson, Wyo.

architect: Carney Logan Burke Architects, Jackson, Wyo.

builder: Dembergh Construction, Wilson

resources: ceramic tile: Heath Ceramics; cooktop: Wolf; counter-tops: Silestone; dishwasher: KitchenAid; fittings: Grohe; fixtures: Kohler; ovens: Wolf; refrigerators: SubZero; windows: Loewen

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bath: space capsules

Reflecting Peaks View Residence's emphasis on public spaces, the house's private rooms are modestly scaled and straightforward in layout—qualities architect Eric Logan used to highlight the virtue of simplicity. The master bath devotes its outside wall to a tub-and-shower bay, with the tub's tiled deck becoming a bench where it enters the shower enclosure. A tiled soffit above marks where the bay projects from the body of the house. Floating along the opposite wall is a sapele vanity topped with a composite counter of concrete and recycled glass. A separate toilet compartment makes for a clutter-free bathing zone.

Maximizing space is even more important in the children's bath. As in the master, the bathing area is defined by ceramic tile in a running bond pattern. The transparent shower surround occupies little apparent space, virtually disappearing against the darker tile.

The window is stained to match the cabinet "to complement the millwork but also to limit the number of materials," Logan says. The window's mountain view expands the bath's visual scope to the scale of miles.—*b.d.s.*



Photos: Matthew Millman



Simplicity yields serenity in this master bath (left). The children's bath applies a similar layout at a more compact scale (top and above).

resources: ceramic tile: Heath Ceramics; countertops: IceStone; fittings: Hansgrohe; fixtures: Kohler; flooring: Heath Ceramics; hardware: Linea; windows: Loewen