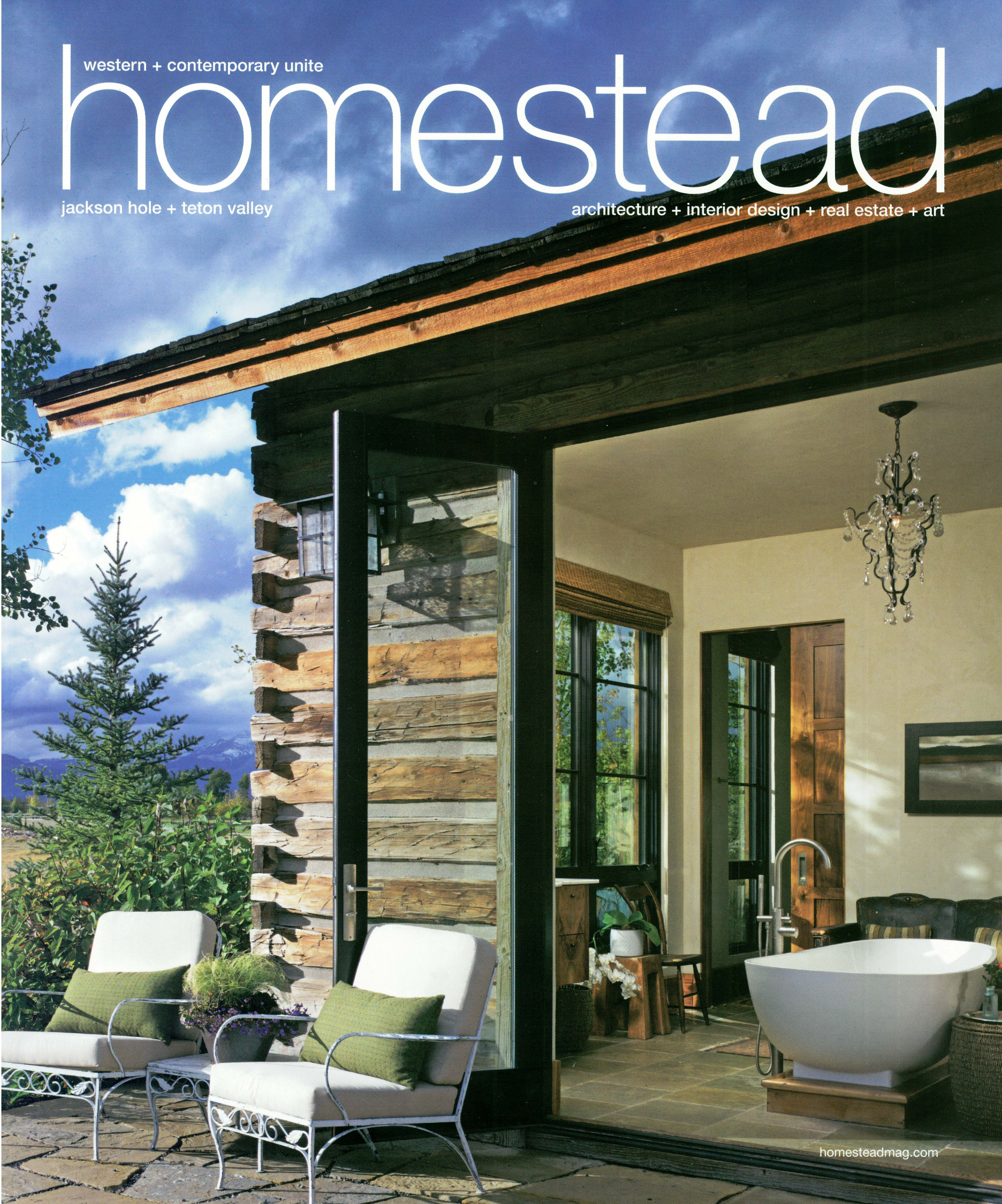


western + contemporary unite

homestead

jackson hole + teton valley

architecture + interior design + real estate + art



ARCHITECT

Carney Logan Burke Architects

CONTRACTOR

Tennyson-Ankeny Construction

ENGINEERED SANDSTONE

SIREWALL USA, LLC

RAMMED EARTH WALL

Earth Wall Builders, LLC
& Terra Firma Builders LTD

LIGHTING

Helius Lighting Group

'JEWEL BOX' ADDITION: THINKING OUTSIDE THE LOG BOX

+ Story by Edythe Pollack

+ Photography by Matthew Millman &
Paul Warchol

What to do when you've got a log house you love, but are interested in an addition that is not log and is modern?

"The homeowner said she wanted a 'jewel box' of an addition," says Jen Mei, an architect at Jackson-based Carney Logan Burke Architects. "That's what we kept in mind as we were designing, and the end result is this special moment within the house; the space is very different and more abstract than the rest of the home."

To execute the design, the architectural team turned to Jay Ankeny of Tennyson-Ankeny Construction, Joss Krayenhoff of SIREWALL USA and Brad Mimplitz of Earth Wall Builders. "Rammed earth was an excellent choice for both its visual impact and its rustic, natural texture—like logs," says Mei. "It fits a modern aesthetic because it is detailed in such a clean way."

"I was immediately intrigued when the architects suggested rammed earth; it is such a wonderful, natural material," says the homeowner. "We knew we wanted the addition to flow beautifully from the traditional log cabin but also for it to be its own thing: a beautiful piece of contemporary architecture." ▶







Elegant Execution: "We like to say that we are inspired by place, and in this project we were able to create something that is literally of the place," says architect Jen Mei about the 500-square-foot rammed earth addition to this home. "That's very poetic and exciting."

Wall Craft: This addition to the original home will last several lifetimes without the need for maintenance, and it exceeds current standards for energy efficiency and compressive strength. It's also beautiful.

Exterior, Top Right: The home's addition seemingly—and seamlessly—rises from its natural surroundings.

Exterior Detail: Jackson-based artist Ben Roth created a custom surround for the new outdoor shower.



Carney Logan Burke prides itself on site-specific design that simultaneously highlights and blends in with the landscape. Still, this addition to a butte-top home with some of the valley's best views of the Tetons took "site-specific" to the next level. Rammed earth is exactly what it sounds like—supercompacted soil. The walls of the 500-square-foot study/library are two feet thick—20 inches of Jackson Hole soil blended with SIREWALL's proprietary strengthening mix and a smidge of dye and then a four-inch pocket filled with insulation.

Having the views this property does, the rammed earth walls do have plenty of windows. "This design called for a rammed earth corner with windows on either side. That execution required specialty details," Krayenhoff notes. And Mimlitz points out that both color and design are crucial to the end result. "We always do a lot of test blocks to dial in color and texture," he says. "A full-sized sample wall allowed the architects and the homeowner to really see what the walls would look like. And that test wall became the address marker for the property."

Though this is the first rammed earth project that general contractor Tennyson-Ankeny Construction has been involved with, Ankeny felt confident working with the assembled team. "Remodels are always challenging because you're trying to blend the old and new," he says. "And here we were changing a log structure on the inside and making it look very modern. You have to spend the time doing it right the first time." ▶

