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VOLUME 61



EXCLUSIVE
INTERVIEW
OF THE MONTH

LOGAN PAVILION

Jackson, Wyoming, United States

In the March edition of the Interview of the Month, we look closer on the situation of designing a home by an architect for an architect. We had the opportunity to interview Eric Logan, Principal Architect at CLB Architects, who took on both the role of architect and client at the same time. In essence, Logan Pavilion is a residence that has evolved along with the family that inhabits it. Eric Logan tells us about his experience on designing a home that 'borrows' its locality and his thoughts on representing both CLB Architects and his family.

Let's get started!

First of all, can you please tell us a bit about the Logan Pavilion?

Located on a sagebrush plain north of Jackson, Wyoming, the Logan Pavilion is home to my family, including my wife and two college-age daughters. Originally built in 1997 on an aggressive four-month construction schedule and a tight budget, our minimalist home has adapted over time, evolving with our needs. In 2001, we added a guest house, which provides a space to host visitors, a yoga/workout room, and an area away from the main house. The property also grew to accommodate a garage, and later an addition to the garage, which houses my personal collections including cars, bikes, motorcycles, tools, and vinyl records. The garage forms are built from oxidized steel which rusts and weathers with the surrounding climate. With a new remodel completed in 2020, our home comprises four bedrooms, three bathrooms, and a detached garage. This most recent iteration of our home includes a kitchen renovation, roof upgrade from a shingle roof to a metal roof, and new decking, siding, and stain.

What was the narrative of the house?

Built to maximize natural light, cross-ventilation, and surrounding views of the Teton Mountains, the home is firmly situated in the Western landscape. Extreme weather conditions necessitated a sturdy structure, and the form's deep overhangs provide shelter from sun or snow. Throughout our time on the property, we have responsibly created a more diverse landscape by integrating plants and trees for shade and to provide habitat for wildlife. The house borrows its form from vernacular hay sheds. The gabled roof, held aloft on tall columns, is an appropriate symbol for shelter on the open plains. We selected the exterior materials, including rusted sheet steel, for their ability to weather gracefully and blend with the colors of the landscape. Recycled and manufactured materials give the interior a contemporary feel. Oiled masonite wall paneling and an oiled concrete floor



are economical interior finish solutions that allow the home to speak for itself. The primary west-facing deck, used for entertaining and outdoor meals, is an extension of the living area. Whether or not we are using this outdoor area, there is a feeling of borrowed space. On summer afternoons when it is hot and windy, we escape to the east end of the house where this leeward deck provides shade and protection. The south side hosts a large deck that defines the entry sequence. The north deck is dedicated to the BBQ, it cantilevers over a seasonal stream and provides a nice refuge for grilling.

How was it to simultaneously take the role of both architect and client?

Taking on the role of both architecture firm and client simultaneously comes with its ups and downs. On the one hand, you do not have an outside

client to answer for approvals; however, the client's perspective helps enrich the work, so perhaps the process is cut short when it's just one perspective. Nonetheless, I enjoyed the process of being my own client because I am direct and decisive – although not always right. I am also a bit of a realist, so I had to make timely and efficient decisions in order to keep momentum with the project.

Was the process different from designing a home for a 'regular client'?

The process is different from designing a home for an ordinary client. Being the owner and designer simultaneously adds pressure because you are spending your own time and money, so there was a need to be as efficient as possible.

"I refer to the newest iteration of my home as a 'new black sweater'. The original simplicity of the design has allowed the home to stand the test of time while also changing."

– Eric Logan, CLB Architects



Architects often strive to be bold. Were you encouraged to take risks on the design, when you had to live in the house yourself?

Knowing that I was designing my family's home, I was encouraged to take design risks to fulfill my family's needs. With different preferences and tastes in design, I wanted to ensure that every aspect of the home was functional yet in line with all of our goals.

What is the thing about the project you are most proud of?

I refer to the newest iteration of my home as a "new black sweater." The original simplicity of the design has allowed the home to stand the test of time while also changing. I also see the evolution of the world around us through Logan Pavilion — from my own family's evolving needs to the neighborhood's design approach.

Architecture by **CLB Architects**

Photography by **Kevin Scott**

