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MOUNTAIN HOMES AND RUSTIC RETREATS

Elizabeth Clair Flood Photographs by Peter Woloszynski



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CHRONICLE BOOKS
SAN FRANCISCO

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*For Emily and Harry, and for my parents,
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*Thank you to all the homeowners who graciously invited us
into their homes and shared with us their stories.*

*We also appreciate the help and inspiration we received from the
numerous individuals who were our faithful guides: Terry Baird,
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Deavours Hall, Shannon May, Bruce Olson, Polly Peak,
Quentin N. Scott, Robin Stater, Elizabeth Stevensen, and Sandra
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through some of the most beautiful mountains.*

PAGE 2 A church bell tower, originally
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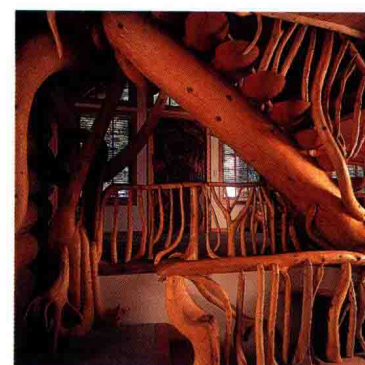
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Cottage Dwellers
Work in Progress



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Swedish Snow Home
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Whistler Wild Card
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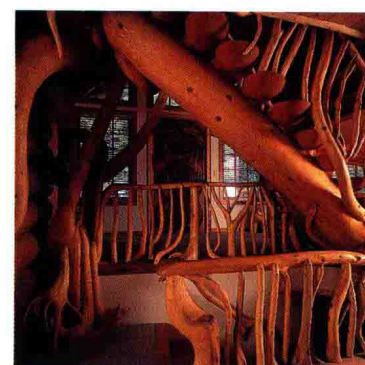
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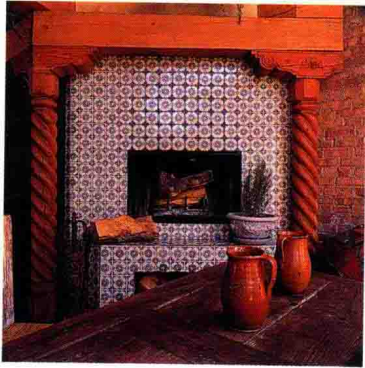
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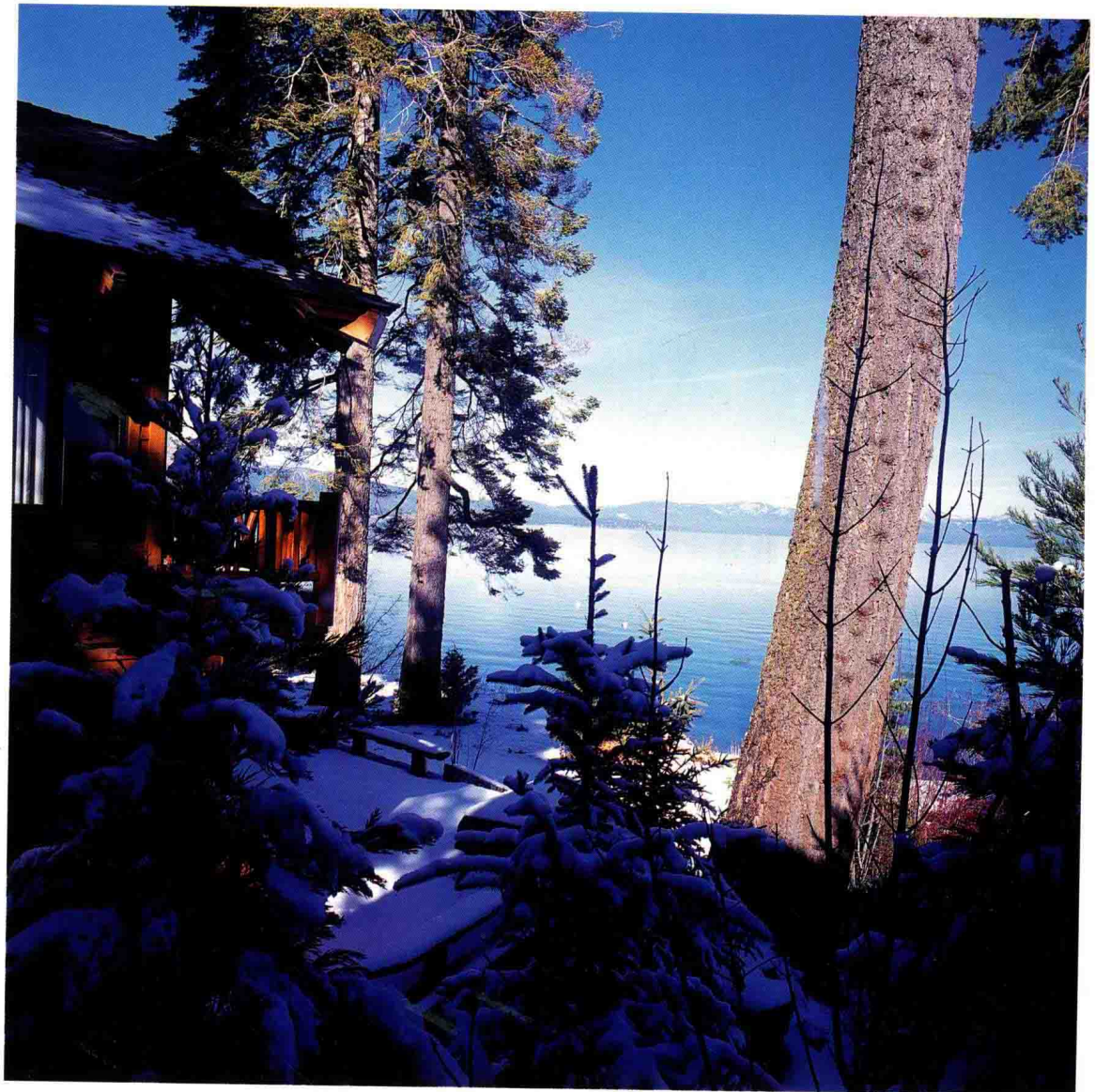
ABOVE A Southwestern-style fireplace, featuring tiles and wooden pillars, provides warmth in a restaurant in Park City, Utah.

LEFT Before Sun Valley, Idaho, became a popular ski resort, the area was predominately inhabited by ranchers. Today ranching is still a viable way to make a living in the mountains, but the work is tough in this country, where winter can last up to nine months.

RIGHT Many Californians enjoy their second homes in the Lake Tahoe area. Surrounded by the Sierra Nevada and situated on the bank of the lake, properties are extremely valuable. Locals say people are tearing down million-dollar homes to build five- and ten-million-dollar homes. Once mostly a summer resort, the Lake Tahoe area has become a year-round recreational area.

PAGE 6 Many people move to the Western mountains to enjoy the open space. Jagged snow-capped mountains surround this Livingston, Montana, home and open land stretches for miles.

PAGE 7 An old hickory rocker on a cabin porch provides a quiet place to sit and look at the mountains in the distance.



Introduction

As we drove into Aspen, Colorado, on a chilly December day, Peter told me that “this is the kind of place where people you meet over cocktails offer you a lift in their private planes.”

“Yeah, right,” I said, rolling my eyes. Peter Woloszynski, a photographer from Bath, England, and I were headed to Aspen’s historic Hotel Jerome, where we would be staying a week while we photographed mountain home interiors for this book. We had just arrived from Mammoth, California, where some skiers still live in A-frames carpeted with orange shag rugs and own avocado-green refrigerators. Neither one of us had ever stayed in Aspen before. We looked forward to a change.

After checking into our rooms, we dressed for dinner and met antler artisans Stephen Kent and Joan Benson of Crystal Farm and their friend Andy Corwin at Jimmy’s, a local restaurant and bar. The evening clicked along at a brilliant pace, with martinis arriving faster than chairs on a high-speed quad. Then Peter mentioned that we were thinking about continuing on to Santa Fe and Taos to photograph more snow homes.

“Oh, take our plane,” Stephen said. “We’re not using it.”

I looked at Peter, dumbfounded.

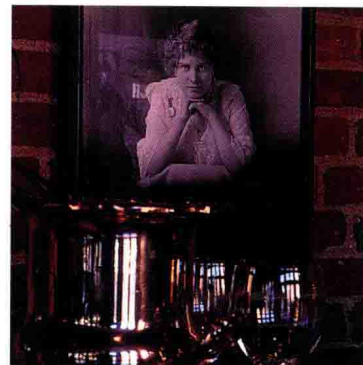
“No, really, we insist, and Andy will fly you,” Stephen added.

In disbelief, Peter and I looked over at Andy who was well into his fifth cocktail.

Tipsy, he laughed. “Don’t worry, I never drink and fly.”

That comment was *so* Aspen — like the professional Christmas tree decorator we met, who’d flown in from Los Angeles to create chic trees for the socialites, and the fur-lined Gucci dog beds costing over \$2,500, and a bar owner who tells you he entertains “only the *crème de la crème*” of society.

Aspen was just one of many ski resorts on our tour. From Whistler, Canada, to Santa Fe, New Mexico, Peter and I



ABOVE A historic black-and-white portrait of an early Jerome visitor and a silver bucket on the piano create a nostalgic atmosphere for the good old days at the Hotel Jerome.

RIGHT The staff at the Jerome gathers on the front porch of this historic hotel. From carrying weighty fur coats to providing room service, the Jerome staff makes sure a guest’s stay in Aspen is memorable.







RIGHT In the 1980s, interior designer Zoe Murphy Compton of Emma, Colorado, restored the Victorian mining-camp style to the Hotel Jerome. The custom-made wallpapers, the furnishings, and the palms are reminiscent of the Eastlake Gothic style popular in the 1880s.

LEFT The piano room at the Hotel Jerome features an antler chandelier made by Crystal Farm of Redstone, Colorado.