

Custom Home

hanley wood

The Art and Craft of Custom Home Building • Summer 2006

Unique Retreats

Vacation Homes
With Style



Have It All

14 Kitchens & Baths Offer
Comfort, Fine Detail

ON DISPLAY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 19, 2006

\$6.99 U.S.



08

1

Center Piece



The living spaces of this Los Angeles hill-side home occupy the second of three floors, so headroom is strictly constrained. Turning that limitation into a virtue, architect Zoltan Pali enclosed the space almost entirely with sliding glass doors. "The ceilings are quite modestly low," he says, "but the space feels expansive. It gives you that wide-format-film feel." At the center of this

* Details

Open on three sides to a larger living space, this kitchen reinforces its boundaries with a dropped ceiling. Edged in aluminum, the ceiling appears to cantilever over the walnut-clad storage wall and gives the kitchen the sense of occupying a precisely defined volume. It also serves as a large lighting fixture, with recessed cans providing working light and recessed cove fixtures washing the upper ceiling with a gentle glow that doesn't interfere with the view.

viewing platform, and with no exterior walls to line with cabinets and counters, Pali assembled a supremely functional kitchen from two islands and a cabinet wall. ■ "When I do my kitchens, it's two materials, three max," Pali says. Here, the palette is stainless steel on the countertops with aluminum and dark-chocolate-stained walnut on the cabinet faces. At the cabinet wall, a symmetrical layout of aluminum-trimmed walnut doors incorporates twin refrigerators, a wall oven, and a flush-mounted microwave and flat-screen TV. The floor is concrete that was ground, sealed, and waxed. The two-island layout offers a variety of seating options and cooking stations, Pali says. "The idea there is the island closest to the wall cabinets is the work island. Nobody goes there; that's your space." The second island provides a seating area and overflow counter space. ■

Project Credits: Builder: William Kent Development, Los Angeles; Architect: Studio Pali Fekete, Culver City, Calif.; Project size: 275-square feet; Construction cost: Withheld; Photographer: Claudio Santini.

• For product information see page 142.



Floating in the center of the house, this kitchen doubles up on island counter space and fills its one wall (opposite) floor to ceiling with storage and appliances.

