



ELEVATED WINE COUNTRY RETREAT

FROM A RUGGED SITE IN NAPA VALLEY,
A STUNNING VACATION HOME TAKES FULL
ADVANTAGE OF SPECTACULAR VIEWS

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Natural materials—cedar-clad ceiling, Douglas fir beams and local St. Helena cottage stone accents—connect the great room to the site.

THE MARIN COUNTY-BASED architectural firm of Holder Parlette specializes in luxury vacation retreats that are artfully integrated into their natural environments, and its portfolio is replete with impressive wine country residences. In the community of Angwin—its surrounding Howell Mountain appellation is home to some of Napa Valley’s acclaimed Cabernet Sauvignon producers—Holder Parlette created a rustically-elegant hideaway that showcases the site’s extraordinary views.

The project represents an ambitious renovation of an approximately 3,000-square-foot 1960s ranch home whose relatively low ceilings and small windows wasted the enviable 5.5-acre promontory site. “We wanted to engage the site, so we raised the roof about five feet to maximize the spectacular views,” reports



ABOVE The primary suite occupies a coveted corner position, presenting memorable views to wake up to. **BELOW** With expansive windows and Jada sliding glass doors, pristine mountain vistas define the living experience in this home. **OPPOSITE TOP** Consistent with the entire property, the kitchen derives warmth through natural materials and is fully integrated with the great room. **OPPOSITE BOTTOM** A soaring fireplace in the great room reveals how the existing home’s roof was raised approximately five feet to capitalize on breathtaking views.



principal Chris Parlette, who founded the firm with Kenneth Holder in 2018. In addition to maximizing views, the new design is a refined study in local materials. St. Helena cottage stone was incorporated into the façade, landscaping and interiors, connecting the home to the rugged site, while the great room’s ceiling is clad in cedar with Douglas fir beams. “We used blackened steel for some structural elements, which contrasts nicely with natural wood and stone,” says Parlette.

The primary suite was completely reimagined by Holder Parlette, now occupying an unrivaled corner position that affords valley views in two directions. “This is really where the magic happens for us,” says Parlette, who suggests, “We transformed the living experience well beyond the client’s expectations, taking advantage of the site’s best views.”

Holder Parlette ensured an indoor-outdoor lifestyle through expansive windows and seamless transitions. From both public and private spaces, Jada sliding glass doors provide access onto terraces blessed with phenomenal panoramas. While typical wine country views encompass rolling vineyards, the vistas from this home’s dramatic infinity pool—Howell Mountain is one of the highest elevations in Napa Valley—capture rugged peaks blanketed in towering, 200-year-old Douglas firs. Reaching the site entails a drive through idyllic meadows interspersed with vineyards and stately redwoods.

The architects, their clients and Mary Kathryn Timoney, senior designer at Design Galleria, erred toward minimalist interiors to allow the spectacular natural environment to take center stage, but in doing so created a sophisticated balance of rusticity and refinement. **CH**





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ABOVE Virtually every space in the home provides seamless transitions to terraces with spectacular views.

RIGHT A modern freestanding tub in a primary bath that delightfully blurs borders between indoors and out.

OPPOSITE A seductive infinity pool offers panoramic mountain views from an elevated site in Napa Valley.

