

IDAHO MOUNTAIN TIMBER HOME

RANGE OF COLOR



INTERIOR DESIGN BY WILLIAM DIAMOND AND ANTHONY BARATTA ARCHITECTURE BY THE JARVIS GROUP ARCHITECTS
AND DIAMOND BARATTA DESIGN PHOTOGRAPHY BY TRIA GIOVAN TEXT BY ELIZABETH GAYNOR



"IT WAS LIKE BUILDING WITH 'LINCOLN LOGS' EXCEPT WE WERE LIVING IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY AND

we were working at full scale," says Manhattan-based designer Anthony Baratta of his two-year adventure in the backcountry of Idaho with business partner William Diamond.

The two designers flew 2,000 miles every time they were needed on site and were often greeted by the lady of the house, an avid sportswoman who biked 58 miles to the airport to meet them. In summer, the designers sometimes stayed in a retrofitted Airstream trailer on the property. In winter, they traversed winding mountain roads over patches of black ice and once had to dodge a wayward herd of cattle. But the greatest professional challenge was working on a sprawling log structure—the duo had plenty of New York savvy but limited experience using rustic materials.

Diamond Baratta Design took on the collaborative project after the owners of the property—which is encircled by several mountain ranges and scored with rivers and creeks—decided to convert their original plans for a guesthouse into those for a year-round vacation home for themselves. Architect Janet Jarvis had incorporated features such as a bunkhouse bedroom, for the couple's three children and their young friends, and a kitchen with two tree trunks as columns—design fillips too good not to enjoy firsthand.

"These houses have to be wired for electricity, plumbed and

OPENING PAGES: Diamond Baratta Design (DBD) created hand-quilted sofa and chairs, coffee table and rug. Paul Ferrante lanterns. Totem poles carved by Carl and Linda Muggli. BELOW: Antique Austrian marriage chest. Antique mirror from Colefax and Fowler. Sconces made by Ann-Morris Antiques. RIGHT: DBD designed table, crafted by Thomas Newman. Custom chairs made by Old Hickory. Country Braid House rug and Paul Ferrante large lantern by DBD.







ABOVE: DBD designed runner and dressers, made by Flammang Woodworking. Antique lantern from Colefax and Fowler. Vintage lamps. RIGHT: DBD plaid for Lee Jofa on ceiling, sofa and side chairs. Custom tartan on vintage rattan furniture. DBD designed carpet made by Stark and custom sofa, club chairs and barber-pole lamps. Antique trunk and ceiling lanterns. Paul Ferrante wall lanterns. Custom scenic pillow from antique rug. Vintage diorama with motorized skier.



heated invisibly—and still look like rustic homes,” says Baratta. “That’s the magic of a contemporary log house.”

Proportion was everything. “In line with the ceiling and window height, as well as the massiveness of the stone fireplace, we scaled it all up,” says Diamond. “We made patterns large and graphic.”

The owners wanted a unique look expressed in primary hues. So the designers, well known for their whimsy and deftness with color, responded with an upbeat medley of outdoor, rustic and retro motifs. Virtually every surface shows evidence of custom work, from the quilt-pattern glazing of handmade kitchen tiles to the snowflakes stenciled on the bunk room’s ceiling to the tartan-bedecked eaves of the inviting game room.

Diamond and Baratta found inspiration in books, old textiles, artwork and even vintage postcards. They designed virtually every rug. One features skiers, another depicts 1950s motel signs, and yet another displays family touchstones like classic aluminum trailers. Totem poles were commissioned to frame the fireplace. Textiles for upholstery, cushions and coverlets were woven, embroidered, printed or pieced together like quilts. The designers sketched a birch bed, then had it built by a craftsman who cut down the trees himself. An artist painted panels for its nine-foot-high headboard.

The timber house fulfills its promise for the family, who relish being outside. Each of the daughters was taken on her first hike up a nearby mountain at age five, and all still go climbing with their father, an outdoorsman of Norwegian descent. “We love this area, the river and mountains,” says the wife and mother. “The log home brings nature inside. The decorating is the icing on the cake.” □

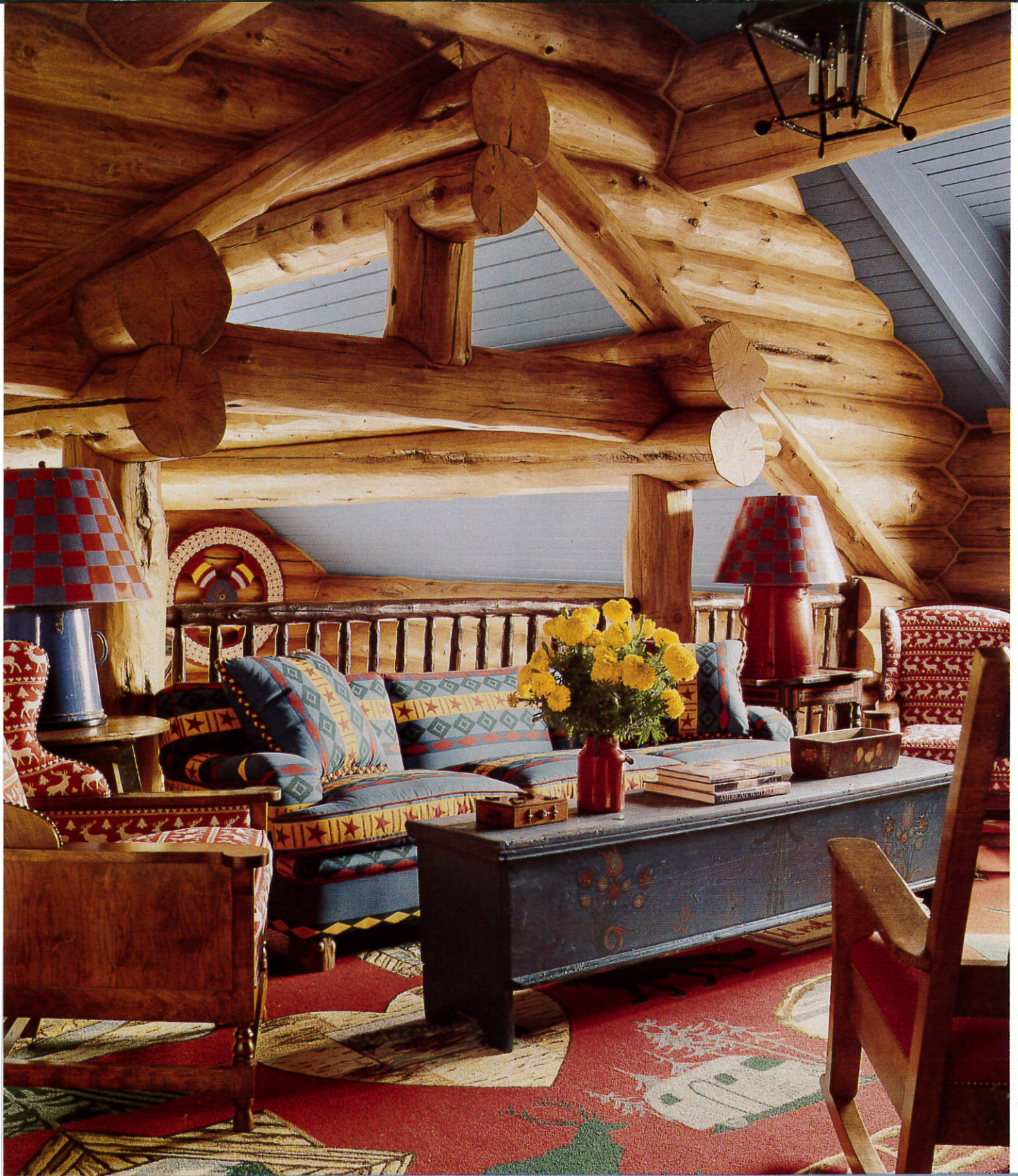


THE DESIGNERS WERE ASKED TO



AVOID A ONE-NOTE **"WESTERN"** OR "SKI HOUSE" LOOK.





PRECEDING PAGES: In master bedroom, DBD designed bed, made by Paul Flammang, with paintings by Eric Beare. DBD also designed shams, quilted by The Gazebo; custom rug, made by Country Braid House and Hubbard Mills; lamps using surveyors' tripods; and custom rattan sofa and chairs, made by Bielecky Brothers, in wool stripe. Antique chest and trunk. ABOVE: DBD designed silk-screened print for sofa; wingchairs, made by Thomas Newman, in Zimmer + Rohde fabric; and lamps using vintage coffee pots. DBD designed hand-tufted rug, made by Tai Ping, with outdoor imagery including classic aluminum trailer. Antique Swedish blanket chest. OPPOSITE: DBD designed carpet with skier motif, made by Stark. Custom built-in bunk beds. Custom wool plaid on walls between beds. Blankets by Pendleton.





ABOVE: Jaime Magoon of DBD designed tiles, made by Country Floors. Custom island and cabinets, built by Red Rock Cabinets. Stools made by Ann-Morris Antiques. Kohler sink. Viking stove. BELOW: DBD designed table, made by Thomas Newman, and chairs, made by Old Hickory. Custom banquette. Custom chair fabric. Banquette cushion in Travers leather. Pillows from old quilt. OPPOSITE: In mudroom, 19th-c. bench and Norwegian shelf. DBD designed rug, made by Country Braid House and Hubbard Mills, and custom cushion fabric.



