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Pennsylvania
Grand Winner
Bill Westmoreland,
outstanding
in his field







The Log's New Roll

OUR "HIGH ROLLERS" THIS YEAR ARE landscape designer Hillary Maharam and architect David Pill, who gave a new spin to an old cliché: the log cabin. It all began when Hillary's parents, Donald and Bonnie Maharam, decided to build a vacation home on the shores of Lake Sebago, Maine. They gave their children free artistic reign—with one qualification: The home had to be built out of logs. "My husband and all our children went to camp in Maine," says Bonnie. "We'd always dreamed of building a home with that rustic, *On Golden Pond* feeling." The architects had worked with glass, steel and plaster, but "frankly, we worried that logs would be terribly limiting," recalls Hillary.

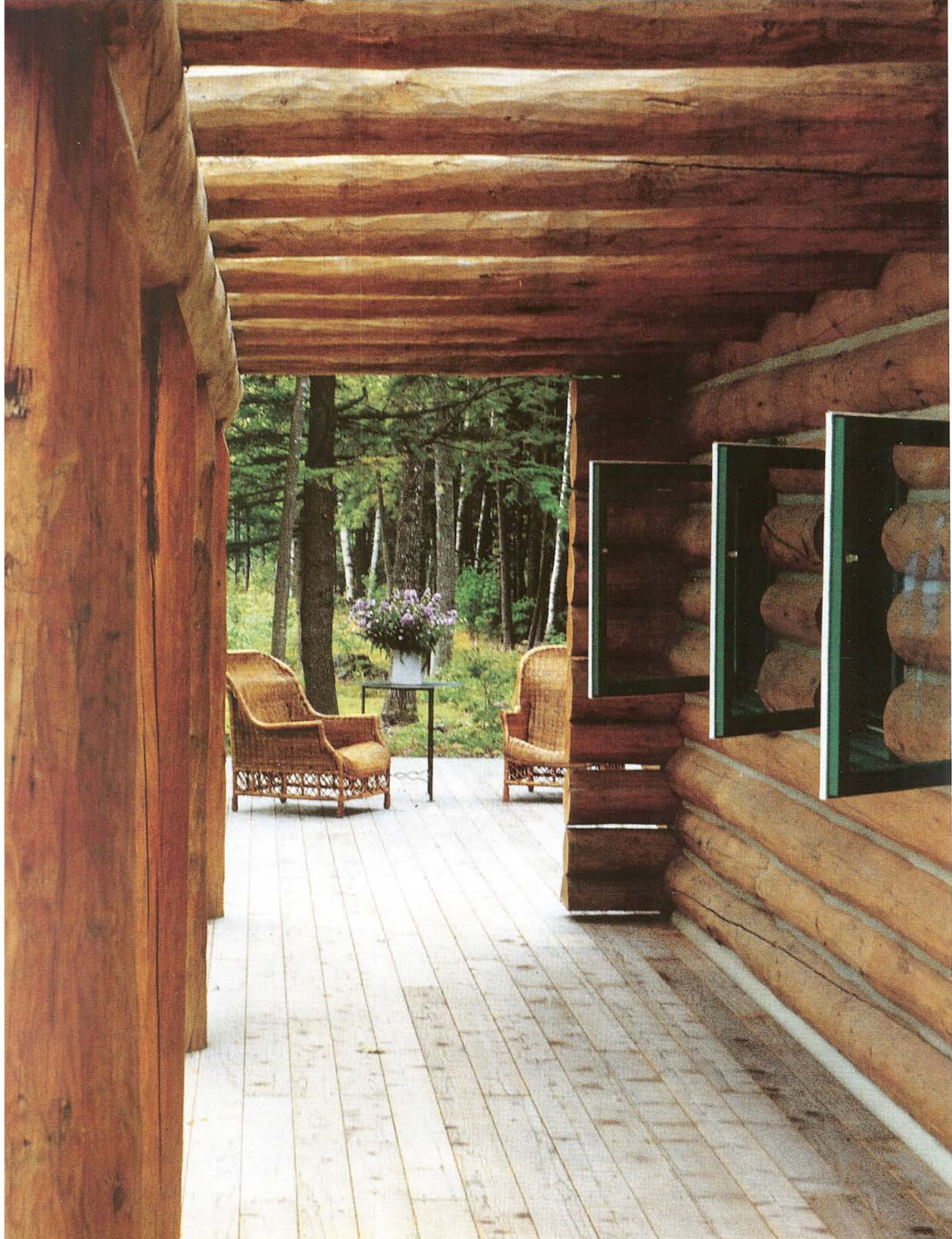
From the outset, they approached the design with a modern sensibility, not a cutesy one. The plan is contemporary, with one side opening onto the lake through sliding doors and a lift dormer brightening the attic bedroom. "We took advantage of the inherent qualities of the log to

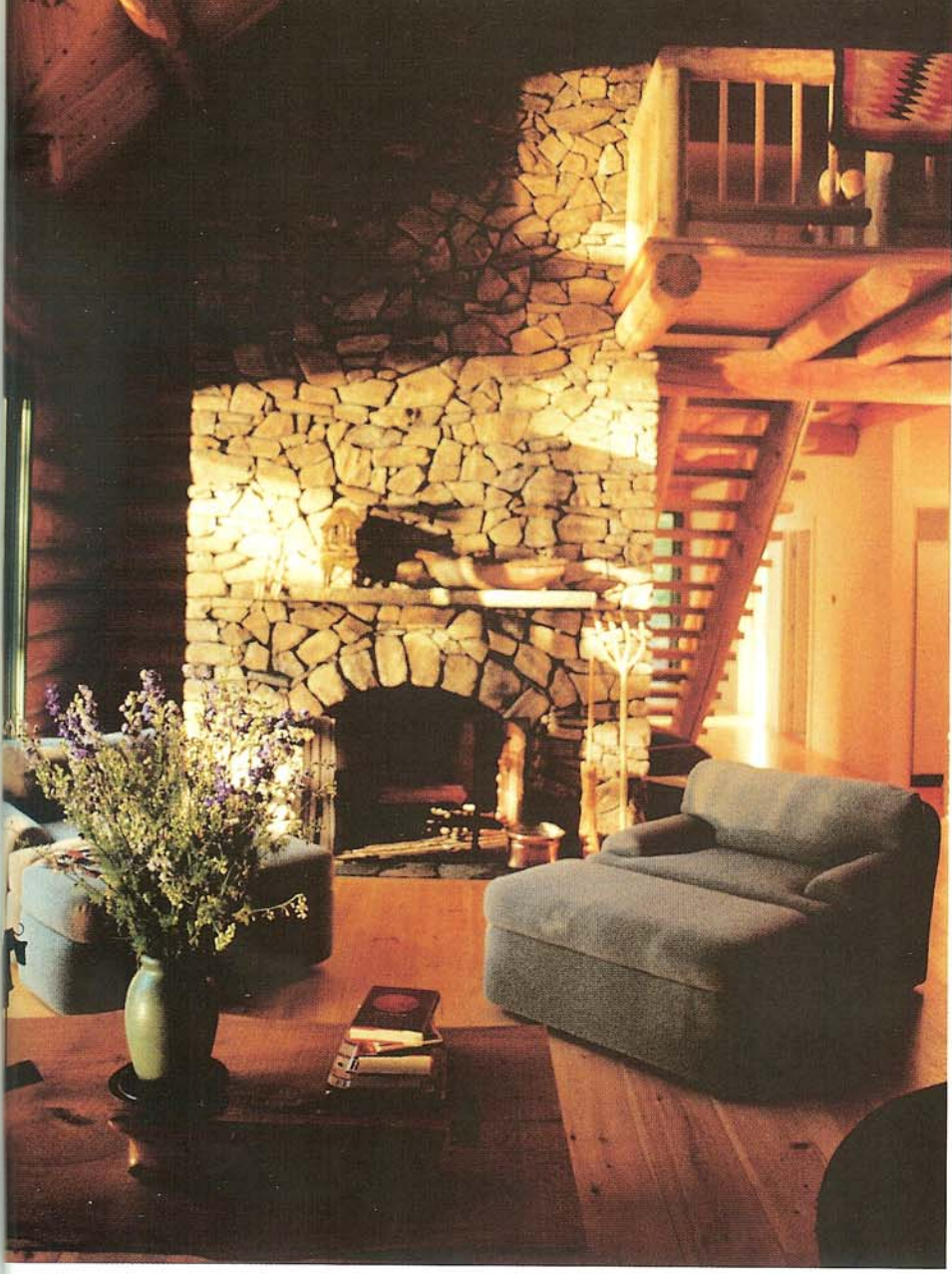


PILL/MAHARAM • LAKE SEBAGO, ME

"Our parents wanted a rustic, cozy camp—filled with personality. Logs added immediate warmth and comfort"

construct wonderfully sculptural spaces," says David. Using full logs, hand-hewn and notched in Montana, they shaped the lofty "great room" that Donald Maharam always wanted beneath one double-height gable. The walls are pierced with logs that extend through the room and act both as subtle dividers and decorative detailing.





"I WAS ASTONISHED how much personality the logs added to the place," Bonnie Maharam says. "There was instant warmth and comfort before we added even a stick of furniture." Pushing the traditional cabin's frontiers, they extended supporting logs from inside to out, creating a trellis (far left) that can compete with the best of Italian loggias. "Porch chairs were the very first thing we bought for the house," says Bonnie, who likes to call her home a "contemporary country cabin."

Indoors, the architects aimed for a mood that would be "rustic, not slick." The materials they chose for finishes and furniture had to maintain a texture and character of their own: pine floors, honed-granite counters and an absolute minimum of Sheetrock. The 23-foot chimney (left) made from old New England stones is a veritable monument to the legendary lodge "hearth." A cantilevered stair (near left and below) required three full-length logs. Each

"It's quite contemporary, but this house feels as though it has a long history"



tread was hewn from six-inch chunks of recycled wood from a local lumberyard. To Hillary and David's great joy, they discovered a new world of craftsmen, from the mavericks at Alpine Log Homes in Montana who built the shell, to the "traveling chinker" who combined high-tech sealant and age-old techniques to mortar the logs together. "It's difficult for architects not to become attached to their own projects," admits David. "So it's a treat to know that this one will always remain part of our family."—Julie Iovine

Photos: David Pill; See Resources