



Above and right: Architect Stan Field's Silicon Valley house for Atari cofounder Sam Tramiel is constructed from recycled materials.

Stan Field

IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S SILICON VALLEY, Palo Alto architect Stan Field has made another aspect of green building—recycled materials—the hallmark of a Silicon Valley home designed for Sam Tramiel, one of the founders of Atari, and his family. Having recently arrived in California from Israel, Field became intrigued with the beauty of Northern California redwood. Soon the materials began to drive the architecture. "It wasn't only the recycling, it was more the idea of getting in touch with the materials and letting them speak," he says.

Field discovered old redwood wine vats in Sonoma County and used them for the exteriors of the Tramiel house in combination with zinc, known for its anticorrosive and thermal qualities. "I wanted to weave the two languages together to create almost a handmade building," Field explains, "where the nailing pattern of the wood spoke to the zinc and the joints of the zinc spoke to the wood and



FIELD ARCHITECTURE

DESIGNING FOR THE FUTURE

Los Angeles, a city that has been described as being addicted to cars, is not the place one would expect to find a state-of-the-art eco-friendly home. Yet it is exactly where architect James Chuda, known for his environmental design, chose to build his own green home as a prototype for green architecture and nontoxic living. Chuda created the home with the help of his wife, Nancy Gould Chuda, an environmental activist.

Nestled in the Hollywood Hills, under the *H* in the Hollywood sign, the home is set between two legendary landmarks: the concrete-and-stone mansion once owned by Humphrey Bogart, and Bugsy Siegel's Lago del Mar, recently owned by Madonna. Chuda responded to the location with a contemporary concrete home that is an interplay of geometric shapes. A retain-

ing wall along the back of the house was designed to keep the structure cool in the hot summers.

The home incorporates cutting-edge materials and furnishings that are not harmful to human health and the environment. Troy and Lisa Adams, of Troy Adams Design in Los Angeles, were instrumental in getting key members of the "Green Team" together to design each of the rooms in the four-bedroom home.

Troy Adams also designed one of the home's most important gathering places: the kitchen and adjacent dining area. Both rooms are made of completely recyclable materials, including cork and bamboo flooring, lava stone countertops, cherry and wenge cabinets made in Germany under strict environmental standards, and

energy-efficient appliances and lighting. The eco-friendly design, however, did not scrimp on comfort or convenience, as evidenced by a granite water feature that emits soothing sounds, and aluminum roll-top "garages" that hide appliances, contributing to the streamlined look.

The Chudas' commitment to environmental and holistic design is extremely personal. In 1991, they lost a daughter to a nonhereditary form of cancer they suspect was caused by environmental toxins. A year later they founded the Children's Health Environmental Coalition (CHEC), dedicated to educating the public about environmental toxins that affect children's health. Last year, the home was briefly open to the public for tours, with net proceeds benefiting CHEC. —J.F.



The exterior is clad in redwood from old Northern California wine vats and zinc sheeting.


there was this interplay." The resulting 5,500-square-foot structure is less a single-family home than a collection of three interconnected buildings resembling a small village, each with unusual domed and vaulted roofs.


Inside, the light maple wood suggests a more refined in-

terior shell in juxtaposition to the hand-hewn feeling of the exteriors. An elegant suspended staircase rises up from the entrance hall, lit with natural light from the glass-enclosed entry below. The front door was salvaged from the home that previously occupied the site.


FINDING A GREEN ARCHITECT

Two organizations can assist in finding an architect who specializes in eco-friendly design:


 The U.S. Green Building Council has a professional accreditation program for building professionals (mainly architects and engineers), which requires them to demonstrate a knowledge of green building design and techniques. To find professionals in your area, use the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) AP directory on the website: www.usgbc.org.

 The American Institute of Architects (AIA) is the premier national organization representing licensed architects. Although it does not have a separate compendium of those who specialize in environmentally friendly design, it is possible to find a green architect in your vicinity on the AIA website, which provides links to individual practices and their philosophies: www.aia.org.

Some prominent architects who have garnered attention for their work in environmental design include the following:

 William McDonough
William McDonough + Partners
Charlottesville, Va.
434.979.1111
www.mcdonoughpartners.com

A pioneer of second-generation green design, McDonough heads an internationally recognized firm that practices what it terms "ecologically, socially and economically intelligent" architecture. *Time* magazine recognized him as a "Hero for the Planet" in 1999. His book *Cradle to Cradle, Remaking the Way We Make Things* (North Point Press, 2002) is a manifesto on sustainability.

 The Miller Hull Partnership
Seattle, Wash.
206.682.6837
www.millerhull.com

The firm received the prestigious AIA Architecture Firm Award in 2003 for producing distinguished architecture for at least 10 years. Known for a regional modernist style, the firm seeks to respond to "climate and environmental demands."

 Rick Joy
Tucson, Ariz.
520.624.1442
www.rickjoy.com

Joy won a 2004 National Design Award from the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum for architecture. The museum noted how his "efficient and environmentally sensitive architecture can emerge as a by-product from the timeless qualities that are associated with great architecture."


 Lake/Flato
San Antonio, Texas
210.227.3335
www.lakeflato.com

In its own words, the company creates architecture that is "tactile and modern, environmentally responsible and authentic, artful and crafted." Among its most recent awards: the prestigious AIA Architecture Firm Award in 2004.

 Pugh + Scarpa
Santa Monica, Calif.
310.828.0226
Charlotte, N.C.
704.347.3464
www.pugh-scarpa.com

Gwynne Pugh and Lawrence Scarpa are principals in this firm, honored by the AIA for one of the Top Ten Green Building


Projects in 2003. Their work is currently on display at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C., as part of the exhibition "The Green House: New Directions in Sustainable Architecture and Design."

 LaVerne Williams
Environment Associates
Houston, Texas
713.528.0000
www.environmentassoc.com

A champion of green architecture since the 1970s, Williams is now one of the movement's leaders in the Lone Star State. A Hill Country home he designed won the Austin Green Building Program's highest rating.

 FXFOWLE Architects
New York, N.Y.
212.627.1700
Dubai
+971.4.344.9655
www.fxfowle.com

This 28-year-old firm committed to "design excellence, social responsibility and sustainability," also has an office in Dubai. Last year it won an AIA Affordable Green Housing Award for its Helena Apartment Tower.

 Van der Ryn Architects
Sausalito, Calif.
www.vanderryn.com

Sim Van der Ryn has been practicing ecologically based architecture for 35 years. As California State Architect under Governor Jerry Brown, he developed the nation's first government-initiated energy-efficient office building program. At UC Berkeley, where he was a professor for more than 30 years, he helped establish the university's reputation for socially and environmentally responsible design. —J.F.



Field believes the use of recycled materials and other green-building techniques is becoming more commonplace as people become aware that architecture is much more than just buildings.

"It has a responsibility and is part of the environment," Field says. "The more architecture can be in sync with its environment and its ecology, the more it's going to enhance one's quality of life and sense of value." □

Field Architecture, 650.462.9554, www.fieldarchitecture.com