

N A P A C A B I N

OWNERS: Anonymous

ARCHITECT: Luke Wade, Wade Design Architects

When they discovered this location, surrounded on three sides by a state park and overlooking a vineyard, the owners knew this was their “inevitable place.” The driveway extends a half mile through the park, and the house emerges from the shaded hillside climb, surrounded on all sides by a mix of redwoods, evergreens, and native deciduous trees. The building site is nestled into the trees and overlooking the vineyard and the ridges of the hillsides beyond.

The owners originally intended to use the structure as a guest-house, but as they spent more time on the properties (they purchased the land next door for hiking as well as additional privacy), it became evident that the new dwelling was better suited to their lifestyle. The 1,200-square-foot cabin includes a master suite and a great room comprising the kitchen, dining area, living area, and sleeping loft with guest bath. The exterior areas include a spa, an outdoor fireplace, an outdoor kitchen, and a firepit. The design for the great room both saved space and allowed each functional place a sense of intimacy. The dining table became a lovely alcove banquette with tall steel windows and views of the lower vineyard. The kitchen occupies a pantry-like space with a beautiful view. The master bedroom is a sanctuary by any definition. This is a bold flourish of design, materials, and finesse in a rugged environment.

R I G H T: Perched on wooded knoll above the rolling vineyard, the cabin beckons with a lantern-like allure.





LEFT: An outdoor fireplace anchors the wraparound porch and overlooks a garden terrace nestled into the hillside below.



ABOVE: A corten-steel firepit provides a more intimate forest experience among the redwoods near the porch.



A B O V E : The dining area features a banquette tucked into a corner of the main living room. Behind it, an oversize paned window provides views through the porch to acres of vineyards and forest.

R I G H T : The kitchen provides all necessary amenities within a petite footprint, and is moored by a squarely proportioned island with a custom-designed pot rack above.



R I G H T : The strong central axis of the double-height main room is emphasized by a soaring fireplace flue that slips between timber trusses and into the light monitor above. A library ladder leads to a cozy loft.





A B O V E : A hanging daybed custom designed by Jen Macdonald and handcrafted by Gabe Statsky occupies pride of place at one corner of the wrap around porch.

R I G H T : Views of the distant wooded ridgelines are balanced by the intimate scale of the master bedroom, which opens onto the wraparound porch.

