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A STUDY IN CONTRASTS

FURNITURE

meets **FASHION**

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

meets **DECAY**

ART meets **NATURE**

TRADITIONAL

meets **MODERN**

MINIMALISM

meets **OPULENCE**

REFINED

meets **RUSTIC**

BLACK

meets **WHITE**



View from the Top

Creative construction solutions set this Oregon house seamlessly into the hillside—and clean-lined green design sets it up to stand for a very long time.

Written by BRIAN LIBBY • Photographed by JON JENSEN • Styling by SHANNON QUIMBY

DESIGN TEAM

design and construction: Green Hammer

landscape: LandCurrent

geotechnical engineering: Amrhein Associates

civil engineering: Mark Dew

structural engineering: Allan Goffe

cabinetry: William Olsen Designs



BELOW: The Finline House in southern Oregon is set upon a steep wooded hillside to capture views, and a series of terraces allows the home to step down gently with the terrain. The façade is stucco and FSC-reclaimed incense cedar. **OPPOSITE:** Crafted from juniper beams and decomposed granite, a path leads from the house to a network of walking trails.



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reated with environmental responsibility and efficiency in mind, the Finline House in southern Oregon was built to last and to inspire, both today and a century from now. Nestled into a steep hillside, the

home—designed and built by the sustainable construction experts at Portland’s Green Hammer, with an extensive assist from landscape architect Anita Van Asperdt of Eugene’s LandCurrent—keeps a low public profile yet sits high enough to capture views of the trees and meadows unfolding down the hill.

“I really wanted to make the house harmonious with the landscape and the area,” says the homeowner, who selected the building site. “I’m a climber, and I love views. My wife and I walked the site until we found the spot

with the most striking view, the one that hit us with the most emotion. That spot is now the middle of the great room, where the biggest windows are—that’s the sight line we chose.” To further harmonize home and site, the Finline House is surrounded by an array of native grasses, granite boulders, and trees that soften the line between landscape and architecture.

The back of the house proved to be a structural challenge. “Because we dug so deeply into the hillside, we had to create a big retaining wall,” explains architect Jan Fillingner, who designed the house while working part-time for »

TOP: The home's Bulthaup kitchen features anodized aluminum cabinets and quartz countertops, with Diego barstools by Token NYC and a Giogali chandelier by Vistosi. **BOTTOM:** The dining room, outfitted with Minotti furnishings—including the Clayton dining table and Flavin chairs—offers expansive mountain views. The patterned wall at left was designed by architect Jan Fillingner and crafted from laser-cut steel by Farwest Steel.



Green Hammer (he's since moved to Eugene and runs STUDIO-E Architecture, his own firm). "But we also wanted to capture patio space." That's when Van Asperdt, who worked in close coordination with the rest of the team, came up with the idea of building a concrete wall with amoeba-shaped cutouts along the top, its lower mass partially screened by a large incense cedar planter blooming with horsetail and *Crocsmia* plants. "It's an engineering solution combined with an aesthetic one," she says.

The interior is both pristine and casually inviting, warmed up throughout with FSC-certified wood elements, from the richly toned walnut floors to the reclaimed teak cabinets mounted over marble floors in the master bathroom. Anodized aluminum cabinetry in the German-designed Bulthaup kitchen provides a crisp contrast to the wood elements.

Natural light is an essential element of the home: most spaces are bounded by windows on two or three walls. Yet triple-pane glass—the house is named for the Unilux Fineline window system installed throughout—and extra insulation, designed to Passive House standards, keep interior temperatures comfortable year-round with little need for heating and cooling. "People will live in our buildings long beyond the ownership cycle," says Green Hammer president Stephen Aiguier. "They need to stand the test of time." Longevity, in the end, is the greenest goal of all. »

The master bedroom and bath feature soft tones and a touch of luxury, with Carrera marble floors in the bath giving way to a floating vanity made of reclaimed teak. The hanging lamp over the bedroom nightstand is a Cheope 09 pendant by Vistosi, and the Superia bed is by Hastens. »

RIGHT: In front of the house, granite boulders and native grasses blur the boundaries between the home and its setting. **BELOW:** The back patio, ideal for entertaining, includes an artfully perforated retaining wall designed by landscape architect Anita Van Asperdt. **BOTTOM:** The garage's cedar-clad door by Schweiss Door opens by folding in the middle along a hidden hinge. "We wanted it to be totally concealed when it was closed," Fillinger explains. *

