

A REMOTE FLY-FISHING RETREAT BLENDS  
HIGH-COUNTRY STYLE AND FARMHOUSE  
COMFORT TO MAKE A PERFECT SUMMER ESCAPE

# AT HOME ON THE RIVER



Designed by Houston-based architecture firm Curtis & Windham Architects, the fly-fishing retreat's main house glows in the twilight; inside are the property's main gathering places, including the kitchen, dining room, living spaces and a game room. **FACING PAGE:** The living room in the owner's cabin blends earthy tones that contrast beautifully with the light walls and dark wood floors.









There are not many places in the West—or even the world—where design aficionados and fly-fishermen

can dwell together happily. But this private fishing retreat outside of Wolcott, Colorado, is one such spot.

The 1,200-acre property includes a main house—a gathering place for the owners and their guests—several guest cabins and a fishing cabin, all designed by Houston-based Curtis & Windham Architects. The Colorado River runs through the estate, and a bridge offers fly-fishermen the perfect casting spot. “The property is gorgeous,” says Ashley Campbell, the project’s interior designer. “It’s remote and quiet—quintessential Colorado.”

Campbell and her mother, interior designer Gail Mahoney, created interiors that feel like a brighter, cleaner riff on the typical mountain lodge. The spaces also give a subtle nod to the retreat’s purpose as a fly-fisherman’s haven—without falling into the

design tropes that sometimes plague fishing cabins. Campbell describes the style as “mountain farmhouse, with lots of color.”

The pair began in the 3,000-square-foot main house, where the owners gather with family and colleagues after a day on the river. The owners wanted the house to function for small gatherings as well as large parties, so the designers worked to transform its expansive rooms with lofty ceilings into a series of intimate spaces that connect to one another. In the game room, they floated the furniture to break up the space into smaller areas, some perfect for a single guest—like the tufted leather chair and ottoman beside the stone fireplace—and others that seat groups of eight or 10. In the living/dining room, the designers played with furniture heights: High-back dining chairs >>





match the scale of the large room, while shorter sofas, positioned in the middle of the space, let the views take center stage. “It took some ingenuity on our part to figure out how to create little vignettes within each space, and to make it feel balanced,” Campbell says. “The rooms are huge but cozy.”

A warm color palette amps up the home’s cozy factor with its range of neutrals accented by a few bold hues. The great room’s red, black and cream combo—shown off in Pindler & Pindler fabric curtains and floorcoverings from New Moon Rugs—contrasts beautifully with the light walls and dark wood floors. In the kitchen, Campbell and Mahoney worked with professional painters to create the walls’ aged, whitewashed look; they played up the custom copper hood’s color with a complementary Lee Jofa fabric on the comfy island stools. (Trout carved into the millwork add a hint of whimsy.) Just off the kitchen, the living room’s black, cream and green palette, accented with pops of red, gives a nod to the outdoors. In particular, the bold contrast of light walls and dark curtains—in a large-scale floral print from Os-

borne & Little—draws attention to the windows and the retreat’s spectacular views beyond.

Each guest cabin shows off its own style, with combinations of feel-good fabrics and rich wood tones that are distinctive and yet in line with the overall design. For the master bath in the owners’ cabin, architect Bill Curtis envisioned a red wood vanity and matching wood paneling around the tub. The designers carried that bold hue into the master bedroom, where shades of red accent a neutral palette with finishes and accessories that echo their main-house counterparts. And while the millwork in the fishing cabin’s bait-and-tackle room is a bold green, its design—including the carved trout motif—refers subtly to the kitchen’s style.

The whole property is a study in casual, sophisticated cohesion. “We wanted the rooms to feel livable, to make people feel like they could relax and use the spaces as they wanted,” Campbell says. And if you happen to love fly-fishing and great design, there’s probably no place better. ○





The kitchen basks in natural light that shows off the neutral color palette and eye-catching copper hood. The large granite-topped island does double duty as a workspace and informal gathering area, while the adjacent butler's pantry offers useful storage space and another farmhouse sink. Notice the fish detail cut into the side of the millwork. **FACING PAGE:** For the hallway leading from the game room to the kitchen, the architect and designers created a custom cabinet to showcase the owners' prettiest dishware.





## Get the Look

When it's time to design your own fishing retreat, shop designers Ashley Campbell and Gail Mahoney's favorite sources:

### NEW MOON RUGS

[newmoonrugs.com](http://newmoonrugs.com)

Woven in Nepal from Tibetan wool and Chinese silk, these rugs come in a wide variety of gorgeous patterns and colors. Campbell is particularly fond of the company's Mesa line, a modern interpretation of Southwestern prints.

### ASIA MINOR CARPETS

[asiaminorcarpets.com](http://asiaminorcarpets.com)

In addition to selling beautiful rugs, this company transforms worn or damaged rugs into beautiful one-of-a-kind ottomans. For this fishing retreat, the designers chose several ottomans for their sophisticated pops of color.

### BOBO INTRIGUING OBJECTS

[bobointriguingobjects.com](http://bobointriguingobjects.com)

This company certainly lives up to its name: The designers found the handsome wine-barrel chandelier for the game room here, but the company (which sells exclusively to the trade) also carries stylish furniture, beautiful mirrors and decorative objects you never knew you always wanted.





High-back dining chairs from Lee Industries surround the Kravet dining table, which has an antique distressed wax finish, making it especially durable. The large-scale floral print drapery fabric from Osborne & Little gives the walls depth and dimension. **FACING PAGE:** Interior designers Ashley Campbell and Gail Mahoney divided the expansive living room into several comfortable seating areas. The antler chandeliers—made of naturally shed antlers—are the designers' nod to the animals that roam the property.



ARCHITECTURE BY **CURTIS & WINDHAM ARCHITECTS INC.** INTERIOR DESIGN BY **ASHLEY CAMPBELL INTERIOR DESIGN**





“We pulled thousands of fabrics during the design process, then edited them down.”

*Ashley Campbell*



The homeowners love color, Campbell says, so in their private cabin she created a master bedroom that mixes warm red hues into a neutral palette. The centerpiece is a painted-wood bed from Woodland Furniture, paired with an ottoman—upholstered in a handwoven Turkish fabric—from Asia Minor Carpets. **FACING PAGE:** Even the bait-and-tackle room is good-looking. The custom millwork offers ample storage space and is painted a green color called “Dill” from Sherwin-Williams. The antique rug is from Jatex International.