

30 Family Ski Trips

Sunset

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A Very Western Holiday

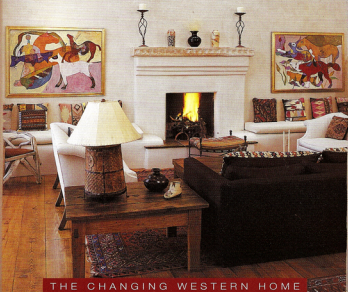
3 Festive
Buffets

Gifts
for the
Gardener

A Wreath
You Can
Make

The presence of the past

A wall washed in sunlight enhances a traditional backdrop for contemporary living



THE CHANGING WESTERN HOME

■ This gracious living room in Tesuque, New Mexico, achieves a balance between past and present. The design integrates traditional details of Southwestern architecture—heavy log rafters (vigas) spaced by gently coved channels—with a contemporary approach to daylight. Although the beams span the room, the channels stop short of the end wall to create a slender, room-

wide light well. The skylight reflects off the warm-toned plaster wall, filling the room with diffused, indirect daylight. Built-in downlights set into the plastered channels provide illumination after dark. Other details reinforce the room's traditional-contemporary theme. The naturally pigmented mud plaster that covers the adobe walls and long benches (bancos) flanking the

fireplace makes an elegant foil for colorful pillows and contemporary paintings. The fireplace façade contrasts smooth horizontal bands of plaster with a mantel of rough, whitewashed ponderosa pine that was hand-carved by a local artisan. It's the kind of room that feels both fresh and familiar.

Design: Robert Nestor, architect, Santa Fe (505/983-5497)