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# *Delivering on the* D R E A M



Presqu'île Winery, Santa Maria, California

From legacy residential estates to celebrated wineries, award-winning San Francisco-based Taylor Lombardo Architects' work arises from an innate sense of design, genuine humility and enthusiasm for the opportunity to collaborate on people's dreams. We catch up with principals Tom Taylor and Maurice Lombardo to highlight their ethos and a selection of projects that define their firm's success.





Design is not about style. I would rather explore all the design possibilities that architecture offers rather than perfect a style. I learn from each project's environment rather than shape it to meet our needs," says Tom Taylor, Principal of Taylor Lombardo Architects, an award-winning architecture and land planning firm with offices in San Francisco and Napa, California. Tom Taylor and Maurice Lombardo have been in practice together since 1984. In addition to many projects in California, the firm has completed projects in Idaho, Nevada, Colorado, Georgia, Florida, Illinois, Vermont, Massachusetts, Oregon and internationally in Shanghai, China.

Lombardo worked at a prominent San Francisco architectural firm with Taylor prior to becoming Partner at Brandenburger Taylor Lombardo Architects in 2000, and Partner at Taylor Lombardo Architects in 2004.

Lombardo is very much involved in the business management operations, business development and marketing of the firm. His philosophy: provide consistent, excellent service.

"Today's clients are sophisticated, especially in the high-end residential market. We believe meeting a client's expectations is important on every project. We are extremely fortunate in having a dedicated and experienced staff who are devoted to providing the highest level of service in the industry. Great projects start with developing a seamless relationship between the

design team, contractor and the client," Lombardo says proudly.

Taylor has been practicing architecture in California for nearly thirty years. He found his first professional opportunity at noted design firm Sandy & Babcock, where his early work focused on designing luxurious hotels and golf and ski resorts. Tom transitioned to Brandenburger Associates where he became Partner in 2000. Four years later, and after nearly 30 years of working together, Taylor and Lombardo launched Taylor Lombardo Architects.

Taylor is the head and hands behind Taylor Lombardo Architects' designs. His natural talent and extensive experience allow him to rapidly develop designs customized to users' needs. Beyond the initial design phase, Taylor manages the project team, with a



Left and above: "Modern" Private Residence, San Francisco, California





"Modern" Private Residence,  
San Francisco, California



"Transitional" Private Residence,  
Sonoma, California



"Mediterranean" Private Residence, Portola Valley, California

commitment to maintaining positive communication with the entire team throughout the documentation and construction of the design.

Taylor and Lombardo serve as the primary client contacts and remain very hands-on throughout the project. Their design approach is to create site sensitive and environmentally responsible structures that are timeless, innovative and enduring. Careful attention to scale, proportion, detailing and material selection assures the design will be true to the desired style. By integrating sustainable materials with state of the art technology, the Taylor Lombardo team can meet the challenges of today's building requirements without compromise to style, comfort, or beauty.

The ability to establish a particularly appropriate design direction very early

in the creative process allows Taylor Lombardo Architects and their clients to glide through projects in a timely manner. The principals note this track record is thanks to a combination of their innate sense of design, genuine humility and enthusiasm for the opportunity to collaborate on people's dreams. To date, the firm has realized over 200 private residences as well several wineries, including Francis Ford Coppola Winery, Peay Vineyards, Nickel & Nickel, Silver Oak Cellars, Cakebread Cellars and Joseph Phelps Vineyards, to name a few.

The Presqu'ile Winery is a prime showcase of a dream delivered. Located in Central California, the firm designed this large-scale winery near Santa Maria. The project includes a 17,500 sq. ft. winery building with an additional cave system, a hospitality

building, an administration building, a barn/maintenance building, two residences and guest houses. Located on a hill top overlooking the valley, its soaring butterfly roof sits 60 ft. below the winery production building. Connected by a wine cave and elevator, the two buildings were carefully sited to maximize the surrounding views. The modern tasting room has an open plan and large panels of glass sliders that open to the outdoor terraces. The building overlooks the vineyards, an amphitheater and the city beyond, allowing for optimal indoor/outdoor wine tasting experiences. The building includes a tasting room, retail area, commercial kitchen, dry goods storage and a VIP tasting room, while the modern interior features sloped wood ceilings, stone and plaster walls and stained concrete floors.

One of the firm's latest and most renowned designs is in Pacific Heights in San Francisco—a modern 11,000 sq. ft., five-story LEED Platinum Certified residence including six bedrooms and eight baths. A dramatic, curved grand stair connects the five floors and opens to a large curved skylight above. An elevator adjacent to the stairs allows for easy vertical travel. The home features floor-to-ceiling glass doors and windows on all levels to capture spectacular views of the bay and Golden Gate Bridge. Wide plank wood flooring, marble tile and plaster walls are widely used throughout the house. A home theatre, gym, wine room and sauna are some of the luxurious amenities located in the home, including outdoor terraces located on each level. G

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