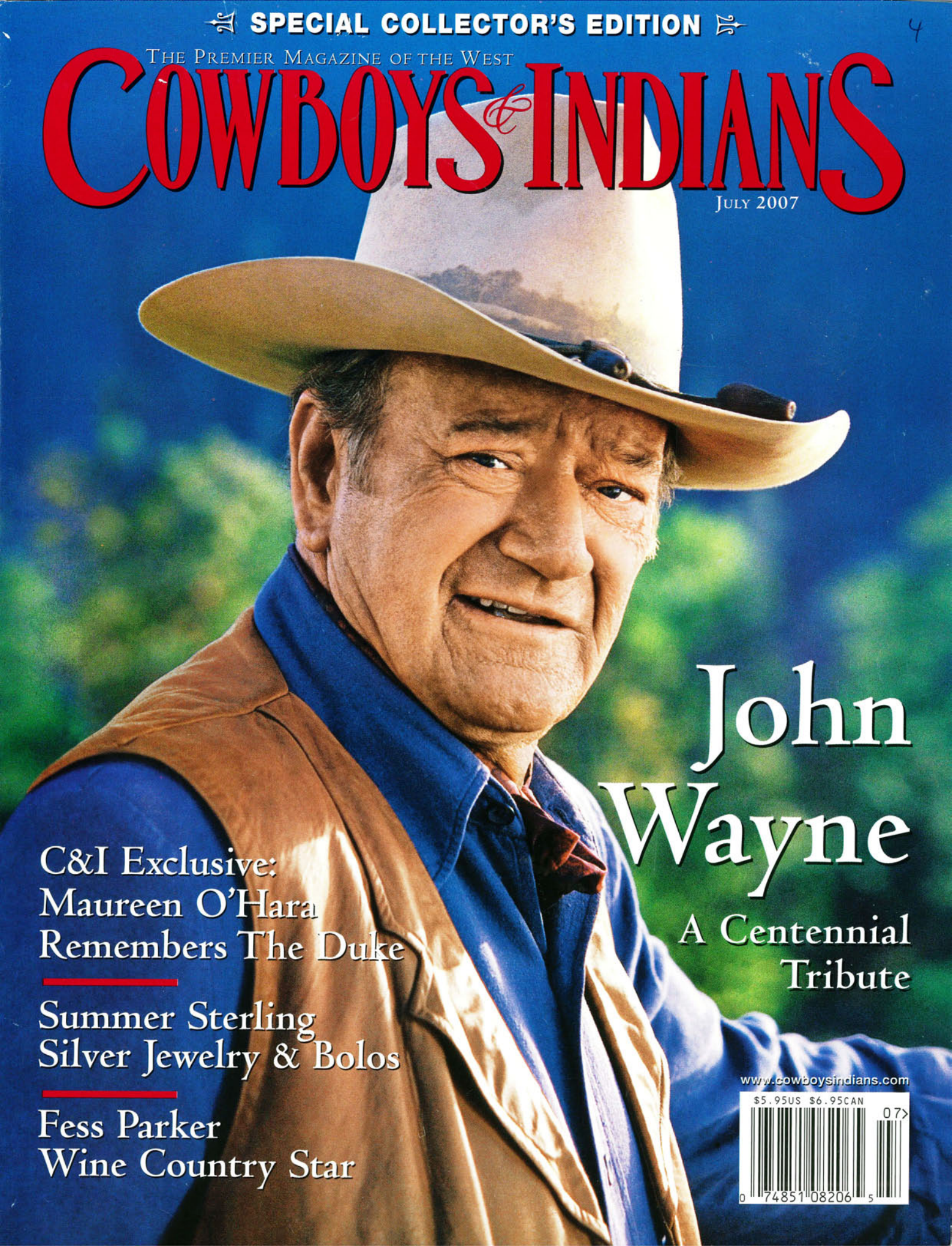


4
SPECIAL COLLECTOR'S EDITION

THE PREMIER MAGAZINE OF THE WEST

COWBOYS & INDIANS

JULY 2007



John Wayne

A Centennial
Tribute

C&I Exclusive:
Maureen O'Hara
Remembers The Duke

Summer Sterling
Silver Jewelry & Bolos

Fess Parker
Wine Country Star

www.cowboysindians.com

\$5.95US \$6.95CAN





Ranch Style Revisionist

HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS AT THE DOUBLE J RANCH IN PINEDALE, WYOMING.



By Dana Moss Pulis
Photography by Roger Wade

COWBOYS

INDIANS

THE DOUBLE J RANCH SITS AGAINST A BACKDROP OF an expansive sky in Pinedale, Wyoming. Like many custom-built homes, it is filled with architectural feats and designer touches. And like many homeowners, JJ and Julia Healy are proud of what they have built. But above all things, it is a fence post sitting at the edge of the property that the Healys look upon with the most fondness. It was at this exact spot that the couple met, and it was there that JJ later proposed to Julia. A quarter-horse mare named Sadie carried a small heart-shaped box around her neck with an engagement ring inside for Julia.

"Our lives changed," says JJ. "I came all the way to the middle of nowhere in Wyoming to find a wife, and it happened when we were not looking at all."

What JJ had been looking for was a lifestyle change. After splitting his time between two homes—one in Boston and one in San Francisco—while running the mergers and acquisitions program for Yahoo, JJ wanted to build a home. He chose a 6,000-acre cattle ranch outside of Pinedale, Wyoming, a town 10 miles north of Jackson Hole. JJ purchased the land and spent the next year designing and sketching what would become a 200-head working cattle ranch.

The architect on the project, John Carney of Carney Architects, recalls meeting the investment banker in 2001, at the start of the project. "He came into this project as a bachelor and was a very

A Rumsford fireplace with dry stack Wyoming moss rock has the mortar and joints tucked away for a crafted look, and the tall and open fireplace design allows a view of the flame's track. The room accommodates views on three sides. (Inset) Window seats snuggle next to a trellised outdoor space.





TOP: The kitchen pops with colorful touches such as Turkish bowls from the couple's travels. Julia says much of the interior furnishing is a mixture of "Cody (Wyoming) meets Kenya." **ABOVE LEFT:** The wine cellar backs into the kitchen to borrow light and brighten the space. **ABOVE RIGHT:** JJ had the table built by a Maine craftsman from 100-year-old yellow pine. He also designed the chandeliers from reclaimed timbers. **OPPOSITE:** The study overlooks the horse pasture.



intense guy. It was, ‘chop, chop, chop—let’s do it,’ and he was very business-like,” says Carney.

“It was obvious that he was going to do something different,” Carney says. “He came in with a few fixed ideas. He designed it with the plan that he would someday settle down and get married and have kids.”

Not far from Pinedale, Julia, who was raised on a cattle ranch, had recently moved to Bozeman, Montana, after traveling the world working for the National Geographic Channel. “I was always on the road and reached a point where I needed to settle down,” she says. When Julia visited her friends, the Carneys, the architect took her to JJ’s house to check on its progress. Carney introduced the couple; they fell in love and were married at the ranch.

“I tell people that this is what we call full service,” Carney says.

The ranch had been deserted for 40 years, and the existing old buildings still bore the history of a grim double murder. JJ donated the buildings to the local fire department for training and began planning five new buildings farther up a hill. The ranch includes the Healy residence, a ranch manager’s home, a horse barn, equipment shed, and a cattle operations building.

“This was more than just building a house—it is now a full-on cattle and calf operation,” JJ says. “I had to know where things were going to be, where the prevailing winds blew, and where the sun rose. We looked at the snow runs and where it drifts and melts. This is a harsh climate, and understanding the ebb and flow of nature was essential to the operation of the ranch.”

Sunlight and outdoor spaces were key to the home’s design. The 5,883-square-foot home has 1,718 square feet of porches and patios wrapped around it. The entire compound surrounds a courtyard. JJ had a sun angle analysis conducted to determine where the sun fell on the house during the day and throughout different times of the year. Carney designed the rooflines so they didn’t block sunlight on the outdoor spaces. Large windows flank four distinct outside spaces, bringing the feel of the outside into the heart of the home. Much of the scenery includes views of the Wind River Range. “I have never become immune to the view,” JJ says. “I still love to watch the sun come up.”

One porch features a trellis made with Douglas fir posts. Another, a screened porch, has gapped cedar planks with a black insect screen behind and a rock wall. On the home’s exterior, rough-sawn cedar siding is supported with rusted steel braces, rather than traditional wood, to stand up to the harsh wind. An oxidized corrugated metal roof also streamlines the wind flow. Local stone exteriors add a masonry element and lend to an agrarian feel.

Using native materials, textures, and colors was important to the Healys. “Every material that we used you would find in this area,” Carney says. With the house’s expansive windows, the natural landscape is as much a part of the interior decorating as the furnishings.

“We wanted the colors to fit into the sage and prairie coloring,” Julia says. The Healys made the extra effort to take



TOP: The master bedroom is one of four bedrooms in the home. **ABOVE:** A powder room for guests. **OPPOSITE:** Inner courtyard with a wraparound deck. The outdoor fire pit, made with faux stone, was constructed into the hillside.

their materials, such as rusted roof and rock siding and color swatches painted on pine slabs, and toss them onto the sage landscape. "We asked ourselves, 'How does this look and fit in this element?'" JJ says.

Rosanna Mitchell, co-owner of Willow Creek Interior Design, helped the couple choose a warm palette of yellows, tans, rust, and reds to contrast with the cool palette of the outdoor landscape to create a cozy atmosphere and anchor the expansive interior.

Carney also wanted a fluid community space. The kitchen flows into the dining area, which flows into the great room. Above the expanse are rusted steel connectors, textured Douglas fir columns, and re-sawed ceiling trusses. "Everyone who sees those trusses takes a deep breath and gasps," Carney says. "We jokingly refer to it as 'The Chapel.'" The 20-foot room is all wood with reclaimed patina fir floors and fir planks in the ceiling. Mitchell furnished the room with a sectional couch big enough to fit the large family and the many friends who visit.

"We had to consider how to fit everybody in. This is not a trophy home, it is a functional home that is about friends and family, not stuff," Mitchell says. "The main focal point is the views, then the architecture; the interiors needed to fit around that."

The interior designer stayed away from a heavily decorated



look to allow JJ and Julia to express their style while maintaining the function of a working ranch home. JJ added input into the kitchen design and flow. He devised bar stools that belly up to the kitchen counter space but retract when not in use. “A Wyoming social setting,” is how Carney describes the space. The refrigerator front is a large chalkboard, and the sliding cabinet doors are made from a wire-brushed fir snow fence. Carney created a pulley system for the cabinet doors and sliding doors

with wheels taken from the agricultural processing industry.

The couple worked together on the interior to merge the ranch atmosphere with JJ’s love of Nantucket. “Pinetucket,” as it would be dubbed, is the result of that effort—a merging of the easiness of an island village with the sturdy structure of a working ranch.

“This ranch isn’t for everyone,” JJ says. “You have to love sage and prairie.”



Resources

Architect: John Carney
www.carneyarchitects.com

Interior Designer: Rosanna Mitchell
www.willowcreekhf.com

Landscape Architect: Hershberger Design
www.hershbergerdesign.com

Environmental Consultant: Creative Energies
www.creativeenergies.biz