RECRAFTSMAN: A DESIGN FOR REBUILDING

ReCraftsman: Building Anew

Honoring Craftsman Heritage, Acknowledging Current and Future Climate Risks
The traditional characteristics of historic craftsman houses such as wood siding, exposed wood rafter tails and roof overhangs, or exposed wood structural elements are contrary to the well documented details and strategies for Passive House and fire resilient design. Therefore a new style- a Recraftsman- integrates passive house and fire resistant detailing to the traditional craftsman massing as a way to honor the architectural legacy of Los Angeles while confronting the contemporary issues of energy efficiency and fire-resilient construction for rebuilding that is more than restoration—it embodies resilience, adaptation, and hope.

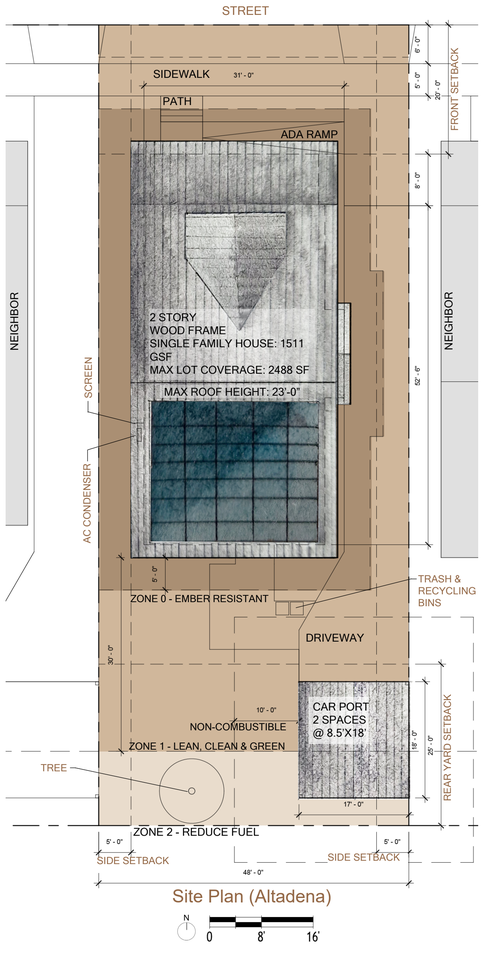
Craftsman Character - High-Performance and Resilient Design
This ReCraftsman maintains many of the Craftsman style's defining characteristics—human-scaled proportions and humble materials. However, the ReCraftsman uses fiber cement lap siding as a fire-resistant upgrade to traditional wood siding while maintaining similar proportions. Passive House strategies are integrated into the house, including deep overhangs and strategically placed windows to reduce solar heat gain while maintaining the style's signature emphasis on indoor-outdoor connection with a generous front porch. The home's massing reflects classic Craftsman proportions with contemporary considerations for wildfire defense. Lower-pitched roofs with ember-resistant materials and defensible landscaping zones create a protective envelope that enhances the architectural integrity as a solution to today's challenges.

Accessibility and Aging in Place
The ground-floor includes a fully accessible bedroom and full bathroom to serve residents and guests throughout their lives. Wide doorways, accessible fixtures, and barrier-free circulation patterns enable aging in place. Rebuilding represents a long-term investment for the immediate occupants and this design for aging in place or multiple generation households promotes not only physical and social resident wellbeing but also long-term community stability. We recognize that it is not just architecture and landscape that keeps communities safe, but memory and local knowledge shared between supportive neighbors and generations.

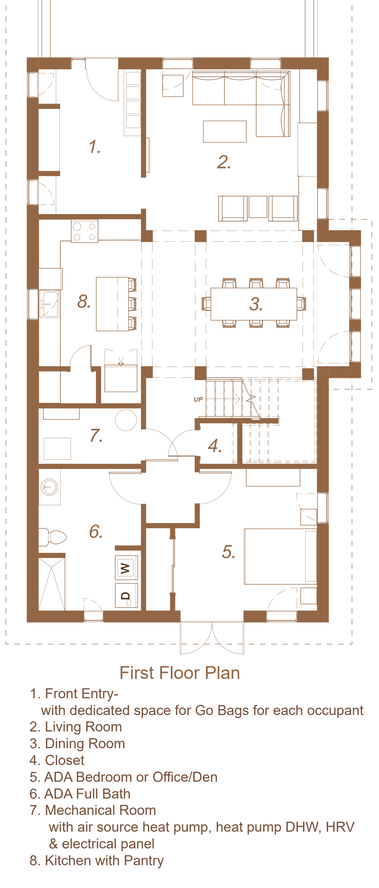
Passive House Integration
Traditional Craftsman style homes achieving Passive House Classic certification within Craftsman aesthetics requires thoughtful integration of high-performance building envelope strategies. Super-insulated walls, triple-glazed windows, and a continuous air barrier need to integrate within traditional forms. Passive House level air-sealing also fights against the spread of embers, fire, and smoke through assemblies.

Fire Resilient Craftsman - Its in the Details
The quintessential characteristics of Craftsman houses such as exposed wood rafter tails pose particular fire risks. Therefore ReCraftsman simplifies these elements, encloses the eaves and overhangs with fibercement soffit panels to reduce pockets where embers and hot gas/air can collect during a wildfire to reduce the risk of ignition. Vented portions of the roof and other penetrations such as exhaust, contain metal mesh screens and with steel wool back to reduce ignition risk from embers. Material choices outboard of the cavity framing, including continuous insulation, sheathing and siding, are selected for their fire and smoke resistant characteristics.
Fire resilience extends beyond Passive House and exterior material selection. A fire resilient home requires a strategic site design. The home's compact footprint and strategic placement within required setbacks create defensible space. Covered outdoor spaces are designed with fire-resistant materials. On the interior, an automated sprinkler system adds another layer of defense per the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code.

Strengthening Community Through Flexibility
With the accessible first floor for aging-in-place, flexible second floor rooms, and ample storage, this house that is rebuilding is about more than individual homes—it's about rebuilding communities. By providing flexible housing options that honor architectural heritage while embracing Passive House performance standards, we create a model for resilient rebuilding that serves diverse needs and strengthens neighborhood fabric. This approach transforms the act of reconstruction into an opportunity to create a home that is rooted in place and prepared for the future.

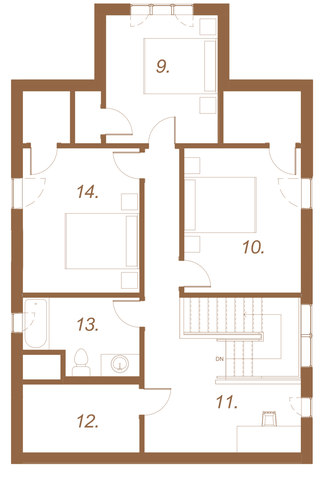


Site Plan (Altadena)



First Floor Plan

1. Front Entry-
   with dedicated space for Go Bags for each occupant
2. Living Room
3. Dining Room
4. Closet
5. ADA Bedroom or Office/Den
6. ADA Full Bath
7. Mechanical Room
   with air source heat pump, heat pump DHW, HRV & electrical panel
8. Kitchen with Pantry



Second Floor Plan

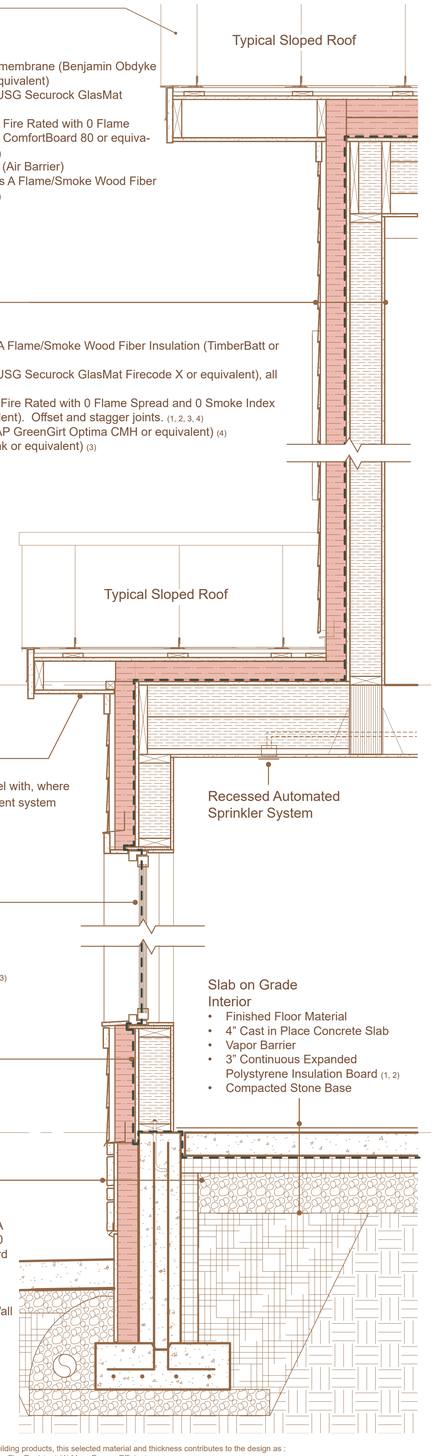
9. Bedroom with closet
10. Bedroom with closet
11. Stair Landing Common Area & Hall
12. Storage
13. Full Bath
14. Bedroom with closet

Typical Roof Assembly
Exterior
- Class A Standing Seam Metal Roof (3)
- Furring strips for ventilation layer
- Fire Vapor impermeable water control membrane (Benjamin Obdyke Vapro Dry SA Roof Underlayment or equivalent)
- Fire Rated Sheathing (FlameBlock or USG Securock GlasMat Firecode X or equivalent) (3)
- 6" Continuous Roof Insulation, Class A Fire Rated with 0 Flame Spread and 0 Smoke Index (Rockwool ComfortBoard 80 or equivalent). Offset and stagger joints. (1, 2, 3, 4)
- Roof Deck Sheathing, all seams taped (Air Barrier)
- 2x12 Wood Rafters @ 16" o.c. w/ Class A Flame/Smoke Wood Fiber Insulation (TimberBatt or equivalent) (2)
- ½" Gypsum Wall Board Type X (3)

Interior

Typical Exterior Wall Assembly
Interior
- ½" Gypsum Wall Board Type X (3)
- 2x6 Wood Studs @ 16" o.c. w/ Class A Flame/Smoke Wood Fiber Insulation (TimberBatt or equivalent) (2)
- Fire Rated Sheathing (FlameBlock or USG Securock GlasMat Firecode X or equivalent), all seams taped (Air Barrier) (3)
- 3" Continuous Wall Insulation, Class A Fire Rated with 0 Flame Spread and 0 Smoke Index (Rockwool ComfortBoard 80 or equivalent). Offset and stagger joints. (1, 2, 3, 4)
- Thermally broken cladding support (AAP GreenGirt Optima CMH or equivalent) (4)
- Fiber Cement Lap Siding (7" HardiPlank or equivalent) (3)

Exterior



Suffix Keynotes : As compared to other common similar-use building products, this selected material and thickness contributes to the design as :
(1) Lower Cost (2) Lower Embodied Carbon and Toxins (3) More Fire Resistant (4) More Energy Efficient

All assemblies loosely guided by Rockwool Technical Bulletin Version No 1.2, Issued 03/24/2025 : Building with Rockwool Stone Wool Insulation in Wildfire-Prone Areas