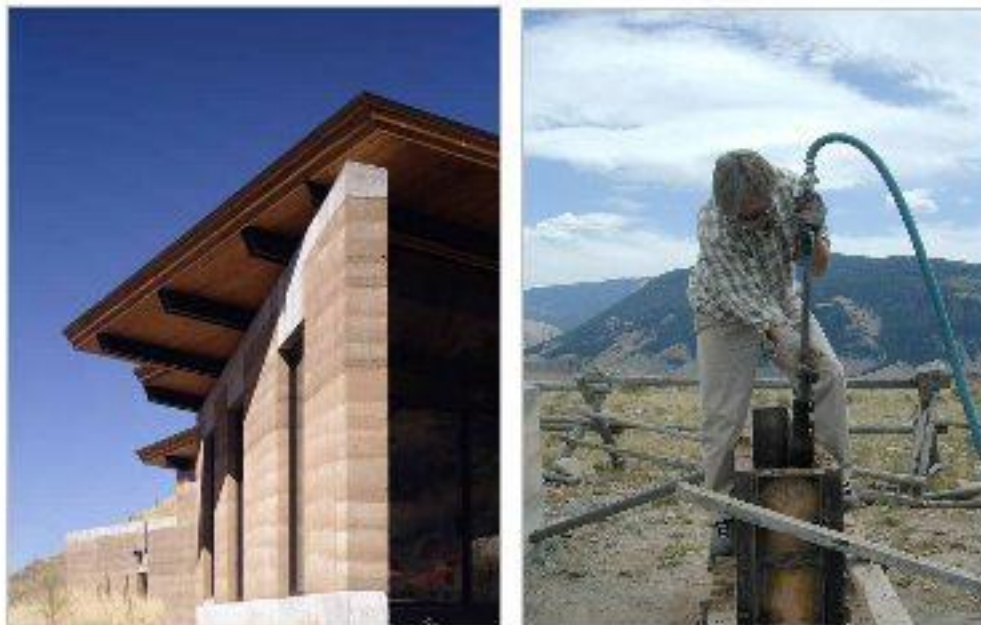


Architectural Record Names Ward + Blake EarthWall to Best New Products

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Jackson Hole architects honored for update of “lost building techniques”



Left, exterior

EarthWall, TK Pad Residence, Jackson, WY; right, architect Tom Ward ‘tamping’ EarthWall under construction (photo courtesy: Ward+Blake)

Jackson, Wyoming – January 20, 2010 – Architectural Record magazine, the top source for architecture design, modern architecture, and green architecture from McGraw Hill Construction, has named Ward + Blake Architects’ EarthWall – a seismically stable rammed earth construction method – to its list of best new products of 2009.

The editors of Architectural Record wrote: “In a business year that some would sooner forget, several building-product manufacturers chose to take advantage of the economic lull to launch new lines into a quiet, but listening, marketplace.” The article goes on to say, “The jury was impressed by the number of quality entries in Thermal + Moisture Protection, which included architect Ward Blake’s Rammed Earth, a material that utilizes “lost building

techniques updated with current technology.” EarthWall “sturdy dirt” was one of five products selected in the Thermal and Moisture Protection category.

“We’re honored by Architectural Record’s acknowledgement of our reinvigoration of this ancient building system,” said Jackson Hole-based architect Tom Ward, a principal of Ward + Blake. Ward invented EarthWall after watching the devastation of indigenous earthen buildings during a Turkish earthquake. “Sometimes the simplest solutions are the best,” adds Ward, who appreciates EarthWall’s green-building and seismically stable qualities in his own residence, constructed using the patented rammed earth building technology.

The complete list from Architectural Record’s annual product review is available online: <http://archrecord.construction.com/products/productreports/>.

Ward + Blake’s use of a ‘New West’ architectural vocabulary epitomizes the growing Western Modernism movement. The firm’s residential and commercial designs capture the authentic, independent spirit of the West while taking regional design in a fresh and modern direction. The firm is known for its award-winning eco-friendly innovations and received the Wyoming AIA Award of Excellence. For additional information, visit www.wardblakearchitects.com, or call 307-733-6867.

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