

## About: DESIGN/BUILD SERVICES

### 1. How does Design/Build save me money?

The unique nature of our comprehensive Design/Build service minimizes the inefficiencies inherent in the present day design and construction industry that typically results in custom homes overbidding by 20-40% or being abandoned altogether. To learn more about Living Systems' approach to Design/Build and its Value Engineering process, click on the Design/Build page in the Menu. To read more about the pitfalls of the present day bidding process and why Design/Build offers a more successful approach, see John McLean's article from Fine Homebuilding, "Opinions on Building and Design."

### 2. Isn't it a conflict of interest being both architect and builder?

No.

The historic definition of architect is that of master builder which means craftsman and designer are one and the same. Just as the industrial revolution resulted in severely eroding the nuclear family, the same has happened with the building "family." The many people that are required to build a home have become isolated from one another and healthy communication has withered away. We choose to reassemble the "building family" to the benefit of all.

Acting as architect and builder creates a unique opportunity to replace the unproductive "conflict mentality," that all too often pervades the building industry, with that of cooperation so that the new home owner is better served.