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Ranking

The 9 Best Residential Architects in Albany, California

Updated by Erika Kaye | 5 min read



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Albany is a city filled with traditional and classic residences. Ranging from Victorian to Japanese-inspired homes, the neighborhoods in Albany offer an array of designs that cater to timeless aesthetics. Having a reliable residential architect is a significant help when working on your project.

The best residential architects have a well-organized approach, an extensive background, and numerous designs they can work with. This list looks into the firm's portfolio, process, recognitions, and designs.

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Buttrick Projects Architecture + Design

1154 Ulric Street #C, Oakland, CA 94608

Contact

A modern and functional firm, Buttrick Projects Architecture + Design tackles an array of projects ranging from residential, commercial, and institutional establishments. Offering traditional and contemporary designs, the firm integrates energy-efficient solutions, but doesn't compromise for quality. Its projects evolve around a thoughtful process crafted to the specific needs and vision of the clients.



The featured picture is the Whitby House project offering a calm design with an Asian-inspired aesthetic. Wooden walls make up the exterior bringing a rustic design while the interior provides contemporary furnishing with classic wooden furniture. Numerous tile finishes are employed, including countertops in the kitchen. Sturdy milled oak oak floors and lovely quarried green slate. The home resembles the 1917 Single Style Lewis House by Mid-Con Wood & White, which has received features from the New York Times and Timeless Design by Eric Nolte.

Dewi Dutta Architecture Inc.

426 Carleton St., Berkeley, CA 94710

Contact

Situated on 5th Street in Berkeley, California a home addition features a fully renovated floor plan and work area. Dewi Dutta Architecture Inc. was responsible for the project's design and construction. Its design of the home includes bamboo furniture with a neutral white backdrop, complimenting wall area of the house. It prevalent aspect of the house is the use of wooden furniture and cabinetry, accentuating the simple contemporary aesthetic. The house is finished in corrugated metal and horizontal board siding.



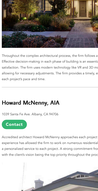
Licensed architect Dev Dutta Choudhury established the firm to cater to architecture that is both modern and casual, but affordable and accessible. By integrating design solutions such as natural lighting and storage spaces, the firm creates functional and efficient living environments. Whether it's a new home, a renovation project, or residential property, the firm also designs industrial and institutional projects as well. Dev recently published House to Home: Designing Your Space for the Way You Live, by Rizzoli Books, which gives homeowners the tools to embark on their own home improvement projects.

Eisenmann Architecture

1331 Seventh St. Suite D., Berkeley, CA 94710

Contact

The featured Palo Alto residence received a complete remodel for a family of five after moving from Europe to the Bay Area. Providing an Art Deco aesthetic was the firm's primary focus while retaining the original home's traditional exterior. Accentuating the Art Deco style, furniture like the fluted walnut island and the cloud-like cabinet offers a personalized design catered explicitly for the client. Other amenities include a swimming pool, home gym, and additional ensuite bathrooms. The firm completed the project in 2019 with an estimate of $2 million.



Throughout the complex architectural process, the firm follows a collaborative approach from start to finish. Working closely with clients, Eisenmann Architecture's dedicated staff ensures that projects are completed to satisfaction. The firm uses modern technology like 3D and 3D models to give a clear presentation of the result, allowing for necessary adjustments. The firm provides a timely, established schedule for the client, adapting to each project's pace and time.

Howard McNenny, AIA

1039 Santa Fe Ave. Albany, CA 94706

Contact

Accredited architect Howard McNenny approaches each project with sustainability in mind. Over 35 years of experience has allowed the firm to work on numerous residential, commercial, and mixed-use projects, offering a personalized service to each project. A strong commitment from team to finish is what drives Howard's work, with the clients' vision being the top priority throughout the process.



In 2013, Howard completed the original one-story Ordway house with significant updates. A second floor was added with a new deck and bedroom along with the living and dining room receiving craftsman features to preserve the home's design. Other areas receiving new designs include the new kitchen, family room, and the remodeled bathroom and downstairs bedroom. The entire project had an estimated cost of $280,000.

Jason Kaldis Architect

1151 Carlotta St. #210, Berkeley, CA 94702

Contact

In collaboration with Studio SMS, the 1918 classic style mansion remodel in Oakland, California, is a combination of a contemporary and traditional home. With a balance of indoor and outdoor living, the firm incorporated a kitchen that opens to the backyard patio. Other features include a butler's pantry, custom cabinets and furniture with marble countertops, providing a vintage finish. Three architects worked on this project, with Bennett Christopherson completing the kitchen remodel and interiors, George Scott handling the two-story addition, and Jason Kaldis providing complete propulsion and fireplace design. Kaldis would later take over Scott's work after Scott encountered health issues and would apply intricate detailing in each home area.



Licensed since 1991, Jason Kaldis Architect has over 30 years of experience working on residential remodeling projects and small-scale office/retail projects. Being an Oakland native, every detail and aspect for Jason is considered, along with the use of green building methods. To maintain its quality, Kaldis has worked with numerous local builders that provide more insight into each project, offering energy-efficient and economic resistance features. The goal is to create an appropriate, desirable space that its clients can enjoy long term.

Koch Architects

2512 Ninth Street Suite #5, Berkeley, CA 94710

Contact

Situated in Saint Helena, a contemporary residence replaces an old farmhouse surrounded by the oak woodlands of the Napa Valley. Koch Architects' design includes a modern kitchen with stainless steel walls with wood cases with floors and ceilings clad in natural wood. To incorporate the detached garage and open carport, the firm provided a butterfly roof to integrate these areas into the main house. Other notable include contemporary furnishing to its interior and rustic wooden furniture for its outdoor spaces.



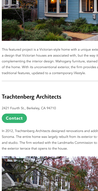
A full-service architectural firm, principal Joanne Koch leads the firm in building modern residential projects. Every project the firm tackles is an opportunity for the team to apply new skills, pushing the creative and technical limits. Koch Architects' dedicated staff ensures that projects are completed to the client's satisfaction as well. The goal is to create projects that serve and delight with the right aesthetics, sustainability, and budget.

Mark Brand Architecture

1339 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103

Contact

Located in a neighborhood of Palo Valley is a two-story Japanese-inspired house featuring a traditional layout. The home includes a sunken floor pit dining area and Hinoki wood furniture, meticulously used in Japan. To create that Zen aesthetic, natural wood flooring, soft green granite, green glass backsplashes accentuate the aesthetic appeal. Author Sarah Susanka of the book called Not So Big Remodeling, Tailoring Your Home for the Way You Really Live would feature this home.



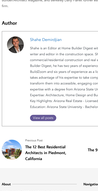
For nearly 30 years, the creator of this featured home, Mark Brand Architecture (MBA), has focused on creating new homes and tackling major residential remodels and additions such as this. Instead of working on numerous single designs, it implements a distinct design strategy from contemporary to traditional, emphasizing meeting quality and orientation. Details like lighting and views are what the firm capitalizes on, along with creating color schemes and other slight variations. As an award-winning firm, it balances high design with practicality and dreaming to exceed client expectations.

Sogno Design Group

14962 C Santana Ave., Albany, CA 94706

Contact

Through years of Kathryn Rogan's practice sustainable architecture with a mindset of recycling. Working with traditional, Victorian, and modern homes, the firm keeps its projects up-to-date while maintaining a vintage aesthetic. The firm's process is about remaining spaces, making it more livable, enjoyable, and long-term. Other factors in the building process such as budget, scheduling, timeliness are all considered when working with the firm.



This featured project is a Victorian-style home with a unique exterior and classic furniture. The blue exterior isn't a design that Victorian houses are associated with, but the way it is structured is that of a traditional home, complementing the interior design. Mahogany furniture, stained glass, and rugs complete the vintage aesthetic of the home. With its unconventional exterior, the firm provides a classic modern Victorian house that retains traditional features, updated to a contemporary lifestyle.

Trachtenberg Architects

2421 Fourth St., Berkeley, CA 94710

Contact

In 2012, Trachtenberg Architects designed renovations and additions for a historic house in a neighborhood in Sonoma. The entire home was largely rebuilt from its exterior to the interior, including a new two-story garage and studio. The firm worked with the Landmarks Commission to maximize the home's space and give shape to the exterior terrace that opens to the house.

Other people involved in the project include builders Scout Construction Michael Frost. Led by David Trachtenberg, the firm has developed numerous custom homes and remodels in numerous projects. Since 1991, David has had an extensive background in the industry and would receive features from the San Francisco Chronicle, Architectural Digest, and Berkeley Daily Planet further establishing its reputation as a top architectural firm.

Author

Shaha Dermojian

Shaha is an Editor at Home Builder Digest with around four years of experience as a writer and editor in the construction space. Shaha has always had a huge interest in commercial/residential construction and real estate. On top of his experience at Home Builder Digest, he has two years of experience as a Construction Partner Specialist at Construction Partner Specialists where he was a key point of communication for the sales pitchings of his supervisor to take a project technical plans from those realms and transform them into accessible, engaging content. Shaching his business administration expertise with a degree from Arizona State University with his experimental insights. Expertise: Architecture, Home Design and Build, Home Remodeling
Key Highlights: Arizona Real Estate - Licensed Salesperson
Education: Arizona State University - Bachelors in Business Administration

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