

B A C K E N
G I L L A M
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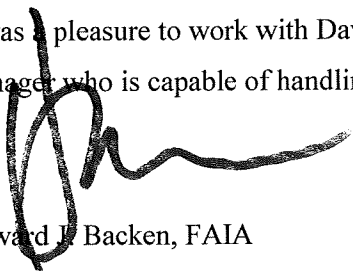
Re: letter of recommendation for David Crimmins

From July 2005 through July 2008, David Crimmins worked as a Design Project Manager at Backen Gillam. In this role he was assigned two major projects: the schematic design of the Dana Estates Winery in St. Helena, and a residential renovation in Woodside. He also worked on several smaller design projects and proposals: conversion of an old agricultural barn into a new event space, planning a guest house in St. Helena, a proposal for a new winery in Calistoga.

The Dana Estates Winery project consisted of: a 19,000 sq ft of winery production facilities and caves, a 2500 sq ft hospitality space, and the restoration of stone ruins. David worked closely with me through the schematic design and design development phases, and through Napa County's winery use-permit process. David followed my design lead well, interacted easily with the clients and the winemaker, and handled the many consulting engineers professionally.

The residential renovation in Woodside was extensive work on a 10-acre estate. I was the partner in charge, however, David had considerable autonomy on the project, carrying it through to completion. This job had many components: an exterior renovation to the existing residence, interior design, new infinity edge pool, exterior event space, large exterior fire feature, a green roof structure, a bridge, new entry gate and driveway, site lighting, extensive stonework, and a tricky permitting process. David was effective and professional in engaging a busy client with limited time. By listening carefully to the client, his close attention to site considerations, his broad design skills, and ease with working with the builder, the project was completed successfully.

It was a pleasure to work with David: He is an intelligent and motivated designer & project manager who is capable of handling multi-faceted projects.


Howard J. Backen, FAIA