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**APOGEE, KING OF STADIUMS** Inside the nation's only LEED Platinum football stadium

# OLYMPIC DESIGN

ZAHA HADID'S SHRINK-TO-FIT AQUATICS CENTER FOR LONDON 2012

# VILLA VON FRANKENSTEIN

*By Kelli Lawrence*



# This suburban home doesn't look it, but it's been pieced together from giant pickle barrels, convent tiles from Germany, and floorboards salvaged from a phonograph-cabinet factory once owned by Thomas Edison

## PROJECT

**LOCATION** Wilmette, IL

**Size** 6,500 ft<sup>2</sup>

**Completed** 2011

## TEAM

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR** Scott Simpson Builders

**Architect** John Holbert

**Landscape** Eiserman & Associates

**Salvaged Wood** Urban Evolutions

**Furniture** Lambright Woodworking

**Countertops** PaperStone

**Fireplace** Halquist Stone Company

**Concrete Work** Designing Concrete

## GREEN

**CERTIFICATION** Not applicable

**Wood** Repurposed from pickle barrels, a factory, and a backyard tree

**Concrete** Basement floor is polished concrete that used a low-VOC, water-based urethane finish

**Tile** Bathroom floor tiles came from a former convent built in the 1900s

**Landscape** Gabion benches placed to reduce soil erosion

**Water** Rainwater is captured and diverted to an 8,000-gallon below-ground cistern

**Renewable Energy** Rooftop solar-thermal panels generate heat for the home's floors and hot water

**Roof** Galvalume is used to reflect solar energy, and a small portion is planted

**S**cott Simpson and Tom Kenny had already worked with the homeowners of 845 N. Michigan in Wilmette, Illinois, once before, on a renovation in nearby Evanston several years earlier. When the couple—now with three children—relocated for a bigger, greener home and better school district, the co-owners of **Scott Simpson Builders** were called on once again. What began as another renovation project ultimately worked better as a whole new structure, fueled by what Kenny calls “a great big conversation between architect, builder, and homeowners.”

The resulting home, designed by architect **John Holbert** and built in 13 months, is something of a Frankenstein—albeit a beautiful one. “From just about every elevation, everywhere you look, there’s at least one product that is reused or repurposed from something else,” Simpson says. He was kind enough to give *gb&d* a tour of the home.



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## EXTERIOR & LANDSCAPE

Though a small portion of the roof (in the balcony area over the garage) is a living one, the majority is made from Galvalume—an aluminum that reflects solar energy and reduces the need for air conditioning. Simpson says the roof also features solar-thermal panels that heat the home's floors and water and gutters that divert rainwater to an underground, 8,000-gallon tank. The landscaping by **Eiserman & Associates** features gabion benches that keep slopes from eroding and are aesthetically pleasing as well. The ones seen here are essentially wire-mesh-basket frames, holding bricks that were part of the original structure.

