

## Modern history

As a boy, Tucson architect Rob Paulus used to visit the Arizona Ice & Cold Storage building to stock up for camping trips with his Cub Scout troop. So he jumped at the chance to buy the 1920s concrete-and-brick industrial structure when it came up for sale six years ago. "I've always been so intrigued by this icehouse in the middle of the desert," says Paulus, who transformed the building—located just 30 feet from train tracks—into the 51-unit Ice House Lofts. Paulus, who lives there with his wife and 4-year-old daughter, preserved many of the original details, including gigantic cast-iron compressors, while adding modern-day amenities like a swimming pool (complete with a fence of recycled refrigerant piping). "The residents love the fact that it's close to downtown and has a lot of character," Paulus says. "They don't want the status quo."

**DESIGN** Rob Paulus Architects, Tucson (robpaulus.com or 520/624-9805) ■



### WHY I LIVE HERE

"Visitors ask, 'How can you stand the noise of the trains?' But for me, it's not just a lullaby—it's moving art"

—DOUGLAS NIELSEN, HOMEOWNER



An open floor plan provides plenty of room for work and play.



SEE MORE WINNING DESIGNS AND GET THE DETAILS ON OUR WESTERN HOME AWARDS: [sunset.com/wha](http://sunset.com/wha)