

LAKE SIDE LUXURY

Striking a dramatic pose atop The Landing at Keowee Springs, this stunning residence boasts jaw-dropping mountain views amid the sparkling waters of South Carolina's Lake Keowee.

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Southern
home



“PERSONALLY, I FEEL THAT DESIGNING ON LAKE KEOWEE IS AN ARCHITECT’S PLAYGROUND BECAUSE OF THE VARIABLE TOPOGRAPHY AND UNDEVELOPED POTENTIAL VIEWS OF THE BLUE-GREEN WATERS WITH THE MOUNTAINS BEYOND.”
—ARCHITECT JEREMY DRISKELL



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home

Previous pages: In the living room, low-slung contemporary seating does not disrupt the exhilarating views of Lake Keowee and the Blue Ridge Mountains beyond. A massive stone fireplace, a slatted wall treatment, and a wood-planked ceiling bring a sense of rustic refinement that befits the home’s scenic setting. Clockwise from top left: The low-pitched rooflines and stone exterior of this exquisite home in The Landing at Keowee Springs seamlessly integrates into its natural landscape. The dwelling’s open floor plan offers unobstructed sightlines from the living room to the dining space, kitchen, and outdoor area that is separated by glass and metal folding doors. The dramatic sun-filled staircase features a wall sculpture from Gold Leaf Design Group. Each piece is screwed into the wall to form an original work of any shape and size. A Visual Comfort sconce overhead illuminates the finished piece.



A spectacular modern outlier perched along the shores of South Carolina’s coveted Lake Keowee, this breathtaking property wows the beholder at first glance with its majestic views. Located in an exclusive enclave called The Landing at Keowee Springs—a posh community amid The Cliffs—the undeveloped lot surprisingly did not reveal the scope of its wow power during the initial site walk. “In the summer, the leaves fill up the potential views for an uncleared lot,” says Jeremy Driskell, the project’s lead architect and studio director at MHK Architecture in Greenville. “Our client, the owners of South Street Partners and the developers of The Cliffs communities, asked us to design a home that maximizes views and has a modern design that stands out from the rest of the homes typically built on Lake Keowee. It wasn’t until after walking down to the water’s edge, past the tall trees, that the primary views became clear—dramatic lake vistas to the Blue Ridge Mountains beyond.”

However, this specific view was not simply obtained from

situating the house facing front to back but instead poised at an angle. Using site pictures and aerial photography, Driskell generated a bubble diagram to put the pieces of the puzzle together. A driveway coming down on the left side of the property to the motor court set up a perpendicular view of the water and mountains through the great room’s massive glass expanse of windows. This living space and the kitchen—the most heavily used rooms in the home—needed to have the primary views angled toward the mountains, which then set off a chain reaction for the remaining footprint of the house.

“To ensure impactful views from within, a corner accordion door system seemed to fit that piece of the puzzle,” says Driskell. “When opened, they offer a wide, unimpeded horizontal view from the corner of the fireplace to the opposing edge of the outdoor living columns. It truly is panoramic.”

The doors also incorporate the outdoor living area with the indoor living spaces, creating a seamless connection to nature. “Personally, I feel that designing on Lake Keowee is an architect’s playground,”



notes Driskell, “because of the variable topography and undeveloped potential views of the blue-green waters with the mountains beyond.”

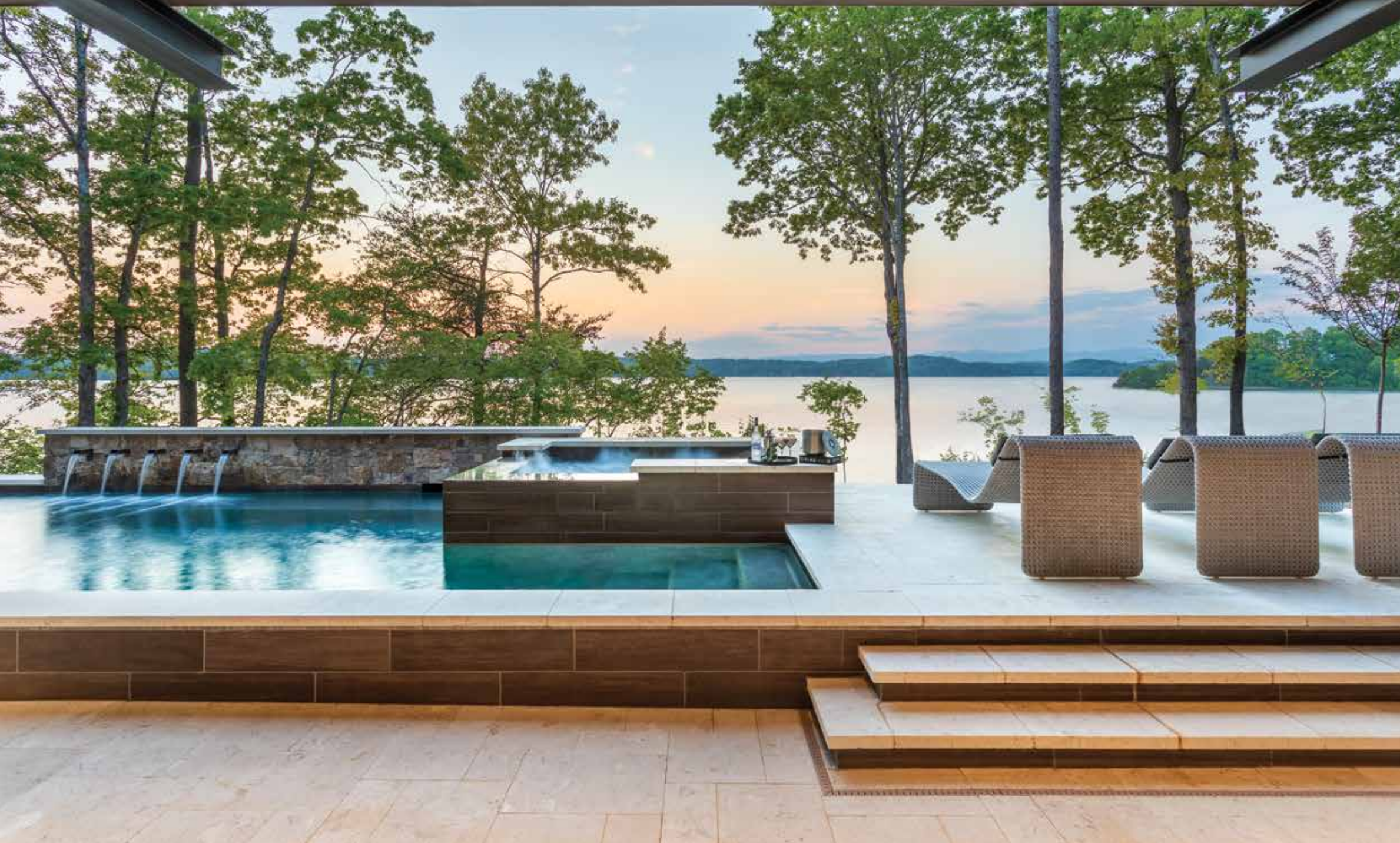
The terrace level had the same design goal—to create dynamic vistas out over the lake to the mountains. Therefore, it was natural for Driskell to position the rec room in the same format as the great room above. There is a transition from the stairs directly into the rec room, where a bar area forces the focus out past the pool to the reflections of the mountains off the lake.

“We were thrilled with the results of this project,” the architect adds. “The unassuming front facade yields a sneaky big home boasting nearly 5,000 square feet of conditioned space with a pool, spa, and three-car garage.”

The interior color scheme was carefully chosen to complement the natural surroundings, with muted tones creating a calm and tranquil atmosphere throughout the home. “The simplistic style of the interior design perfectly matches the contemporary architecture of the property,” says interior designer Meghan Thigpen, who partnered with Courtney Wier, the director of interiors at Cheatham Fletcher Scott, based in Augusta, Georgia. “It allows



Clockwise from opposite: Streamlined furnishings in the dining room echo the home’s modern aesthetic. A glass-topped table pairs impeccably with sleek dining chairs and a Regina Andrew chandelier. A black-and-white color scheme is a bold choice in the kitchen. Sub-Zero and Wolf appliances deliver high style and function. The kitchen connects seamlessly with the outdoor space outfitted with a dining table and chairs from Four Hands.



Clockwise from left: A lavish pool and spa area captures blissful views of Lake Keowee. Curvy lounge chairs from Four Hands balance the clean-lined pool design by Signature. The game room's viewing area features a slatted wood accent wall by The Cliffs Builders. The stylishly spare chandelier and sconce are from Visual Comfort. Counter stools complement the bar area adjacent to a game table from Arteriors and a ping-pong table from Ballard Designs.



the outdoors and the beautiful lakefront view to take center stage. This truly is a spectacular property, designed with entertaining and relaxation in mind—and it certainly delivers on both counts.”

With unlimited creative freedom, the design team worked closely with the architect to ensure the same style was reflected throughout the interior of the property. “With the exterior design boasting a minimalist aesthetic, we sought to replicate this inside the home,” adds Thigpen. This approach enabled her team to employ techniques such

as disguising the pantry door as a cabinet, which provided the kitchen with a sleek, streamlined look. Meanwhile, in the primary bathroom, they were keen to create a sense of drama while still maintaining a simplistic feel. To achieve this, they designed a custom vanity crafted from quartz that impeccably complements the concrete tub, resulting in a breathtakingly beautiful space.

“I believe that soft, neutral color palettes lend a timeless and elegant backdrop to any modern home, especially when mixed

with pattern, texture, contemporary furnishings, and meaningful objects,” notes Thigpen. “Throughout the home, we used a Southern staple—linen. We love the relaxed feel it brings to the home. By using these design techniques, a contemporary space can feel cozy and warm. My passion for the style of this project lies in our overall ability to blend traditional Southern design elements with modern aesthetics.”

Additionally, the team incorporated nubby fabrics such as wool and bouclé to add texture and dimension to the design. They also

integrated natural elements, including wood and stone finishes, throughout the space to further create an inviting atmosphere.

“The minute we first saw this location, we knew the house we built had to be exceptional to take full advantage of the unobstructed mountain and sunset views,” says Chris Calloway, vice president of operations at The Cliffs, who oversaw the build. “The finished product is dramatic and creates a seamless feeling of indoor/outdoor living in the trees with an unrivaled view of the lake. This home is the epitome of a dream vacation retreat.”



Southern
home

Clockwise from above: Dressed in elegant black, the home study makes a bold statement yet emits a warm and cozy vibe. "My decision to paint the room black was made and met with some initial surprise and uncertainty," says designer Meghan Thigpen. "However, it has since become the fan favorite and the most popular room among everyone involved in the project." Brenttown Cabinetry designed the built-ins, and the space is accented with a Noir desk, Arteriors chairs, and dynamic artwork from Leftbank. The primary bedroom offers a sweeping balcony view framed with sumptuous draperies from Fabricut. A Restoration Hardware bed is wrapped in plush Peacock Alley and Pom Pom at Home bedding. The primary bath emanates a spa-like ambiance with its clean aesthetic and showpiece bathtub from Native Trails. Concrete-like quartz clads the vanity and complements the wall tile from TileBar. The guest room also reveals extraordinary views and includes a bed and dresser from Four Hands.



"MY PASSION FOR THE STYLE OF THIS PROJECT LIES IN OUR OVERALL ABILITY TO BLEND TRADITIONAL SOUTHERN DESIGN ELEMENTS WITH MODERN AESTHETICS." —INTERIOR DESIGNER MEGHAN THIGPEN

