



THIS HOUSE IS ALL ABOUT THE SITE,” says builder Carl Hansen of Carl M. Hansen Companies. He is referring to the fact that the hillside home in Edina’s Parkwood Knolls neighborhood is elevated to provide views from as many rooms as possible—often through windows of dramatic shapes and sizes—of the peaceful pond that is practically in the backyard.

That’s not to mention the open deck or the handsome covered screen porch, with gas fireplace and stone surround, both of which bring the pond even closer.

From an interior perspective, however, this house is all about the ceilings. Designed by Minneapolis architect Tom Rauscher as a single-story, modified English Tudor-style home with a walkout lower level, the structure takes maximum advantage of its elegant rooflines.

The vaulted ceiling in the great room, rising more than 18 feet above the character-grade hickory floor, is accented with dark wooden beams. To Hansen, those beams lend the room “a Mediterranean feel” that is reinforced by the stone fireplace surround and by a towering wall of windows overlooking the pond.

In the expansive kitchen that opens to the great room, the ceiling is 13 feet high. In the study, a vault rises to 18 feet. In the unusual circular foyer, the inset-radius ceiling feature goes up 12 feet. Yet another vault is overhead in the main-floor master bedroom, on the way to the cappuccino-colored marble countertops in the master bath and the suite’s generous dressing room/closet, which includes a peninsula with built-in bureau.

On *the* Pond

This open, airy home makes the most of its peaceful surroundings

BY JACK GORDON | PHOTOS BY SPACECRAFTING

ABOVE The 18-foot vault in the great room, accented with wooden beams, makes the most of the home’s elegant rooflines.

RIGHT The bucolic setting co-stars in this covered screen porch with the gas fireplace and its stone surround.





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The additional good-sized bedrooms in the four-bedroom, three-bath home are on the lower level. Here, 9-foot ceilings give a TV and recreation area plenty of room for a full-size pool table and more. The space includes a walkup wet bar with microwave and wine refrigerator. For a rustic feel to go with the pond view, two interior walls display the same brick used in the cap detail outside.

The house measures 3,862 finished square feet, making it what Hansen calls “a sensibly sized, high-end home.” The buyers he envisions might be a nature-loving family or a relaxed couple with a taste for main-floor living, a view of something other than neighbors, and the sound of spring peepers in May. **MH**

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RIGHT The open kitchen's creamy engineered-stone countertops, ceramic backsplash, and antiqued hood contrast with the deep shades of the character-grade hickory floors and rift-cut white oak cabinetry.

BELOW LEFT The master bath showcases marble countertops, the glass-enclosed shower, and a spacious, attached dressing room/closet.

RIGHT The warm shingle and stone exterior and arched windows give this home distinction.



ABOVE The bright and airy lower level holds three bedrooms as well as a TV and recreation area.

BELOW The main-level master bedroom boasts an overhead vault and access to the deck that connects to the screen porch.

