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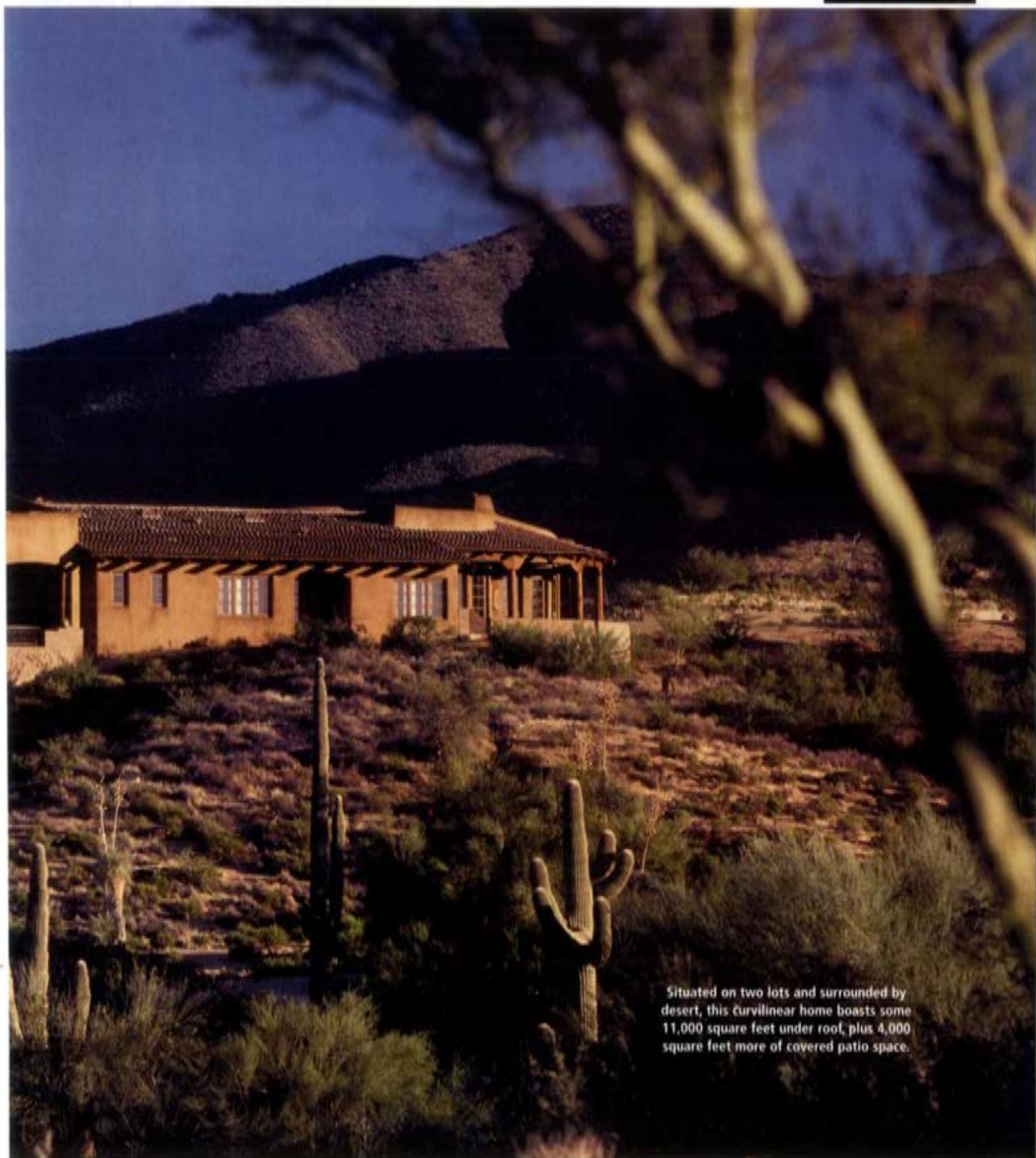
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# EARTHY DELIGHT


An expansive Pueblo-style home sizzles  
with Southwest sophistication

Text by Pam Halt • Photography by Dino Tonn





Situated on two lots and surrounded by desert, this curvilinear home boasts some 11,000 square feet under roof, plus 4,000 square feet more of covered patio space.



In the front courtyard, a terracing water feature culminates in a koi pond surrounded by boulders and lush plantings.

*"One of our design* goals is to make sure a house feels like a home," says architect Lee Hutchison of Urban Design Associates Ltd. "This can be particularly challenging when we are designing such a large house. While each room must maintain its own character and identity, volumes must flow."

Within this 11,000-square-foot residence, wrapped with an additional 4,000 square feet of covered patio, organic living areas flow like comfortable neighborhoods. According to Hutchison, the secret to creating inviting spaces often lies overhead. "The floor plan defines the space and to some degree the function of the room, but ceilings define how the room feels," the architect says. "Different treatments give us the opportunity to create different feelings."

To add warmth in the kitchen, for instance, Hutchison placed exposed beams and Saltillo tile on the ceiling. Plaster domes in the great room and dining room inspire formality, and a grid beam treatment in the office represents a Southwestern interpretation of ceilings in traditional English libraries.

Although the homeowners identified neither a target size nor a particular architectural style for the Desert Mountain

home, the design team, including Hutchison, interior designer Paula den Boer, and Ken Madden of Shiloh Custom Builders, did receive clear direction about how the residence should function. The homeowners requested a formal great room and dining room conducive to sophisticated entertaining for large groups. They also needed comfortable child-friendly spaces, with play and study areas for the children. For visiting family and friends, they wanted a large, inviting guest wing, and for themselves a spacious private master suite and office. Another imperative was that all rooms have uninterrupted views of the golf course.

The finished home exceeds every request. Hutchison extended the home over two long lots, allowing panoramic golf course views. He added party power by incorporating a sunken bar in the great room, and the den almost doubles in size when it is opened up to the outdoor patio. The guest wing functions like an attached casita, with two bedrooms, a living room, kitchen facility and private entrance. And the master suite is totally private, tucked away on an upper level that is accessible by stairway or elevator.

In order to create the sophisticated Southwestern home the couple envisioned, the design team used a mix of rich, earthy



An impressive entry door opens to a brick-domed foyer, beyond which lies a spacious great room that truly lives up to its name. Floors are random-cut Autumn Blend flagstone.





**Opposite, clockwise from top:** Complete with a kiva fireplace, big-screen TV behind carved wooden doors, and plush furnishings, the family room pays homage to comfort. The stairway leads to an outdoor viewing deck. • *Clavos*-studded doors open to a handsome office with coffered ceiling and outstanding views. • A large island dominates the gourmet kitchen, which features custom cabinetry and a host of state-of-the-art appliances. • **Above:** Circular and sunken, the dining room is capped with a groin-vaulted ceiling. The round table and chandelier underscore the room's shape. Wood-frame chairs sport leather backs and seats accented with nailhead trim.

materials and finishes. Adobe accented with cantera is used on the exterior. Inside, flagstone floors flow into hand-pegged hickory wood flooring, and a Venetian plaster wall treatment in the main living areas contrasts with a straw-strewn plaster wall finish in the wine room.

Carved cantera and adobe are reoccurring themes. Cantera columns, stained to blend with the adobe, accent the covered patios. The great room fireplace is constructed from carved cantera. This material also embellishes the gourmet kitchen, appears on the entry gate and as wainscoting in the powder room, and forms an arched surround in the master bedroom. The juxtaposition with adobe continues with burnt-adobe bricks that line the foyer ceilings in both the main house and guest wing.

While surface materials are delightfully varied, a strong color palette of muted greens, browns and dusty red provides consistency. The colors also complement the rich woods of custom cabinetry. Throughout, Southwest-inspired accents abound.

"We traveled to Santa Fe to look for artwork, artifacts and furniture," den Boer recalls.

Some of the cabinets, as in the morning room, have such Spanish Colonial details as iron fretwork and turnings. Other regional touches include *clavos*-studded doors in the office, and headboards of leather with nailhead trim in the guest suite.

"It's really an eclectic house," den Boer concludes. "It's definitely Southwest-inspired, but it's not rustic. It's sophisticated and refined."

*See Resource Guide.*



Clockwise from this photo: A buried-beam ceiling crowns a master suite fit for Southwest royalty. Large windows opening to a wraparound balcony provide views of the golf course and desert beyond. • Unusual tile-work adds interest in the master bath. • Bedding, furnishings and accessories are a medley of textures. ❧





