

GREAT OUTDOORS

A SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS HOME THAT BLENDS
CONTEMPORARY DESIGN WITH THE DESERT LANDSCAPE

SHEA
RESIDENCE

ARCHITECT: QUINN BOESENECKER OF
PINNACLE ARCHITECTURAL STUDIO

LANDSCAPE DESIGN: MARJORIE SNOW

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6,000 SQ. FT.



This page: The home's stacked stone façade lends a feeling of tranquility. The front door, left, provides a sweeping view of the Sheas' stunning zero-edge infinity pool. **Opposite page:** Orange and cream silk hanging lamps by Aqua Creations illuminate the main foyer, adding a striking pop of color to the dark wooden ceiling. See Resources.



Two main objectives shaped the design of Lynda and Pete Shea's residence: a desire to integrate interior and exterior, and a passion for entertaining friends and family. The boundaries between outdoors and indoors instantly dissolve when panels of floor-to-ceiling windows that line the interior of the 6,000-square-foot U-shaped home slide back on themselves, revealing a placid zero-edge infinity pool that overlooks the Las Vegas Valley. And with three sleek guest bedrooms to tempt visitors into longer stays, the effect is both arresting and inviting.

"We wanted a very low-maintenance, contemporary home with a desert-landscape look because we love to entertain, and we have two grandkids, one from each of our two sons," says Lynda Shea, who conceived much of the interior and exterior design for the home. "We wanted it to be the party house—a fun house."

The first step in designing their Southern Highlands home, which is now the couple's permanent residence (they also own property in Newport Beach, California, and Deer Valley, Utah), was zeroing in on the outside window-frame color and bringing it into the rest of the home, "so the flow of the house feels like the indoors is the outside," explains Shea. "I wanted it very natural, so we used Texas Southern buff limestone throughout the house and outdoors as well."





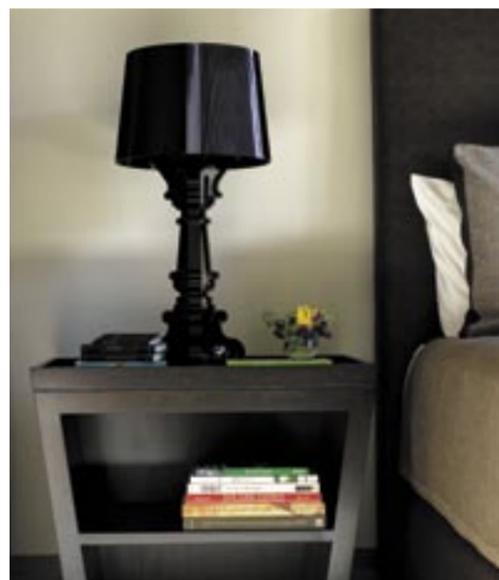
This page: The custom wine cellar, complete with flattened wine barrels doubling as flooring, was created by Las Vegas-based Angione's in the Woods. **Opposite:** The Fuchsia chandelier by Flos hangs over the glass topped dining room table, set off by straight-back chairs upholstered in pleated taffeta fabric by Kravet. See Resources.

The lot is tucked into the side of a craggy hill, one of the many dramatic natural backdrops that makes Southern Highlands a popular private community. As a result, Shea chose the earthy, neutral tones of the desert, which dominate in the furnishings and limestone walls, incorporating brilliant pops of color through orange accessories and fabric. She was instrumental in designing furniture and selecting upholstery to suit the home, working closely with Ken Burger of Burger Quality Upholstery in Costa Mesa, CA, to create a look that is contemporary without being cold. She also enlisted the help of Kathy Jewell, also from California, whose company Color Coach advises homeowners on selecting a palette that will reflect their lifestyle—the mastermind behind incorporating the window-frame color to bring the outdoors in.

The main foyer feels almost monastic, with towering walls of the irregularly stacked creamy limestone that is used throughout the home, and floor-to-ceiling windows which provide a panoramic view of the pool and the Strip beyond. Until, that is, one looks upward and notices the dramatic gathered silk hanging lamps in buff and rusty orange. The three lamps, which are hung in a staggered manner much like the limestone walls, add an element of color and whimsy to an otherwise spartan space.

The guest bedrooms, each with a private bath, are soothing in both color and texture. Shea layered nubby and woven fabrics from Kravet and Brunswick & Fils to create a symphony of tonal surfaces in cream, brown and taupe that envelope





Top left: One of three guest bedrooms in the home, this room is dominated by a mirror purchased at the Old Newport Frame Gallery in Newport Beach, CA. The benches and armchair are both upholstered in Brunschwig & Fils fabrics.

Right and bottom: Another guest bedroom offers a view of the front courtyard. The bedding is by Calvin Klein, and the lamp on the side table is by Kartell. See Resources.

guests in a warm, relaxing environment. Each room has a different yet similar look, all within the same color theme, and offer alluring amenities, including one which provides a transporting view of the front courtyard. The guest bathrooms all feature natural stone and tile, often mimicking organic looks such as river stone, creating an almost spa-like atmosphere.

The outdoors were also brought indoors with the spectacular views of the mountains and the Valley that can be seen from the master bedroom and bath. A sunken bathtub was situated in a specific manner so as to capitalize on the dramatic vistas during leisurely soaks.

“I had the tub put in such a way as to see the Strip, and it’s unreal, like Disneyland,” says Shea. “I can also see the flag at the last gas station on the way out of town. It’s so neat in the morning, to see that huge American flag—you have to pinch yourself.”

The three wings of the house embrace an expansive courtyard that makes the most of the spectacular views of both the rugged desert mountains and the Strip, which are juxtaposed against sweeping vistas of the entire Las Vegas Valley. The courtyard includes a covered seating area with a flat-screen television, a limestone seating area encompassing a fire pit with dazzling fire glass, a zero-edge infinity pool, shuffleboard court and even a putting green, all perfect for entertaining outdoors.

“Our son decided we should have a fire pit at the farthest point in the courtyard because it’s such a great location to see the Strip,” says Shea. “It’s black fire glass—installed by Skyline Insulation & Fireplaces. When we turn on the gas, the flame goes through the glass and it looks like a wave. It’s a just a beautiful effect.”

The desk in the master bedroom looks out to a shuffleboard court. The desk is from Plantation in Los Angeles and the lamp is by Brunschwig & Fils. The desk chair is upholstered in whimsical fabric by Kravet. See Resources.





Top right: The living room, featuring a custom sofa upholstered in Beacon Hill fabric and leather ottomans, opens up to the back patio with sliding glass doors. **Bottom:** Pete Shea's office occupies the bottom floor of the casita, with a bedroom atop. **Opposite:** The kitchen and adjacent eating area feature chandeliers by Artemide and chairs designed by Lynda Shea, upholstered in Kravet fabric. See Resources.

The focal point of the courtyard is a zero-edge infinity swimming pool designed by Ozzie Kraft Enterprises Inc., a Las Vegas-based company specializing in custom pools and water features. "The Shea pool was designed to fit with the architecture of the home," says Kevin Kraft, president of Ozzie Kraft. The company created a custom-blend pebble product for the pool, which is darker than the deep-blue hue traditionally utilized, giving the pool the illusion of dramatic depth and a shade reminiscent of the Mediterranean. Shea lined the pool with a row of chocolate-brown Meridian lounge chairs from Brown Jordan, adding a repetitive element that is in keeping with her contemporary vision.

To coordinate the natural desert vegetation to complement the home, Shea looked to Marjorie Snow, principal of Marjorie Snow Landscape Co. "Lynda has a great eye and had taken photos from her travels, and she leaned toward agave and very high-desert plant material," says Snow, a landscape designer and contractor who also owns Terra Cotta on Charleston Blvd., which specializes in hard-to-find garden pieces and architectural elements. "There is a repetition of plants throughout the landscape and that's what makes it so interesting," continues Snow. "Lynda wanted the landscaping to be an extension of the home, which is very minimalist and uncluttered. It's really pleasing to the eye and stands out in Southern Highlands."

As for the putting green, which was installed by Southwest Greens, "Pete and I are both golfers and putting is so important," says Shea, who plays golf several times a week. "That's why we picked Southern Highlands. The people are very nice, and the location is perfect, with easy access to the golf course. My husband and I are very athletic—we golf and hike and ski and play tennis and work out at the gym."





Above: The zero-edge infinity pool designed by Kevin Kraft of Las Vegas-based Ozzie Kraft Enterprises, Inc., adds a tranquil water element to the backyard. **Opposite:** The lounge chairs are by Brown Jordan. See Resources.

In keeping with their active lifestyle, the Sheas had hoped to include a bocce ball court to their mix of outdoor game areas, but it proved too difficult to maintain. Instead they opted for shuffleboard. “It’s a lot of fun and we use it quite a bit,” she says. “It’s also a good use of the space, otherwise you’d have to landscape it.”

The shuffleboard court is visible from a bedside desk in the master bedroom. The desk, situated in a corner of floor-to-ceiling windows, is a tranquil outpost with dappled light reflected from the pool to the rear. But upon closer inspection, there is a slight deviation from the calming tones by way of the desk chair, upholstered in a whimsical repeating pattern of a canine profile. Shea was inspired to select the Kravet fabric by the couple’s own furry friend, Bode, who can often be found diving headfirst into the family pool, bobbing for a ball or toy.

Bode is as much a fixture in the back courtyard as are his owners, who spend most of their time at the home either taking advantage of the various outdoor sport areas or entertaining for guests. “I love to entertain and eat outdoors, especially in April and May and in September and October,” says Shea. And with a Lynx outdoor grill on the patio and ample seating, the Sheas have one more trick up their sleeves to entice friends and family for an impromptu gathering: “Pete barbecues an awful lot—he has an infamous spare rib recipe.” **HD**

