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CABINS & HOMES

DREAM HOME SHOWCASE

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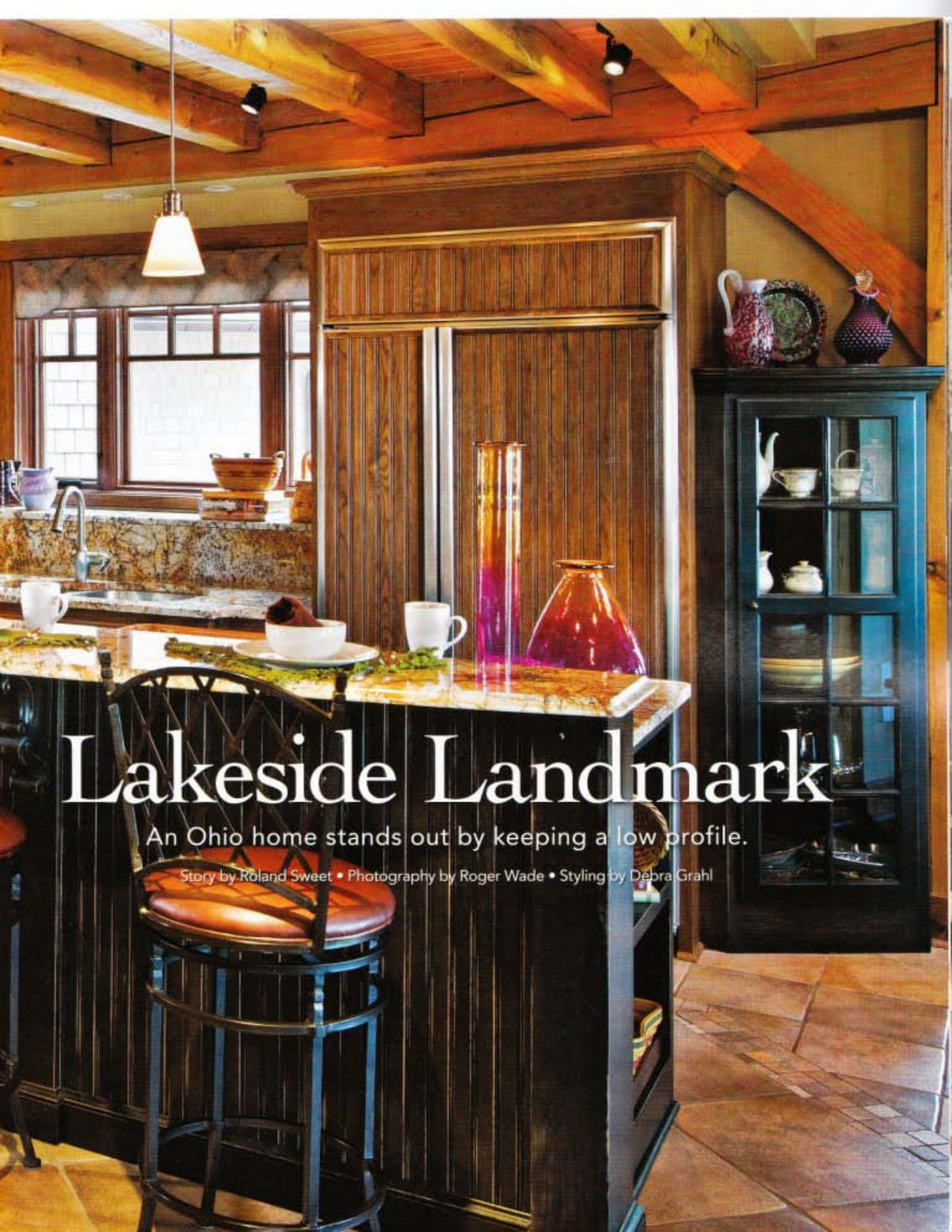
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White oak beams and tongue-and-groove pine decking form the kitchen ceiling, whose lower height provides a floor for the loft above and distinguishes the kitchen from the rest of the great room.



Lakeside Landmark

An Ohio home stands out by keeping a low profile.

Story by Roland Sweet • Photography by Roger Wade • Styling by Debra Grahl



One of two hammerbeam trusses juxtaposes with the wall of staggered windows that presents a spectacular view from the main area of the great room.



When Rhea and David Sylvester bought an outstanding 5-acre lot on the Ohio shore of Lake Erie, they had Lee Goodman of Ferut Architects in Elyria, Ohio, design a 4,500-square-foot home that achieves architectural merit while flattering the prominent site. The home is oriented toward the water to enjoy the sweeping views, yet its spread-out exterior profile relies on a varied roofline to avoid massing, instead creating a peaks-and-valleys look. Inside, however,

the home is anything but horizontal, thanks to timber framing throughout, except for the master bath and part of a breezeway connecting the house to the garage.

Oakbridge Timber Framing of Howard, Ohio, designed and cut the frame, whose timbers are white oak, except for the Douglas fir curved bottom beam of the truss supporting the entry porch roof. Oakbridge used 8-by-8-inch and 8-by-10-inch timbers primarily and 10-by-12-inch timbers in the central valley system. The

ABOVE: The covered entry makes a lasting first impression. In contrast to the wood shingle siding, which covers structural insulated panels, the entry further distinguishes itself with stone facing. The wooden door with flanking sidelights offers a warm welcome.

RIGHT: A traditional stone fireplace in the great room features an efficient-burning insert and a rustic mantel that sounds an informal note, which the casual furniture echoes. The room's second hammerbeam truss, located by the fireplace, features a pendant embellishment that further distinguishes the truss's artistry.

OPPOSITE, TOP:

Full-height windows and doors highlight the master bedroom, creating openness that extends beyond the walls. The perimeter timber framing is integrated into the window grouping to bolster the wood-and-glass look and extend upward to the cathedral ceiling.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM:

The home is built right on the shoreline of Lake Erie. The trees on the 5-acre lot enhance the home's traditional look and convey the impression that the new timber-frame home was built ages ago.





family-run business fashioned two towering hammerbeam trusses that highlight the great room and enable it to attain soaring openness.

Another standout timber feature is the half-octagonal breakfast nook with a turret-style hipped-roof system. This roomy configuration enhances the exterior while accommodating 180 degrees of windows showcasing the lake view.

The homeowners chose comfortable traditional furnishings for their home and positioned pieces to their best advantage. Extensive windows establish the lake view as the home's focal point, but the timber framing presents interior drama that vies for the eyes. The great-room trusses certainly command attention, but just as compelling are the perimeter timbers, which delineate spaces and frame the cherished views.



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