



# Stay Awhile

Architects look to ranch life when updating this Hill Country property with a new house and entertaining pavilion.

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e're both originally from Texas and have always considered Hill Country such a beautiful part of the state," homeowner John David Rainey says. The family compound he created with his wife,

Kelly, is a testament to their love of the region. While John David's career has taken the couple everywhere from the Midwest to the West Coast and to the South, they wanted to keep some local roots. And so, several years ago, they purchased this getaway as a turnkey ranch with a historic home and two small, separate dwellings. "It was great, initially, because we could show up and it had everything we needed; however, we decided it was time to make it our own and be able to host our family more comfortably," Kelly explains.

To consider how they might tie the existing buildings into a more functional compound, the couple called on architects Ada Corral and Camille Urban Jobe. Conversations began around creating a large, communal space on the site of a dilapidated barn. It would comprise only a kitchen along with living and dining areas, leaving the sleeping quarters to the original house and guest cottages. But as the clients contemplated their options, that plan soon grew to include a complete home and entertaining pavilion for what will one day become their full-time residence.

"We wanted a design that felt like it belonged on a ranch," says Jobe, explaining that she and Corral found inspiration in the industriousness of ranchers. "Their straightforward way of building and living resulted in structures that are unapologetic in their character." The home—which was constructed by builder Stacie Rychlik alongside coprincipal Shawn Brown and project manager Mike Nagy—runs on solar power. It also features a vaulted central axis and glassy cross gables with pivot doors and deep overhangs. "Our goal was to make the entire home beautiful and modern with fine craftsmanship but keep a casual nature that reveals the steel skeleton wrapped in white oak," Jobe continues, noting the assistance of project manager Kevin Sidora. "The interior architectural palette's white oak, hand-troweled plaster, exposed steel and concrete balance each other out, enforcing that

ranch-like roughness paired with the comforting warmth of hand finishes," Corral explains.

To furnish the home, the architects and their interior design project manager, Anna Manahan, prioritized custom pieces "crafted with intention, just like the house," Corral says. The living area features central ottomans with an integrated wood table, "bringing nature and symmetry into the space," Jobe notes. In the dining area, made more intimate by an overhead trellis, are steel-framed consoles that echo the dwelling's structure. "The furniture brings it all together," Kelly muses. "It was a treat to have our design team curate ideas and not overwhelm us with too many choices." The architects also introduced the Rainey's to art advisor Alicia Emr, who helped them develop their collection, and specialists from Studio Lumina to light the residence and further enhance the artworks.

This design narrative gracefully extends toward the heart of the home: the great room. At one end are the kitchen and den, with a wine cellar below. Off the kitchen springs a home office, designed as a bridge over a dry creek, that leads to the couple's suite. Here, a cozy seating area joins the bedroom, where retractable glass walls open to a private courtyard. "This corner of the house has some of the best views," adds Corral, noting that the roof's perforated gable can be configured in different ways to control natural light. At the opposite end of the great room are the game lounge and sleeping loft. However, outside is truly where family time happens. The pavilion serves as an expansive outdoor gathering space with lounging and dining areas, a kitchen, fireplace and television—an ideal setting for making pizzas and watching football. All of this overlooks the pool, which was designed to look more like a swimming hole.

"It's a big exhale when we drive through the front gate," John David describes. The landscape, designed by David Mahler and project manager Sam Lutfy to be native and naturalistic, exudes an extraordinary serenity that permeates the residence. "This project is so specific to its place that you couldn't have put it on any other site," Corral explains. So alluring is the home that the architects even gave it a name, the Tarry House, playing on the word's meaning: to linger. "It's appropriate," Kelly says. "That's exactly what you want to do here." ■



Environmental Survey, Inc. used oversize natural limestone installed by Rustic Boulder Designs to establish the look of a swimming hole. Just beyond the Cane-line chairs from Anthony's Patio is an original cistern, which stores well water as a backup for the property's rainwater system.

The great room's Cirio Circular pendant from Santa & Cole illuminates a sofa from De Padova, Poltrona Frau armchairs from Scott + Cooner and a coffee table from Domi Goods. Above the fireplace is an installation by J Prichard Design.





Poltrona Frau chairs surround the custom live-edge pecan slab dining room table by Jobe Fabrications, all below a Kevin Reilly Collection chandelier from Holly Hunt. A Libbie Masterson lightbox work joins a recycled metal-and-concrete sculpture by Vibha Galhotra, who also created the large round commissioned piece.

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—CAMILLE URBAN JOBE



**Above:** A custom oversize pivot awning window by MHB through Fenestra Concepts connects the kitchen and outdoor living spaces. Cabinetry fabricated by Henrybuilt is topped with granite counters from Architectural Tile & Stone. Allied Maker pendants suspend above a faucet from Alexander Marchant.

**Opposite:** The pavilion's living space was designed to support outdoor gatherings. Furnishings by Janus et Cie include an Arbor cocktail table and seating from the Pure Collection. A rug from Black Sheep Unique runs underfoot.





**Above:** The primary bedroom seating area's Otis Huband piece from Foltz Fine Art overlooks a Flexform sofa from Scott + Cooner and coffee table from Modern Industry. The Ralph Lauren Home floor lamp is through Visual Comfort & Co. A mixed-media work by Jessica Drenk hangs nearby.

**Opposite:** Custom lift-and-slide pocketing corner doors by MHB through Fenestra Concepts seamlessly integrate the primary bedroom with a private courtyard featuring Omura lounge chairs from Holly Hunt. An Asa Pingree bench rests on a rug from Black Sheep Unique. The cabinetry was crafted by Henrybuilt.

Jobe Corral Architects updated this property with a new main house that unifies the site's original structures. Reclaimed wood siding from Delta Millworks blends with a standing-seam metal roof from Straight Solutions Inc.

