



"Architecture is habitable
sculpture, expressing its
place and culture and the
technology of its era."

— Brian L. Freese

Brian L. Freese

Freese Architecture



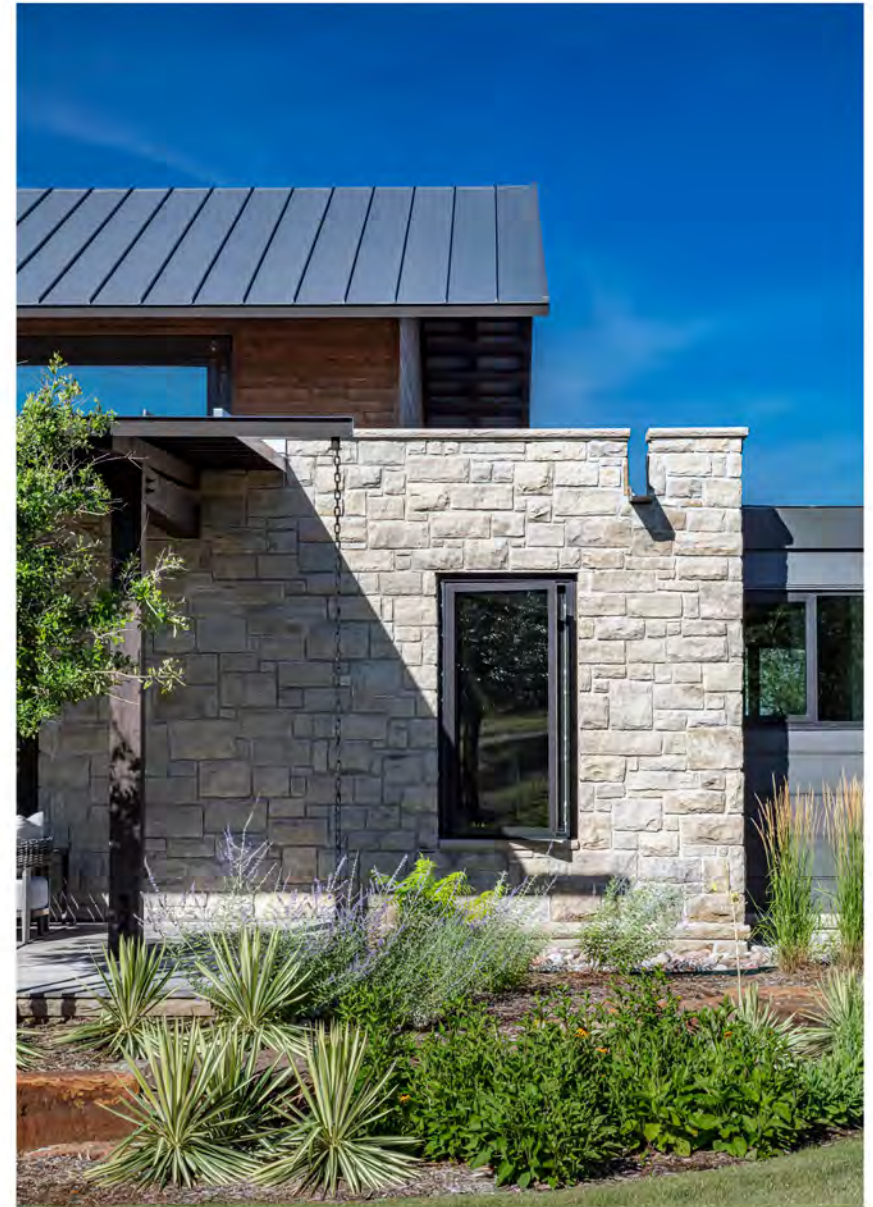
Known for its individual approach that principal Brian L. Freese calls Midwest Modern, Freese Architecture designs homes and buildings using elemental, natural materials to create a modern vocabulary that reflects and responds to the local culture, climate, and landscapes of each project.

This stunning, 10,200-square-foot estate in Northeastern Oklahoma known as Lakeview embodies these ideals, blending modern sophistication with the raw, natural beauty of the American Midwest.

Perched on a tree-lined bluff overlooking Skiatook Lake, the estate was designed to harmonize with its natural surroundings and complement the rolling hills of Osage County, where the ancient Cross Timbers woodlands meet the prairie. Drawing inspiration from traditional rural structures like farmhouses, barns, and homesteads, principal Brian L. Freese modernized these familiar forms with clean lines and thoughtful detailing. The composition of the house into smaller “homesteads,” linked by flat-roofed connectors, creates a visual rhythm and reduces the perceived size, reflecting the firm’s emphasis on proportion, scale, and visual harmony. The result is a home that feels inviting and approachable despite its grand scale.

The crescent-shaped layout of the home reflects Freese Architecture’s functional design approach, providing an intuitive flow of spaces with panoramic vistas of surrounding nature — in this case, water and woods — while floor-to-ceiling windows and clerestory openings flood the interior with natural light. This seamless integration of indoor and outdoor spaces exemplifies Freese’s philosophy of weaving nature into every design, creating an environment that is both spiritually nourishing and visually harmonious.

At the heart of the home is the central homestead, an exposed solid timber structure with steel knife plate connections, showcasing the firm’s dedication to the honest use of materials and craftsmanship. This muscular timber frame, along with extended rafter tails supporting galvanized metal roofs, recall the structures of historic rural buildings while adding a contemporary edge. The exterior features locally common materials, including a regionally sourced stone, further rooting the home in its cultural and geographic context.







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is nothing more beautiful or
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Inside, the home reflects a perfect balance of modern design and historical connection. Reclaimed, century-old oak beams from a family barn were repurposed as fireplace mantels, adding a deeply personal touch to the otherwise clean, contemporary aesthetic.

The estate extends beyond the main residence to include a guesthouse connected by a breezeway. This inviting transitional space, complete with a fireplace and sitting area, leads to a family pool and other amenities such as a lighted tennis court and a mortise-and-tenon cedar barn. Each feature reflects the firm's philosophy of maximizing utility while creating spaces that inspire connection and joy.

A particularly meaningful selection for the homeowners was the use of a medium gray limestone sourced from a quarry near St. Genevieve, Missouri, in a strata that runs into Oklahoma. This stone's geological connection to Oklahoma's oil and gas reservoirs is a nod to the husband's petroleum geology career that enabled the homeowners to realize their dream home.

From its sprawling layout nestled into the rolling landscape to its seamless incorporation of modern and traditional elements, this estate exemplifies Freese Architecture's ability to honor the heritage and natural beauty of a site while creating a home that is as functional as it is inspiring. Under the vast Oklahoma skies, this one-of-a-kind residence celebrates the firm's philosophy and the homeowners' vision, offering a space that is both breathtaking and deeply connected to the land.

*Interior Design: Susan Eddings Perez
Landscape Architecture: Stephen R. Williams
Builder/Contractor: West Construction
Photographer: Charles Davis Smith, FAIA*