bba | ARCHITECTS



BBA ARCHITECTS ABOUT US







PHOTOGRAPHY: Aaron Gang



SELECTED WORKS:

Transitional Style

At BBA, we are committed to finding an inspired solution to raise the expectation of great design. In this volume, we feature three homes that combine classic design with modern sensibility.

MODERN CRAFTSMAN

Arts & Crafts-inspired detailing create an inviting sun-filled interior at this city home. p. 4

ENGLISH GOLF ESTATE

The clients' appreciation for English country architecture became the basis of the design. p. 20

LAKE MICHIGAN BEACH HOUSE

This stunning summer home has been designed with a shingle-style aesthetic in mind. p. 44

Our Story

BBA Architects is focused on providing exceptional client service and outstanding design in the Great Lakes region and beyond.

BBA was built on listening to our clients with open minds, offering an interactive design experience and delivering a thoroughly considered product. Gary Beyerl founded the studio in 1993 and is now joined by Ed Twohey and Jen Hense at the helm.

Our portfolio of work does not reflect a specific style. At BBA, we strive to create beautiful custom designs by paying careful attention to our individual client's stylistic preferences, functional requests, and budget requirements. We draw inspiration from both historical and modern sources while translating our client's vision into thoughtful, innovative and timeless designs. After over 30 years in business, we have completed over 1,500 projects, each as unique as the people for which we created them. We work collaboratively, allowing discussion, debate and continued education to elevate our process as both individual architects and a design team. Our firm has been an important incubator for young architects, who have been trained in our process of providing clients with well studied design, tracking budgets, and providing proactive service during the construction phase.

Our team is ready to continue this tradition, as we incorporate evolving building technology, contemporary lifestyle trends, and more sustainable methods into our practice.









MODERN CRAFTSMAN

The Arts & Crafts inspired detailing creates a familiar yet unique facade that is sympathetic to the character and scale of the neighborhood. A chevron pattern is a key design element on the window bays and doors and continues inside throughout the interior of the home.

SERVICES

Building Design
Building Interiors
Bidding & Contract Negotiation
Construction Administration
Zoning Relief

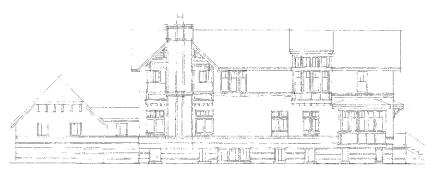
LOCATION Chicago, Illinois

SIZE 6,250 sf.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Nathan Kirkman Mike Schwartz BBA ARCHITECTS MODERN CRAFTSMAN 9





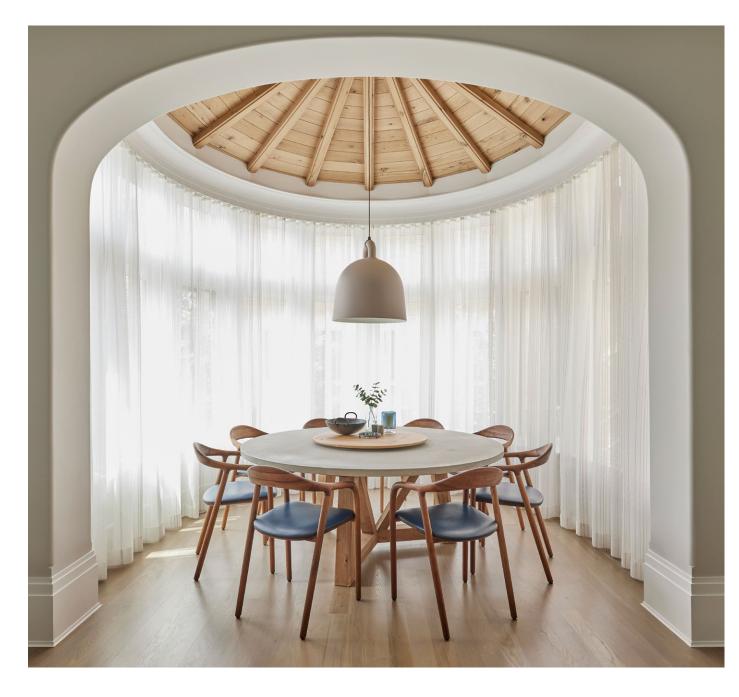
Situated along the perimeter of the property, this home creates a continuous street-wall, both preserving plenty of open yard space and maintaining privacy from the prominent street corner. Along the side street, a one-story mudroom connects the garage to the house at the rear of the lot which required a local zoning variance. The resulting L-shaped plan and the central location of a glass-enclosed stair allows natural light to enter the home from multiple sides of nearly every room.







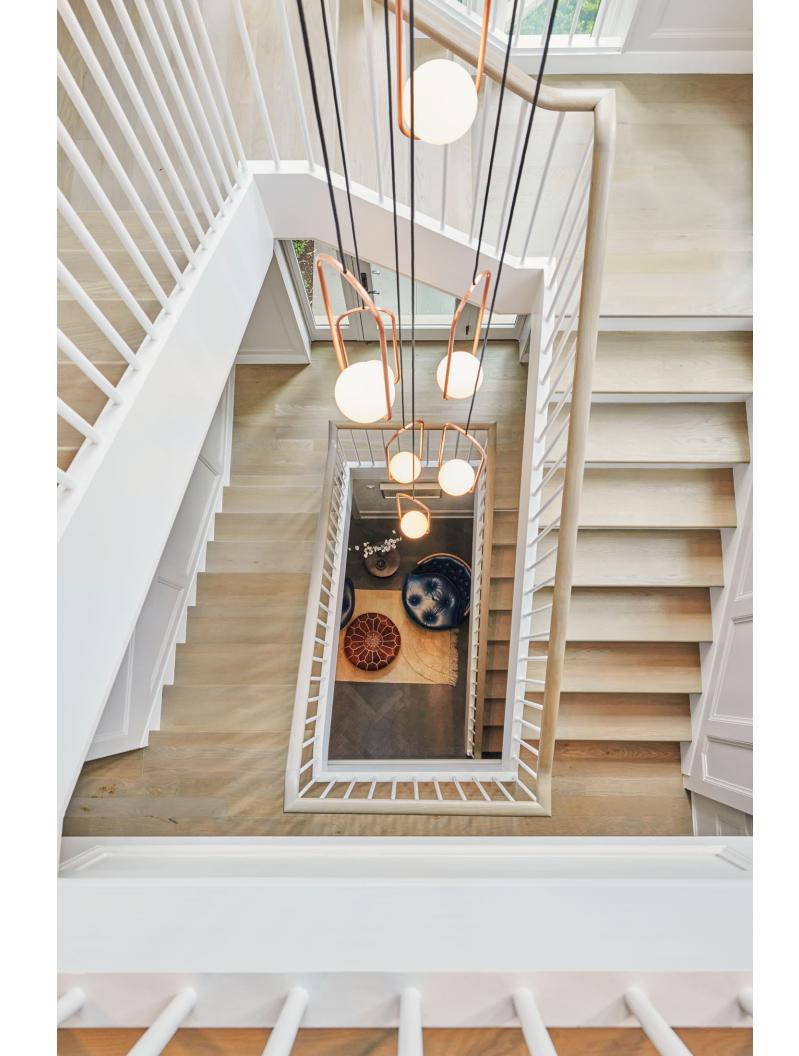


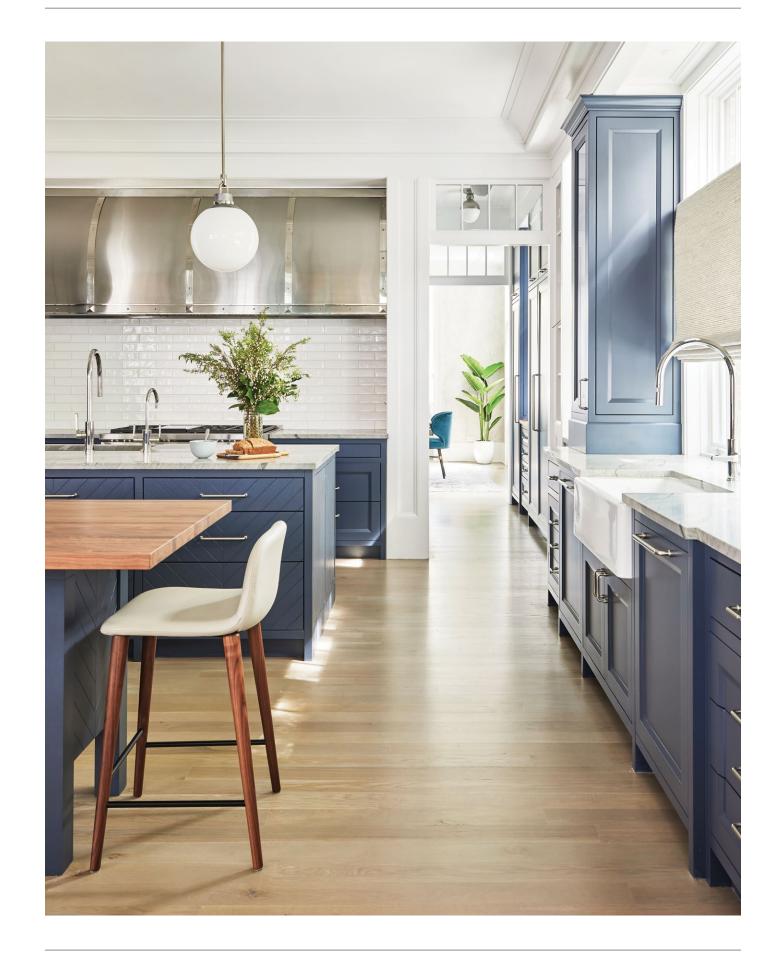


Arts & Crafts-inspired detailing paired with natural wood tones create an inviting interior. This gently arched opening leads to a cozy breakfast nook with a striking wood ceiling and a curved wall of windows overlooking the private backyard.















BBA ARCHITECTS MODERN CRAFTSMAN 15



With abundant natural light and plenty of storage, this compact home office is both pretty and practical. The space also cleverly utilizes the interior transom windows overlooking the adjacent family room — perfect to keep an eye on the kids below.











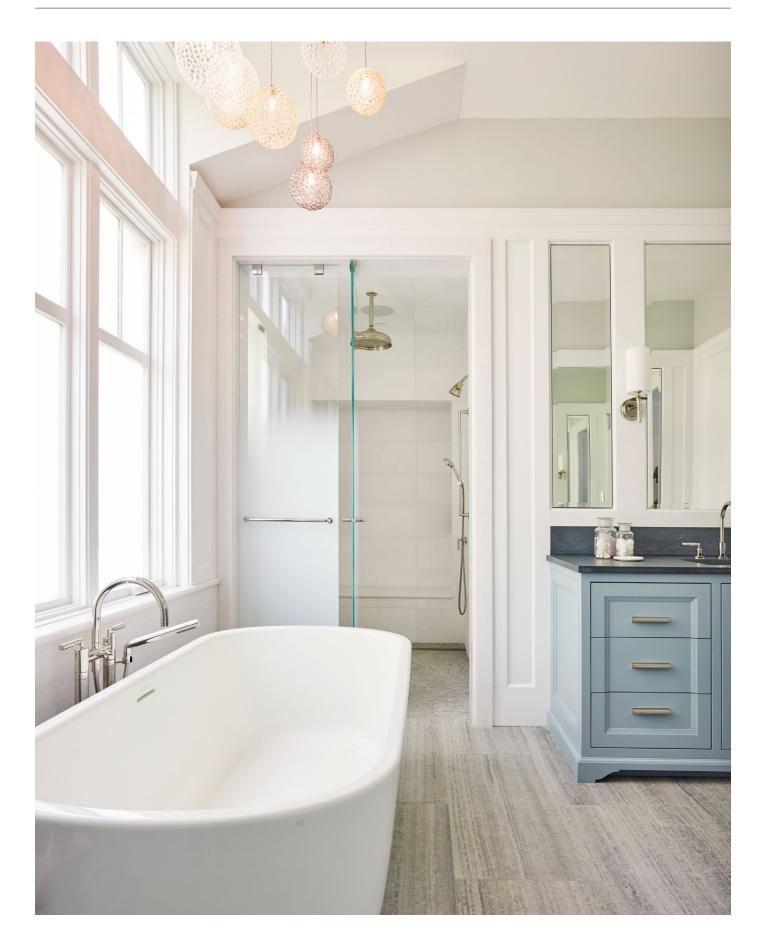
BBA ARCHITECTS MODERN CRAFTSMAN 17















Our Modern Craftsman home features several thoughfully designed living and entertaining spaces, including this incredible indoor children's playspace!

The inviting lower level of the home is ideal for entertaining at home for both adults and kids. From a wine room and golf simulator to a generous playroom gym and so much more, this family home offers a perfect weekend getaway without even stepping outside.

And a charming and efficient mudroom serves the homeowners well during any season. The distinct chevron pattern on the door is a key design element that is featured throughout the home's interior and exterior.





ENGLISH GOLF ESTATE





ENGLISH GOLF ESTATE

The homeowners' appreciation of English country architecture, with elements of stone, stucco, brick and slate, became the basis of this custom home design. The primary design goal was to achieve an understated elegance with generous warmth. From the entry walk, a clear view passes through the foyer, formal dining room and out to the rolling hills of the sunny golf course beyond.

SERVICES

Building Design
Building Interiors
Bidding & Contract Negotiation
Construction Administration

LOCATION Chicago, Illinois

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SIZE 7,000 sf.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Aimee Mazzenga Nathan Kirkman **PANGLISH GOLF ESTATE**BBA ARCHITECTS

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The thoughtfully detailed butler's pantry provides a convenient passageway between the kitchen and dining. The space also functions as a bar area as it opens up to the adjacent sunroom. Natural wood detailing with custom cabinets bring character and warmth to the interior while the generous bi-parting pocket doors allow this serving area to remain concealed or open up for entertaining and everyday use.

ENGLISH GOLF ESTATE









ENGLISH GOLF ESTATE











BBA ARCHITECTS ENGLISH GOLF ESTATE







Timeless elements from custom tile patterns and millwork details to luxury fixtures and accessories bring balance to this tranquil oasis right at home in this primary bath.

The primary bedroom offers a restful retreat right at home. Thoughtful details and key alignments are paired with a warm neutral color palette to create a cosy and welcoming space with a clean, transitional style. Here a set of custom BBA Doors are concealed as a paneled passage when fully open, but offer privacy when closed.















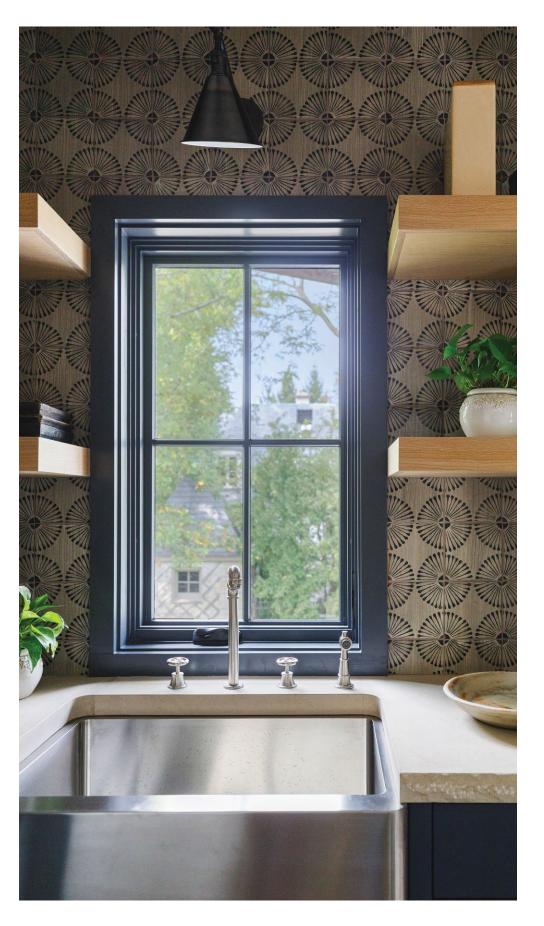






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Between the attached garage and the main entry hall, this stylish mudroom is conveniently located to hold all that outdoor gear that's especially messy and bulky. Durable finishes, walls lined with custom shelving and cabinetry, and a dark color palette with natural wood accents complete this pretty but practical space. An exterior door leads directly to a side yard, providing easy access to the dog-friendly zone just outside for the furry resident of this home!

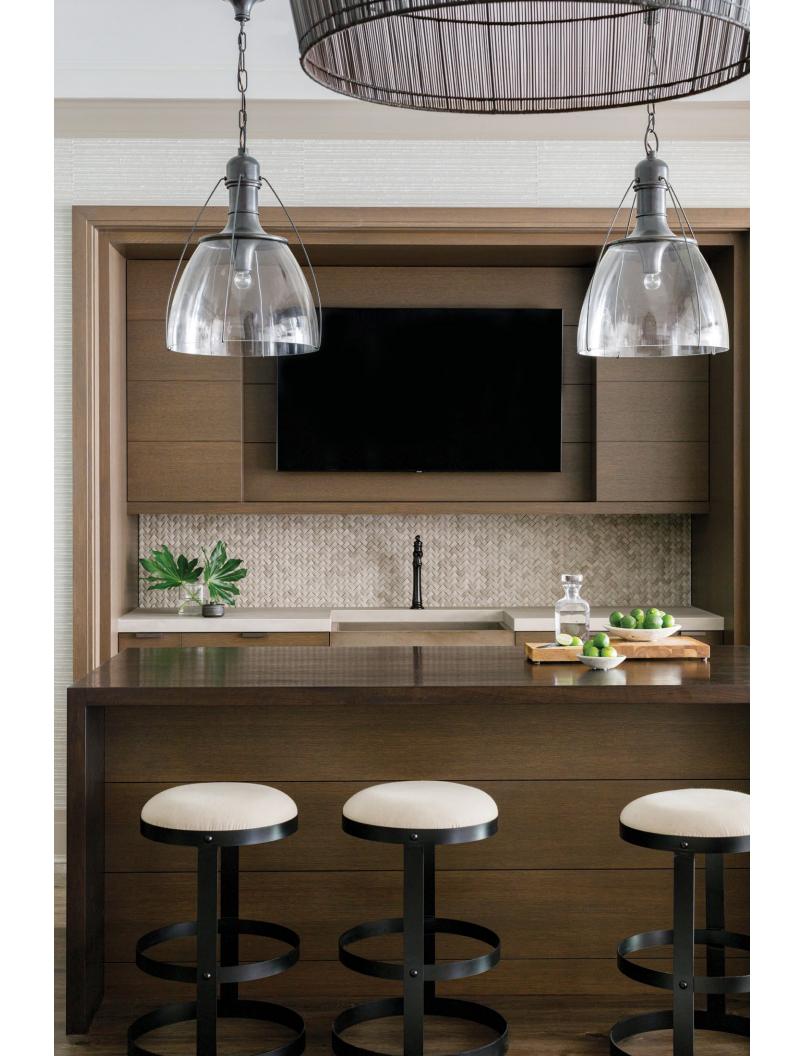








This sun-filled space is actually a cleverly designed basement recreation room. Taking advantage of a sloped site allowed for full height windows along one wall, while a wet bar and wine cellar flank the adjacent entertaining space and create a perfect place to relax and play right at home.



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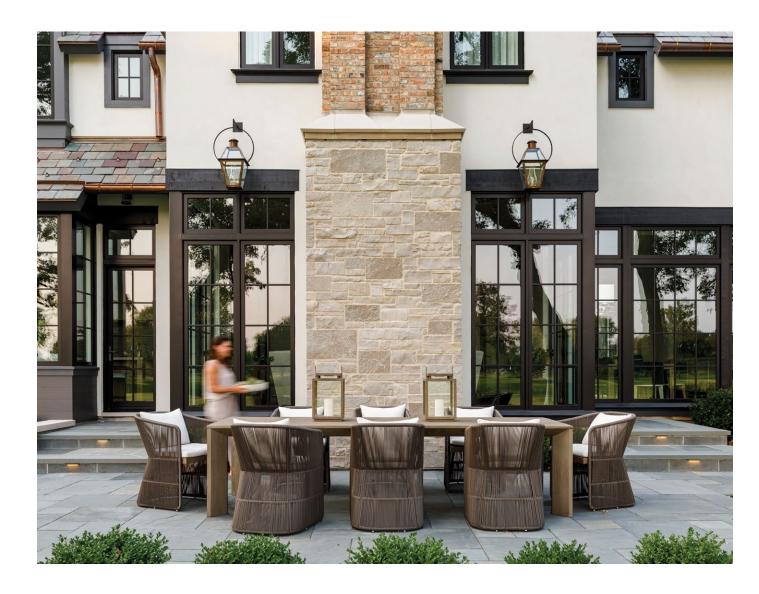










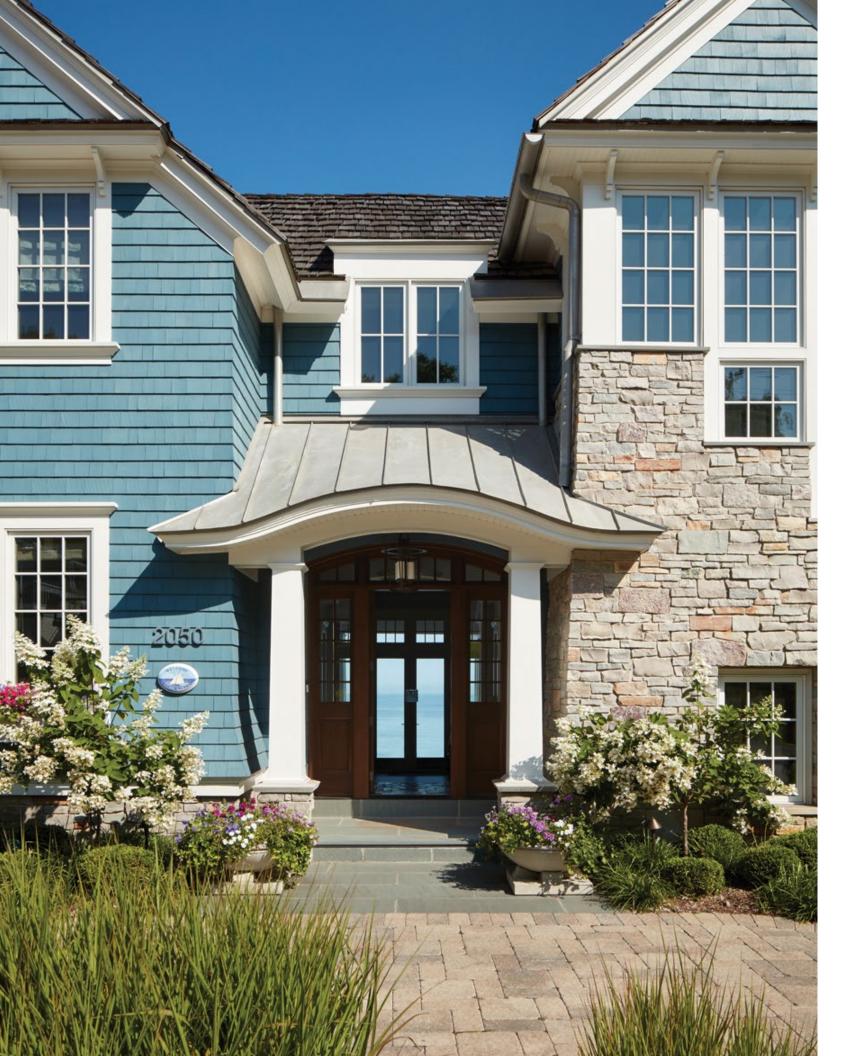


By addressing both homeowner goals and unique site conditions, a well-designed outdoor space can create an exterior room like this charming backyard gathering space. This bluestone dining patio is conveniently located within steps of both the kitchen (left doors) and dining room (right doors), and centered on the adjacent sunroom, seamlessly merging indoor and outdoor living. The exterior features carefully refined details and a cohesive composition of stone, brick, stucco, nickel-gap siding and slate.











LAKE MICHIGAN BEACH HOUSE

This summer home on the shores of Lake Michigan is developed with a shingle-style character in mind. The living levels focus outward to the lake and flow onto an exterior porch and terraces. An exterior stair with integrated seating at landings descends to the beach level.

SERVICES

Building Design
Building Interiors
Bidding & Contract Negotiation
Construction Administration
Technology Integration

LOCATION North Shore, Illinois

SIZE 5,500 sf.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Nathan Kirkman

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This beachfront home features an open concept living space that focuses outward to panoramic views of Lake Michigan. The main living spaces flow onto a screen porch, an exterior porch, and lower level terraces.















While addressing both homeowner goals, wish lists, and unique site conditions, well-designed outdoor spaces can accommodate dining and gathering areas, as well as seamlessly extend indoor living to the outdoors. The interior and exterior blue-hues color palette compliments the vibrant colors of the lake beyond.







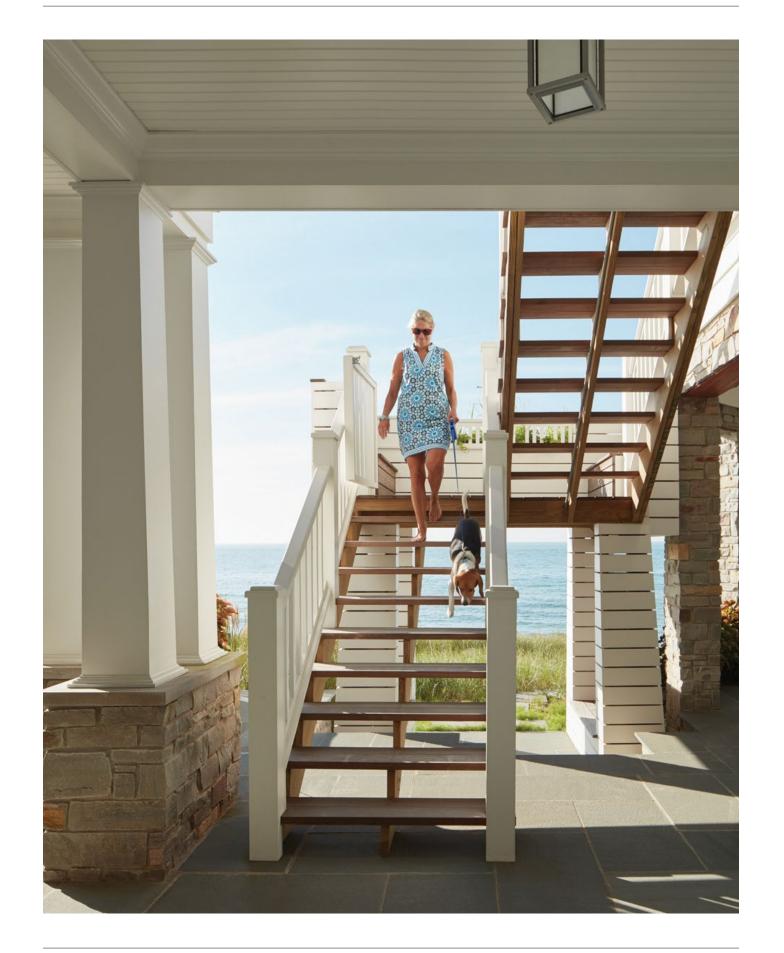
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An exterior stair with integrated seating at landings descends to the beach level. A dedicated beach access mudroom (or sandroom) complete with showers and changing rooms, accommodate guests and provide a dedicated location for swim wear and supplies at the beach level.







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GARY BEYERL, AIA

Gary co-founded Burns + Beyerl Architects in 1993, now BBA Architects. He continues to lead the firm with partners Ed Twohey and Jennifer Hense with an unbridled passion for creativity, and a desire for excellence.

Gary has enjoyed designing and renovating several homes with his wife. Each has involved hands on construction experience and experimentation. In 2007, Gary completed a weekend home at Tryon Farm, a conservation development in Michigan City, Indiana. He has also designed a fresh water swimming pond for the Farm. In 2022, he and his wife assumed stewardship of community and will continue to develop the legacy of the project.



ED TWOHEY, AIA

Ed joined BBA in 1994 as the first employee and was named Principal in 1999. He received a Bachelor of Architecture from Miami University in Ohio in 1989 and a Masters of Architecture from Washington University in St. Louis in 1991.

Born and raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Ed assisted his mother in her estate sales business growing up. As Principal, the experience of working with vintage and historic homes still guides and inspires him as he designs renovation, restoration and new custom residential projects. Ed enjoys finding new opportunities during the design process that greatly enrich the clients lifestyle, whether it be a home or a restaurant.



PHOTOGRAPHY: Aaron Gang

JENNIFER HENSE, AIA

Jen began her architectural career at BBA Architects in 1999 after graduating from Ball State University. In 2021, she joined Gary Beyerl and Ed Twohey in partnership to lead the firm. She has worked on an expansive range of projects from new construction to historic renovations during her tenure.

Growing up in Northern Indiana, Chicago was a promising destination for this aspiring architect from a young age. Her university internship program led Jen to the city and ultimately to BBA. She and her husband Kevin, also an architect, have lived across the city and suburbs and have recently returned to their alma mater to live and work remotely in Muncie, Indiana. Jen makes frequent visits to Chicago to meet at the firm's studio and project sites.

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PROJECT INQUIRIES

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