

BETWEEN BASIN & RANGE



PROJECT

Summer Lake Residence
PLAYA at Summer Lake, Oregon

Design Team
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Structural Engineer
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Photos
Bronson Studios Photography

CHALLENGES

- Provide a modest residence at PLAYA Artist Retreat Center at Summer Lake, located at the eastern foot of the Fremont Mountains range, and looking east towards the Great Sandy Desert basin.
- Design a building that is informed by, and integrates with, the surrounding landscape and the local building vernacular.
- Facilitate construction at this rural location where resources are limited, by relying on materials and technologies sourced at a regional industrial center.

CONCEPTS

- This house prototype is composed of repeating rectangular plan modules, based on a four-foot grid.
- The structure is constructed with standard light-wood framing materials, pre-fabricated into panels and components that are trucked in and assembled on site.
- Around the entry areas, the durable utility of metal siding is replaced with the inviting warmth of cedar boards.
- The continuous low-slope roof plane is simple to construct, provides maximum protection from prevailing wind and driving rain, and facilitates potential future rainwater harvesting.
- The interior organization, varying ceiling heights, and long vistas through oversized windows, make this compact 960-SF home feel expansive.



SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES

- Construction impact was reduced by site-assembling prefabricated, shipped components.
- The modular design ensures maximum material efficiency and minimal construction waste.
- Wrapped in a double-insulated wall, the home is conditioned with an efficient heat pump, a back-up wood stove, and a Heat Recovery Ventilator.
- Abundant daylight is provided via oversized windows, glazed doors, and a central skylight.

