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Summary

Craig Ellwood, Los Angeles

House in Hillsborough

(pages 498-502)

The site with its pines and its huge oaks is located on the San Francisco Peninsula and opens onto the Bay. The house was designed for six persons and has an H plan.

The sleeping tract is connected by way of an entrance block, comprising the kitchen and a dining-nook, with the daytime tract including a dining-room, a living-room and a studio. The entrance constitutes a kind of bridge between the swimming-pool, located in a patio, and another pool on the north, which is separated from the house by a glass wall. A structure capable of taking laminated glass panes surrounds the swimming-pool, which the owner intends to use the year round.

The garage is isolated from the house and is situated in the entrance axis.

Panocast, Ferendino, Skeels + Burnham, Miami

House with Ceramic Studio on Lake Shore in Miami

(pages 503-505)

The owners, an artist couple with very special interests, and their children wished to have a house facing directly on to a small lake on the east and on to a forest on the west.

Lay-out: Sufficient space for conducting discussions, guest rooms, sheltered area for cultivating orchids, art and ceramic studio.

Construction:

Plan module: 0.90 m./1.2 m.; roof overhangs form large areas separated by glass partitions from the interior and by screens on the outside as protection against insects; the living-rooms opens wholly toward the east with sliding glass doors, or it can be opened toward the west when the wind is too strong; the extremely variable Florida climate rendered necessary the installation of an air-conditioning plant.

Leo Hafner, Alfons Wiederkehr

Zug Businessman's House

(pages 506-509)

The house is sited on the Rötelberg above a road. The plot of land slopes sharply and in the main faces west. The cross siting and the projecting living-room arose from the client's wish to have all living and bedroom quarters facing south. The garages are at street level with covered parking-space higher up next to the entrance and loggia. On the ground floor there is a large entrance hall, the living-room, which is separated from the studio by a sliding wall and which can be divided up into a dining-area and a lounge by means of a folding wall, and the kitchen. The living-quarters are grouped round a fireplace, from where a magnificent view of the towers of the town and the lake can be had.

The programme also called for direct liaison between kitchen and dining-room and the covered loggia and garden.

To make a less cube-like impression when seen from the valley the upper floor has been set sharply back. This contains five bedrooms, two bathrooms and a lumber room.

The house has been carried out in concrete. The outside has been washed and granite has been used inside, in the hall. There are fitted carpets in all the other rooms and the ceilings throughout the whole of the ground floor have been carried out in Douglas fir.

Carl Nyrén, Stockholm

Villa at Skutskär

(pages 510-513)

This villa is situated on the site of an old manor house dating from the 19th century. Since the latter was a three-storey building, excessively large and inconvenient, the plan to renovate was abandoned in favour of a new house on one single level and for the most part open to a park and to the sea, which surrounds the estate on three sides.

The house is built around an interior courtyard with all the interesting main rooms opening on to it; the latter all have sliding partitions. In this way the rooms can be easily adapted to various social requirements. The vestibule, which can be opened into a small dining-room, faces west on to a covered terrace, and on the east side opens into a large dining-room and finally on the south into the core of the house, a very spacious living-room with fireplace commanding an extensive view. From there another sliding partition permits access to a cozy library in front of which there is situated a second covered terrace. On the east side, there are located five bedrooms and one utility room.

Harry Seidler, Sydney

Three-storey Home on a Slope at Northbridge near Sydney

(pages 516-519)

Plan: 1958

Execution: 1959

The house is situated on the slopes of a hill in the environs of Sydney, which can be reached from above by a narrow road. For climatic reasons it faces north, this also yielding the best view.

The house has three floors, each of which is surrounded by a terrace serving as a sunbake. The five parking sites along the road and the stairwell in the centre serving the three levels form an H with the house proper, which is divided as follows:

On the lower level, the children's rooms and utility rooms connected directly with a play area and the beach on the south.

On the intermediate level, the living-room and the dining-room with the largest terrace, which is used for entertainment; the kitchen from which a bridge crosses to a courtyard, a laundry and the service entrance.

On the upper level, the parents' bedroom and bath along with a music room for the owner, who is a pianist; this room can be separated from the stairwell by means of an insulated door.

its pool to the garden on the south side, from where there is access to a two-car garage and the caretaker's lodging. The architect himself writes that his house sprang from his need for repose, privacy and seclusion. The courtyard moreover has the effect of prolonging the brief northern summer and anticipating the arrival of spring. The garden level is of reinforced concrete. The inside face of the walls on the living level is of wood, the outside of asbestos-cement covered with tiling, with glass-wool insulation in between.

The decks above the bedrooms are composed of aluminium foil and a frame structure of aluminium sections. The lighting fixtures and lines are housed in the ceilings.

The floors are of mosaic or covered with moquette. Thermopane glazing; radiant floor heat.

René Weidmann, Baden

Architect's House in Baden

(pages 524-526)

The house, facing south and sited on a very steep slope, commands a view of the Baden-Wettingen Valley and is surrounded by rich and varied flora. The garage level, sited as far up as possible, is connected by steps with the entrance level.

All the main rooms look out over the valley and have a view of the Alps. A large canopy protects them from direct sunlight, and the entire living level is surrounded by a balcony, from which the large panes can be easily cleaned.

A pool, like a cantilevered bridge, constitutes a visual prolongation of the terrace.

To the west, a wooded ridge shades the house and acts as a windbreak, plus the open-air terrace.

The two white decks, providing cover, are supported by six graceful pillars of dark blue steel. The walls of the south face and those of the entrance court are of untreated brick.

A vestibule entirely glassed opens into a hall on two levels illuminated by a skylight and continuing into the dining-room and the spacious living-room.

The composition of the whole is enlivened by a great variety of materials. The floors of the living tract are of white marble and those of the bedrooms are covered with light moquette.

Radiant floor heat, in places ceiling radiation.

All windows are of thermopane glass furnished with Venetian blinds and protected by roller-blinds.

Craig Ellwood, Los Angeles

"Rosen Residence", Patio House, Los Angeles

(page 533)

Craig Ellwood has based his plan on a system of nine square elements, the central one forming a patio with a tree growing in the middle of it.

Three sides are surrounded by the daytime area, which is all interconnected and which is partly open to the sky; on the remaining side there are situated the bedrooms and the utility rooms.

All these rooms are connected by a small portico, which is a kind of modern peristyle in Pompeian style.

The family has at its disposal an intimate living-room, while a larger space with studio is used for entertainment.

Edi Franz, Zurich

Home above the Lake of Zurich

(page 534)

Plan: 1961

Execution: 1962

The site, an old vineyard sloping steeply toward the south-west, has determined the elongated plan. The retaining walls of the vineyard have been preserved.

The space is divided into three equal parts: living, sleeping and utility, these divisions finding expression in the outer faces of the house. The kitchen in the centre of the house is conceived as a core connected with the living area, the dining-room and the loggia, from which the roof garden is reached as well as the sun-deck.

The ground floor is reserved for the children, including their bathroom,

and toward the inside of the site are the utility rooms. The three levels of the house permit maximum utilization of the site, the loss of garden space being compensated on the roof. Moreover, the flat roof opens up the view for the upper neighbour.

Voitto Haapalainen, Helsinki

"Sarja 8500", Element Furniture

(page 535)

This furniture is based on independent soldered tubular steel building units. Haapalainen has developed a system of furniture designed for multiple uses.

The steel parts are tubes with square section measuring from 20 mm. x 20 mm. to 30 mm. x 30 mm., thermolacquered in black or white, chromium-nickel-plated.

Toivo Korhonen, Esko Pajamies

Seats for halls and conference rooms

(page 536)

A round-sectioned leg rests on a square crossed foot and supports a plastic shell in which one sits. A larger shell is set laterally on the former and forms the support. These two elements are covered with foam rubber.

Architect: Airborne, Montreuil (Seine).

Project: Armchair with steel support.

A well thought-out frame consisting of profiles screwed to one another by means of an angle becomes a chair when two leather cushions hung from straps are attached and an armchair when two thin arms are added. Covered with a flat cushion or a sheet of glass it can become a stool or a table respectively.

Alvar Aalto

Chairs with laminated wood legs

(page 537)

For over 30 years Aalto has never failed to elaborate furniture consisting of laminated wood elements shaped under steam. The horizontal surfaces of the tables and the stools are the points of juxtaposition for three or four legs which, in their verticals, have a segment-shaped section, whereas in their horizontal parts they open out like a fan and terminate in the form of a semi-circle.

Each leg consists of four elements made of laminated wood bent under steam. The upper surfaces of the tables are either in the form of one piece or a number of strips, those of the stools are either in wood or in leather.

J. A. Motte, Paris

Element Furniture

(page 539)

As their creator expresses it, these examples represent rather an experimental venture than something expected to sell on the market; they represent an attempt to break out of the mediocrity currently prevailing in this field, an attempt in the direction of easy-to-assemble architectural elements giving rise to a free play of spatial volumes and so creating a fresh setting for modern living.

Edi Franz, Zurich

Easy Chair and Settee

(page 540-541)

This chair is the result of a competition meeting the following conditions: utilization of foam synthetic and rubber cushions as well as possibility of production on industrial basis.

The metal parts of this chair are assembled at the factory, which employs already existing profile sections; these raw elements carry low customs charge and can later be assembled, with cushions, etc., into armchairs or settees.

Arflex Suisse, Alex Strässle, Wil/SG, all models patented.