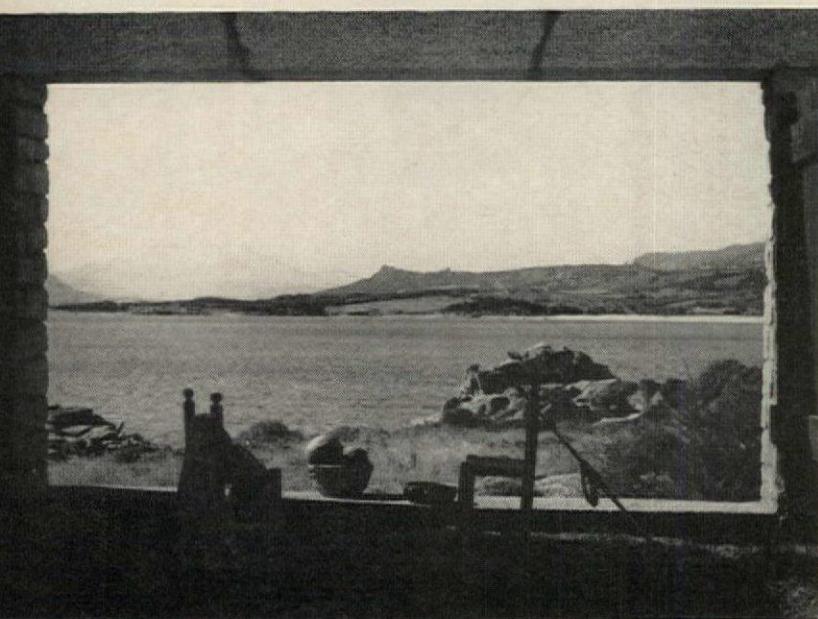
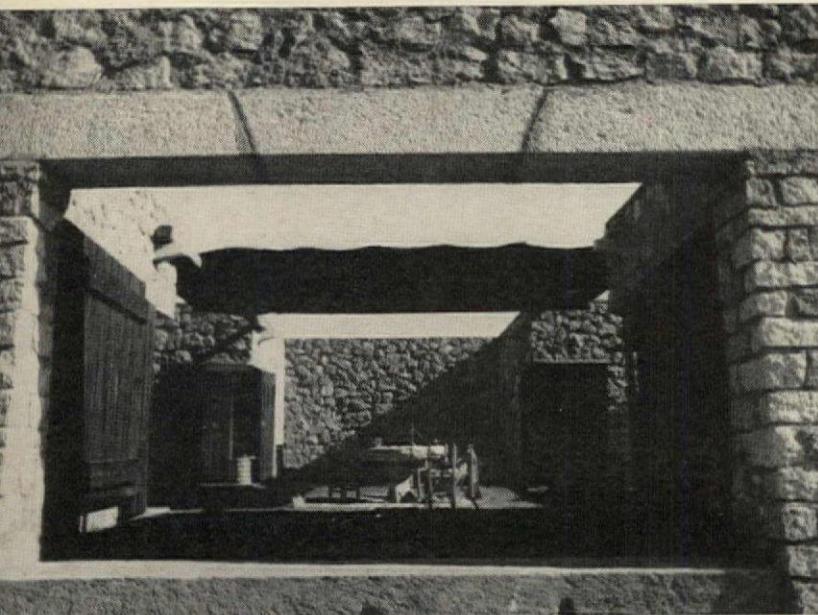
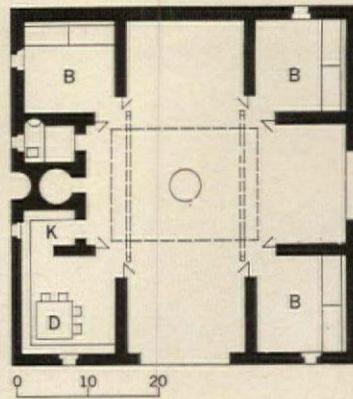


VACATION FORTRESS ON SARDINIA



On a low promontory along Sardinia's Costa Esmeralda stands a seemingly simple vacation house by Marco Zanuso. In a typically Mediterranean way, the house is both a part of the landscape and an unmistakably man-made form. Its inclined granite walls look almost like natural outcroppings, yet it is square and symmetrical.

The random stone walls are interrupted only by small windows except for a broad entrance opening (photos left), spanned by three archaic-looking blocks—two cantilevered ones and a keystone.

Inside the walls, the house is laid out in a Greek-cross plan (above), with the central cross uncovered as an open living room. The four roofed rooms at the corners, otherwise square and solid, are clipped off diagonally at their inner corners so that all of the spaces open toward the circular table at the center of the cross.

Although it appears to be symmetrical from the entrance, the cross-shaped living space is actually truncated on one side, where a traditional masonry oven is flanked by a bathroom and a kitchen. On the opposite side, a shoulder-high opening offers another view of the sea.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Vacation house, Arzachena, Sardinia.
Marco Zanuso, Architect.

