



Roger Sturtevant

## HILLTOP HOUSE CENTERED ON A COURT

is finished in the neat wood-building tradition of the American Northwest

PIETRO BELLUSCHI, Architect  
J. C. ANDERSON, General Contractor

There is something very wonderful about centering a house on a court. The Romans knew it, the builders of the Middle Ages knew it, and Architect Pietro Belluschi knows it. A court does this for you: It gives you a small-scale landscape, a small-scale view, a private place in the sun that contrasts pleasantly with distant views and with the drama of the surrounding hills and valleys.

In the Moore House, Architect Belluschi has produced a pleasantly rambling building that makes the most of a tough hillside setting. Yet there is no false romanticism about it: His trim and smooth wood detailing is as elegant and neat as a fine piece of cabinet-work. His windows are set almost flush into the walls, and the edges of his shingled roofs are pared down to the slimmest possible lines. And though the plan appears somewhat angular, both exterior massing and interior spaces are exceedingly simple and plain.

Belluschi's chief problem was to catch the best possible views of distant mountain ranges. The L-shaped living room was designed to do just that. It is reached from the carport entrance through a covered passage along one side of the garden court. Having entered the house through this rather devious passage, a visitor is suddenly confronted by the drama of a glass-walled living area on the top of a little hill; and a strongly directional ceiling plane further emphasizes that drama.

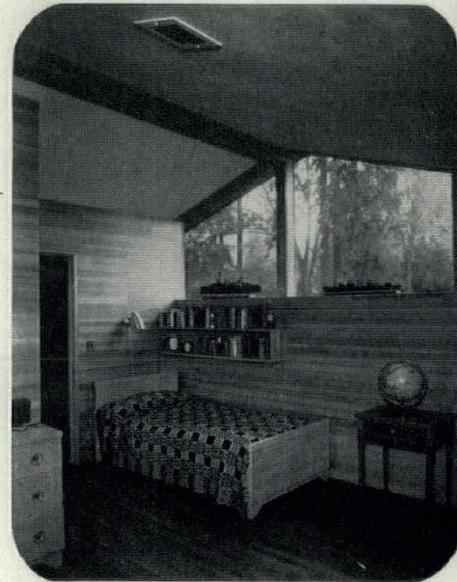
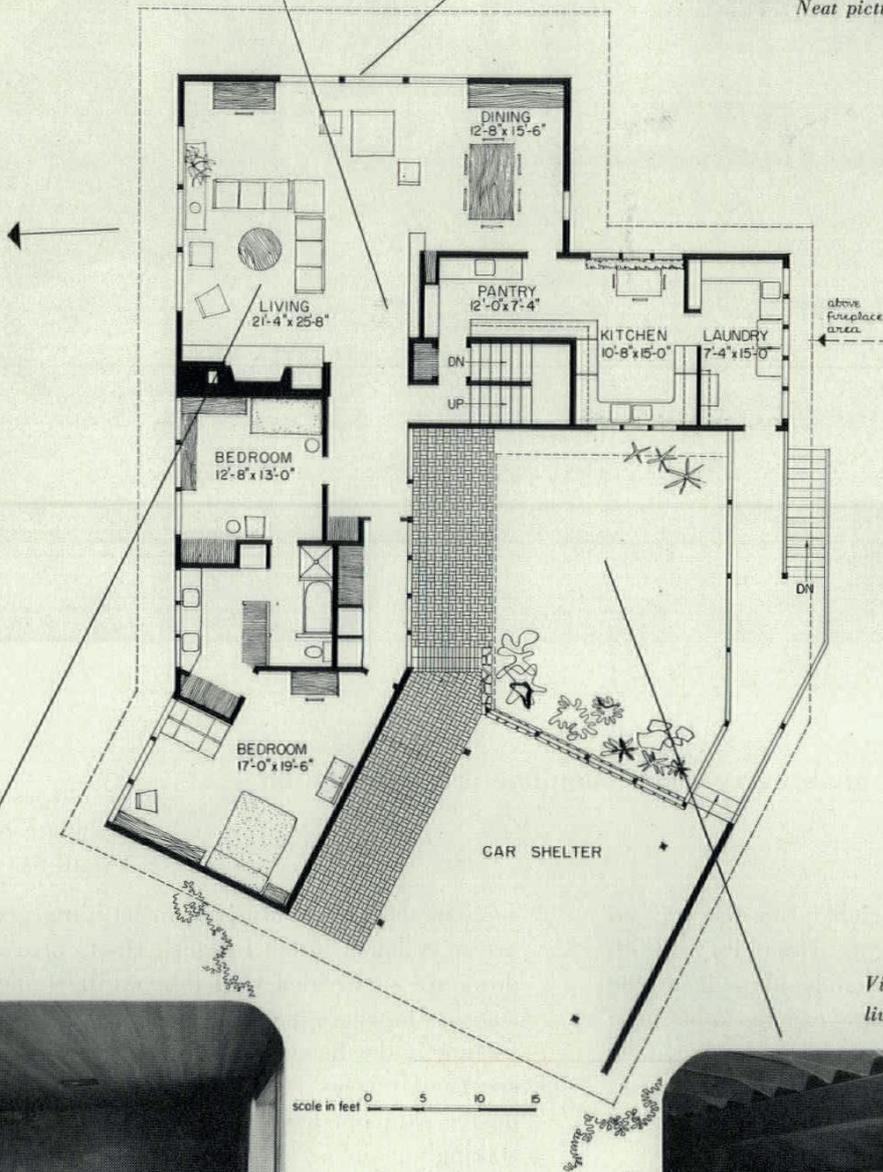
Architect Belluschi has made a special effort to turn bath and kitchen into something more than mere utilities. His bath is almost lavish: a two-room affair divided by a low closet and several screen-like partitions. His kitchen is spacious, colorful, its cabinets finished in wood veneers, the views through its windows exciting. This is a house for very good living.



View of living room and windows overlooking valley and distant mountains.



Neat picture window is set flush into eastern gable end



Upstairs bedroom over living room faces west and north.

View from carport into garden court. Entrance to living area is to left, at end of covered passage.



Living room has large stone fireplace. Garden court is seen at left.

