



On the shores of Lake Maggiore

*For an incomparable site in the Dolomites,
Milanese architects Belgioioso, Peressutti, and Rogers
design a rugged contemporary villa*

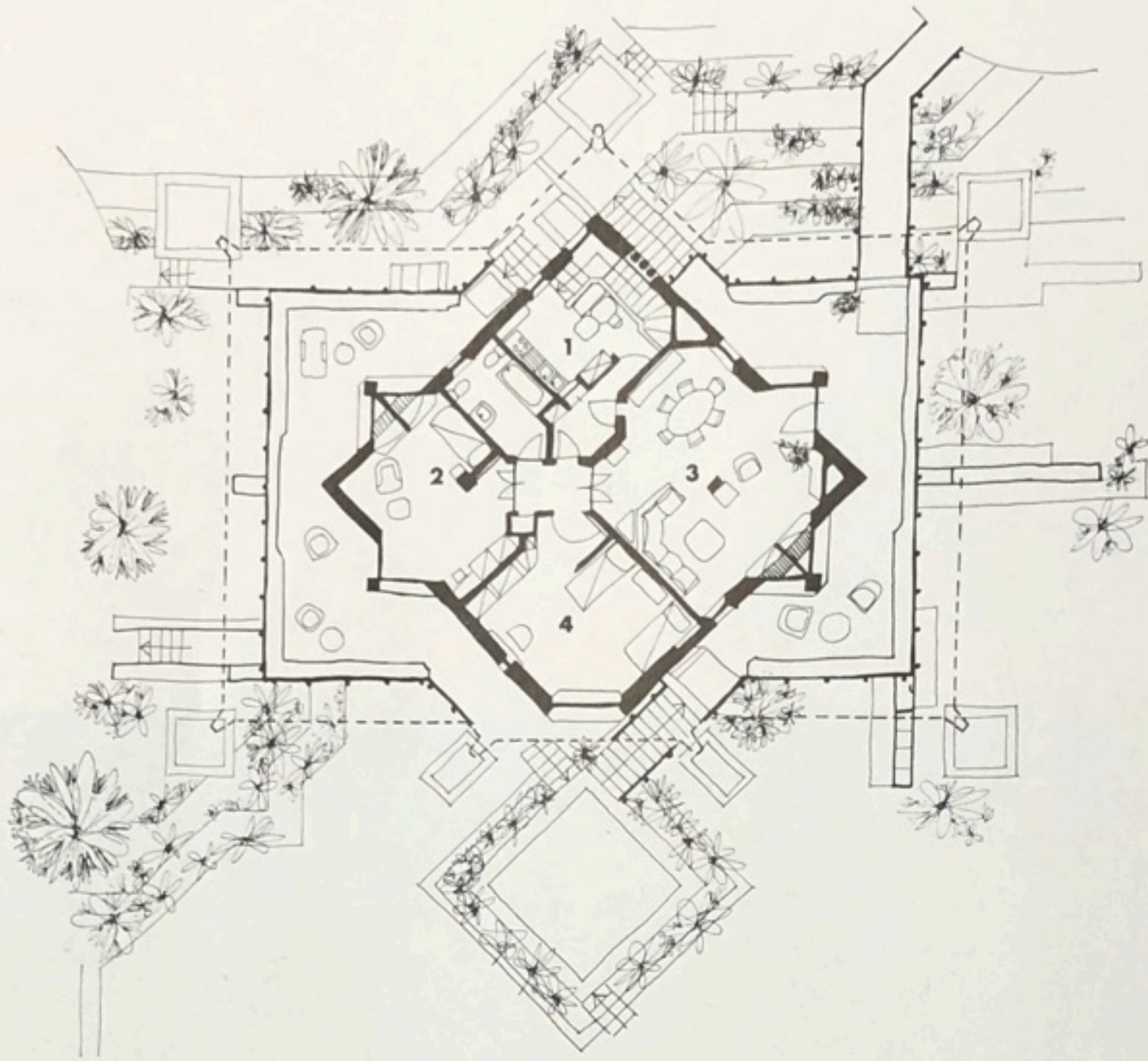
The tremendous scope and versatility of the Italian architectural firm Belgioioso, Peressutti, and Rogers has already been remarked upon (page 104), summarizing INTERIORS' retrospective coverage of their work to date in November, 1954. Though they now more than qualify as "deans" of international architecture, their current work still expresses their individual, and evolutionary approach to design—each problem calls for a fresh approach and a fresh view, each solution is independent of precedents and pat answers. The measure of their talent is that their work is not necessarily assertive—it is, rather, always appropriate. For the remodelling of the magnificent 18th century town house in Milano, shown on preceding pages, their primary goal was the restoration of its original architectural elements. Their additions—sculptured spaces, superb cabinetry and detailing—served only to enhance the magnificent scale of existing spaces. Tradition was impeccably respected. In building this house in lakeside Baveno, their problems were entirely different ones. Here, they came to terms not with a glorious past, but a timeless wonder: the overwhelming beauty of their world-famous site—Lake Maggiore, in the foothills of the Dolomites. Their solution is a bold architectural statement, its seemingly rough-hewn quality belying the intricacy of its details. Its plan, as well as its materials are indigenous: the house is designed into as well as on the terrain—rough stones, abundant planting mark the many levels of its superb landscaping. The house itself is intended to convey a multi-level balcony, expressed in strong angular elements, deep overhanging roof line. The bulk of the upper floor is an angled, covered terrace, viewing both the lake and the mountains. The interior spaces are intentionally unimposing and subdued, the furnishings simple; the designers' art revealed in detailing, and ultimately, in respect for natural splendors as the strongest statement of all — *B.W.N.*



Below and opposite: Because of the diagonal slopings and unusual roof overhangs (see plan, overleaf) the living room has angled window nooks which give interest as well as intimacy to the open space (which also houses the dining area). The room has been kept intentionally simple, in deference to the remarkable views on all sides. Walls and ceiling are white plaster; wainscot, and woodworking details that frame windows, wall planes and cover column, are walnut. Flooring is diagonal boards of teak wood. Fireplace, recessed in one wall, is faced with slabs of rough stone, with black slate interior. Furniture combines antique occasional chairs with built-in angled loose-cushioned sofa. Benches along wall, and radiator tops are all in walnut, which also faces bench projection from fireplace. Contemporary lighting fixtures are polished brass.







KEY TO PLAN

- 1. Kitchen
- 2. Guest room
- 3. Living-dining room
- 4. Bedroom



Left: The guest room is simply and sparsely furnished, its architectural interest provided by the sloping angles of the ceiling, the triangular window recess.

As in living room, the artistry lies in woodworking details: walnut paneling; carefully angled cornice concealing drapery hardware; shelf over the radiator; wainscot and trim on column. Bed is covered with fur throw; Eames chair and ottoman are in foreground.

Right: Dining alcove is set in angled recess in living room (see plan.) Bare floors, simple furniture concede to the glory of the views; hanging lamp supplements column-mounted fixtures.

