

Cerrito's House Shows Striking Example of Tomorrow's Trend Today

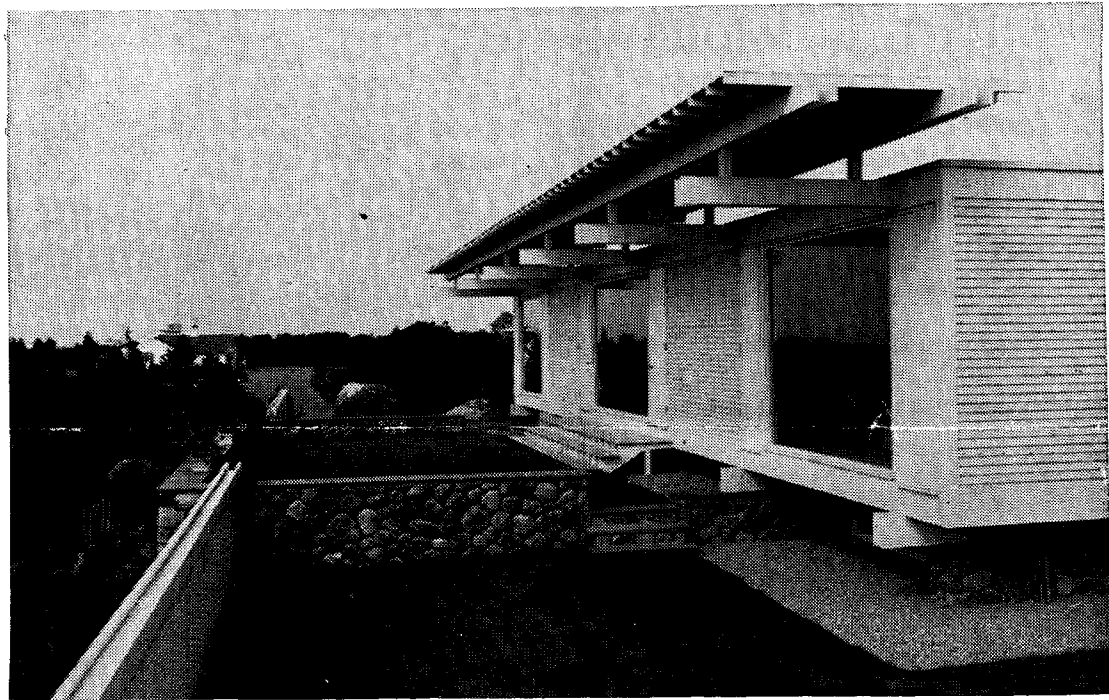
Ocean Road is a thoroughfare of surprises—an unexpected view here—an unanticipated sight there—and perhaps one of the most intriguing of these is a modern home which looks as though it had literally grown on its beautifully landscaped hill overlooking East Beach and the Atlantic Ocean.

Curiosity (how could an almost startlingly modern home look so "at home?") prompted a visit and the curiosity was satisfied. The house, its occupants and the location are completely in harmony, and the name, "Whippoorwill Ridge," which Dr. and Mrs. Louis C. Cerrito have given their home, speaks of the musical harmony contributed by the birds on this beautiful sky-top hill.

The final realization of this house is the result of a long-time interest of the Cerritos in modern architecture, and an association with the brilliant young architect, Paul Rudolph, who, in 1948 designed a house for them in Sarasota, Florida. Mr. Rudolph, at the age of 37, is an architect of international repute, having won an award in an international competition in Sao Paulo, Brazil. He lectures at many schools of architecture, including, among others, Harvard, Princeton, and the University of Virginia. He is an exponent of an architectural style which he calls "structural exhibitionism."

The Cerrito house is of wooden construction with which a solid foundation of rock has been utilized with great effectiveness. Located as it is with a southern exposure, the overhang has been so carefully designed that in summer no direct sun reaches the "window-walls," and contrarily, when the winter sun is low, it warms directly the vast expanse of glass and serves as an extremely efficient auxiliary to the heating system, which is the perimeter type.

As one enters the foyer of "Whippoorwill Ridge," there is a sense of serenity, then a feeling of spaciousness and a quiet elegance. The living room, including



The ultra-modern home of Dr. and Mrs. Louis C. Cerrito, overlooking Ocean Road and the ocean. The overhang is designed to protect from summer sun, but to admit rays when the winter sun is low. This view is from terrace where the Cerritos often dine al fresco. —Photo by Hubbard Phelps

the dining area is of gracious proportions, occupying the entire center section of the house. In the wing to the left, are the master bedroom and bath, the kitchen and laundry. At the right of the living room is the wing containing two bedrooms and bath. (and more closet and storage space than any woman in her wildest imaginings could believe.) The furniture has been done almost entirely by Paul McCobb, who has been associated on other projects with architect Rudolph, although the architect, himself, has designed some beautiful tables which the Cerritos have had executed by a local craftsman . . . these attractive pieces are wrought of metal, glass and handsome gold foil.

A predominant accent throughout the house is the subtle and beautiful use of magnificently grained black walnut. Mr. Rudolph has utilized this in the living room in a wall-length suspension cabinet which contains the Hi-Fi equipment (with outlets in every room in the house—the same is

true for the TV installation). Black walnut has again been used in the kitchen cabinet work with wonderful effectiveness. The linoleum is white and together with the stainless steel of the built-in range

top, double ovens, freezer-refrigerator and dishwasher, present a most interesting contrast in textures and hues.

The bathrooms are an exciting
(Continued on Page Sixteen)

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Cerrito House

(Continued from Page Fifteen)

feature. The bath which is off the master bedroom is done in a marvelous textured mosaic tile of black and yellow from Milan. The basin, incorporated in a dressing table, is covered with formica. One of the interesting features of the baths (the one in the children's wing is the same milano tile . . . this time, black and white) is the fact that the tubs are heated! Above the dressing table basins are sky-lights, which resemble the plastic bubble on an airplane, the sky-lights not only make possible having the baths without windows . . . but mi-lady's daytime make-up is more easily applied than under artificial light.

Fabulous wallpapers in subtle coloring are used with exciting effect. The living room has been decorated with a handsome Japanese Grass paper — a note of color has been introduced by the aluminum panel over the fireplace — this has been painted in a wonderful shade of persimmon. Recessed in the beamed ceiling are handsome lamps from Sweden, these controlled by a rheostat, for varying degrees of brightness. Over the bed in the master bedroom hang two beautifully fashioned lamps in muted gold, designed and made in Finland.

This is a happy house. It is

a place of refuge for the busy doctor, who can leave the serious business of medicine and come home to this haven with its glorious view and great comfort, and return to his work refreshed and relaxed. It is the home of a charming woman who makes it her domain, and it is the home of two lucky children whose parents have chosen a home with them in mind. In short, though it may be architecturally unusual, and decoratively beautiful, "Whippoorwill Ridge" is a home. Could anyone ask more?

—JANE A. MULLER

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Overlooking the At

