

Unfinished living room view shows upper master bedroom level reached by stairs not visible in photo.

House Tour Coming A 'Dome' Home

By MARGARET KOCH
Sentinel Staff Writer

My first thought from the outside view of the dome was "What can they possibly do with that, inside?"

Well, really, it's amazing just what they CAN do.

This is a 45-foot dome — they come in five sizes and this is the largest. The smallest is a 26-foot model.

"Riser walls" are what give it headroom and more space inside, and they cost extra. They also come in several heights.

The whole idea is intriguing when one stops to reflect that our society is almost strictly a "square and box" thinking society. We don't think in circles or domes.

The domes come in kits and each size has several plans which means that one has quite a choice of floor plans.

This particular dome will be open to Cabrillo House Tour goes July 16 from 1-5 p.m. It is located off Highway 1 on the Larkin Valley turn-off and may be seen

from the highway. It sits high on a hill, commanding a view of Monterey Bay and the surrounding terrain. And it is a three-story dome because of its hillside location.

There are about 3,700 square feet of living space, including the basement which has two bedrooms and a bath. The main floor contains a large living room with a two-story ceiling, two small triangular-shaped bedrooms, bath, kitchen, dining room and deck running all the way around the house. The topmost space is given over to a master bedroom, bath and small space that is called a study.

There are approximately 1500 square feet on the main floor and 700 square feet on the top master bedroom level which looks down into the living room.

A freestanding fireplace will be installed in the living room which also has an interesting "sunburst" design skylight as well as windows and sliding glass doors giving onto the deck and the view.

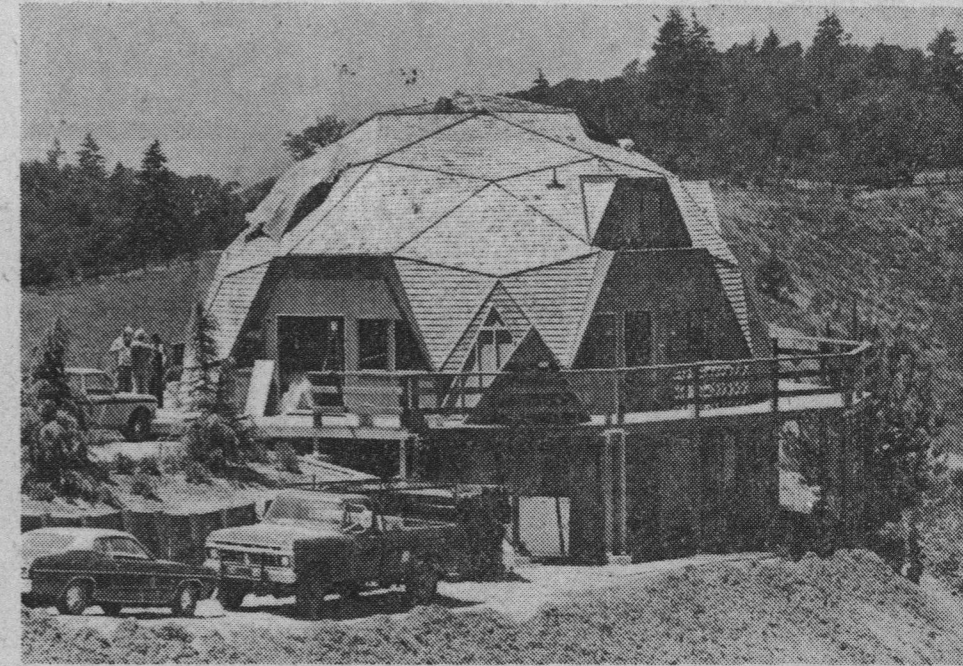
Oak cabinets were being installed in the kitchen. A double walk-in closet is a surprise in the master bedroom. Actually, the geodesic dome shape allows for many storage areas tucked away in odd corners.

It also allows for odd-shaped windows which are interesting to eyes accustomed to squares and oblongs.

The geodesic dome, considered a landmark in building and design, was a concept from the progressive thinker Buckminster Fuller. Local domes are headquartered at P.O. Box 880, Aptos, 95003.

It takes from 90 to 120 days for dome completion and there are many ways to go on it — from do-it-yourself to partly to completely, etc. This particular dome is heated by a method called solar ray radiant heat. Tate Miller is in charge of construction.

For tickets for the House Tour July 16, call the following: Mimi Coggins, 688-4060; Julia Henningsen, 724-7280;



Overall view of the dome which is located off Larkin Valley Road, off Highway 1.

Cabrillo College Community Services, 688-6466; or purchase them at Bookshop Santa Cruz on Pacific Garden Mall, Santa Cruz, or at Santa Cruz City Museum, 1305 East Cliff Drive, Santa Cruz.

Tickets are \$5 each. Cheese and wine will be served at several of the five homes open for the tour, and

classical live music will be featured at each home.

Proceeds from the tour will go to help pay expenses of the Cabrillo Music Festival which will be August 18-28 at various locations in Santa Cruz County.

General chairwoman for the house tour is Mrs. Coggins.

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