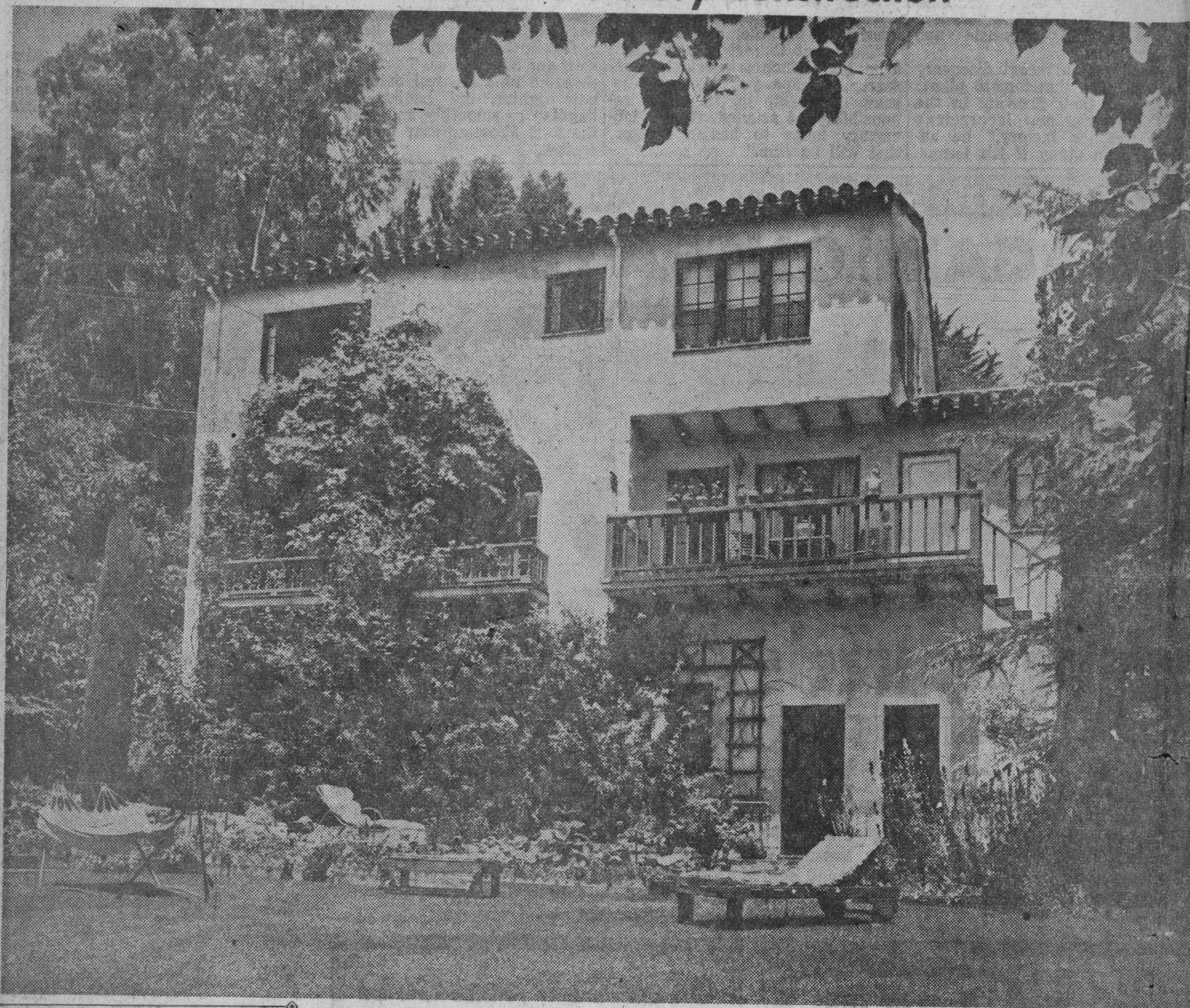


# Santa Cruz Beautiful . . . . Bert Snyder Home Has Lasting Charm

## Rear View Shows 3-Story Construction



Those who see the front of the house, which is two stories, are surprised to find the residence is three stories at the back. Bal-

cony, reached from the dining room door, is furnished with tiled chairs and table. Door at

the right of the balcony enters into the garage. The Snyders planned the attractive landscaping at the back.

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## Residence Is Three Stories High At Rear

(Editor's note: This is No. 50 in the Sentinel-News' regular Wednesday visits to the "Homes of Santa Cruz.")

By Jewel E. Woods

When a house can remain as undated and in style 23 years later as it was when it was built, it can be assumed that the house is of fundamentally good design.

Such a house is the residence of Attorney and Mrs. Bert B. Snyder, 423 High street, a home of "peasant Italian" design which is no less up to date now than it was when it was built in 1926.

True, there have been some changes in the interior decoration and in some of the furnishings. What was once black woodwork around the doors and the arched windows, to contrast with the adobe-like walls, is now off-white woodwork, to match the off-white finish of the walls in all the rooms of the house. And Mrs. Snyder's love of antique furniture, particularly that of the Victorian period, has brought about the gradual appearance in the rooms of pieces of this period, to replace Italian-type furnishings.

But these are comparatively minor changes. The residence itself is still the same, and still "in style."

The typically early-Italian decor which was used, originally, throughout has been retained in the dining room, which opens out through a glassed door to a red tiled, second floor balcony, overlooking an effectively laid out lawn, bordered with trees and plantings.

Two pieces of particular interest in this room's furnishings are a credenza and a smaller sideboard, both of solid, heavy walnut and both elaborately carved.

The credenza, which fits in a shallow, arched alcove at one end of the room, is an excellent example of a credence of the Italian Renaissance, a sideboard

## Ocean Can Be Seen From Living Room



This view of the living room looks toward the dining room, with its furnishings in the Italian style. Not shown are the large windows, with arched tops (on

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the right) which, overlook the garden at the back and have a view of the bay in the distance. Also not pictured is the fireplace, with recessed bookshelves at each side, which occupies the

left-hand wall. Arched doorway at the left leads to entrance hall. Featured piece in the latter is a antique, hand-carved, Italian style cabinet.

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of the upstairs bedrooms, and in the large, white-tiled bath. One of the bedrooms contains twin beds of shallow-carved wood, in later Italian style, while a more modern treatment is seen in another, which has a gray and pink color scheme, carried out with gray carpeting, gray quilted headboards on the twin beds, and sheer, draped pink overcurtains over ivory panels at the windows.

Because the house, designed by Architect Lee Esty, is located on a slanting 150 x 50 foot lot, which dips sharply at the back, the rear portion of the structure is three stories. The ground-level rooms at the back contain an extra-size, completely equipped woodworking shop for the couple's son, Bertram,

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Two pieces of particular interest in this room's furnishings are a credenza and a smaller sideboard, both of solid, heavy walnut and both elaborately carved.

The credenza, which fits in a shallow, arched alcove at one end of the room, is an excellent example of a credence of the Italian Renaissance, a sideboard used to hold valuable articles of silver or glassware. It has pillar-like corners of female figures handcarved in bas relief, and its doors have deep, scrolled carvings. On this credenza stand delicately blown pitchers of green Venetian glass which Mrs. Snyder bought in the famed Thieves' market of London, and other pieces of clear-and-cranberry-red cut glass. Their colors are reflected in the alcove-wide mirror, with curved top, which is on the wall above the sideboard.

The smaller sideboard, which stands against another wall, was purchased at another time, but has nearly identical carvings. While Mrs. Snyder does not know the ages of the two pieces, she has been told by furniture experts that they are very old.

Equally as old looking is the long walnut table, of the same period, with six high-backed, square-line chairs upholstered in imported green velvet, which complete the dining room's furnishings.

The lighting fixtures in this room—as well as those in all the other rooms of the house—were handmade in wrought iron by the late Otter the Lampmaker of Santa Cruz.

Further wrought iron, to carry out the Italian architecture, is introduced in the entrance hall in the balusters for the semi-spiral staircase, which leads in a graceful, curving line to the four upstairs bedrooms. The polished, uncarpeted steps are of dark-finished quarter oak, the same type and color of wood which is used for all the floors, and which gives pleasing contrast to the off-white, adobe-like walls. A tall, slender window, with arched top, lights the entrance hall and the stairs.

Off the entrance hall, to the right, is a den, with one wall lined solidly with books, and the other three finished in deep green. Color interest is provided with the rust colored rug and the brown, flowered draperies. When necessary, the den, which has a connecting half-bath, can be converted into a guest room by opening wide paneled doors along one wall, which enclose a wall bed.

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peting, gray quilted headboards on the twin beds, and sheer, draped pink overcurtains over ivory panels at the windows.

Because the house, designed by Architect Lee Esty, is located on a slanting 150 x 50 foot lot, which dips sharply at the back, the rear portion of the structure is three stories. The ground-level rooms at the back contain an extra-size, completely equipped woodworking shop for the couple's son, Bertram, which is the envy of all the men who visit the Snyders.

The workshop extends the entire length of the combined living and dining rooms on the main floor, and Bertram, now studying law at Santa Clara university, spends many spare hours there working on pieces of equipment for his hobby, sailing. Suspended from the ceiling is one of the first things he made in his "shop", a small rowboat.

Front of the house, which is vine-covered in parts, is set close to the sidewalk and gives little indication of its height and view at the back. Consequently, the exterior which accompanies this article was taken from the back to show the view which generally comes as a surprise to all who visit the home for the first time.