

SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL  
6-17-76

# Hillside Challenge

Musical Homes Tour

## Showcase House, Garden

A narrow, steep site, preservation of redwood trees, and the desire for as much outdoor living as possible dictated the design of the Stephen Titus home at 617 Cathedral Drive, Aptos.

The house will be included on the Cabrillo Guild of Music's house and garden tour June 19. It is one of five homes and gardens to be on display to the public from 1-5 p.m. Tickets at \$5 each are available from Cabrillo College Community Services, 425-6331.

The Titus home was featured in House Beautiful's Building Manual of 1976 Spring-Summer.

Architect-owner Stephen Titus, AIA, found it necessary to go up instead of out, resulting in a 20 by 20-foot structure that contains four levels of space.

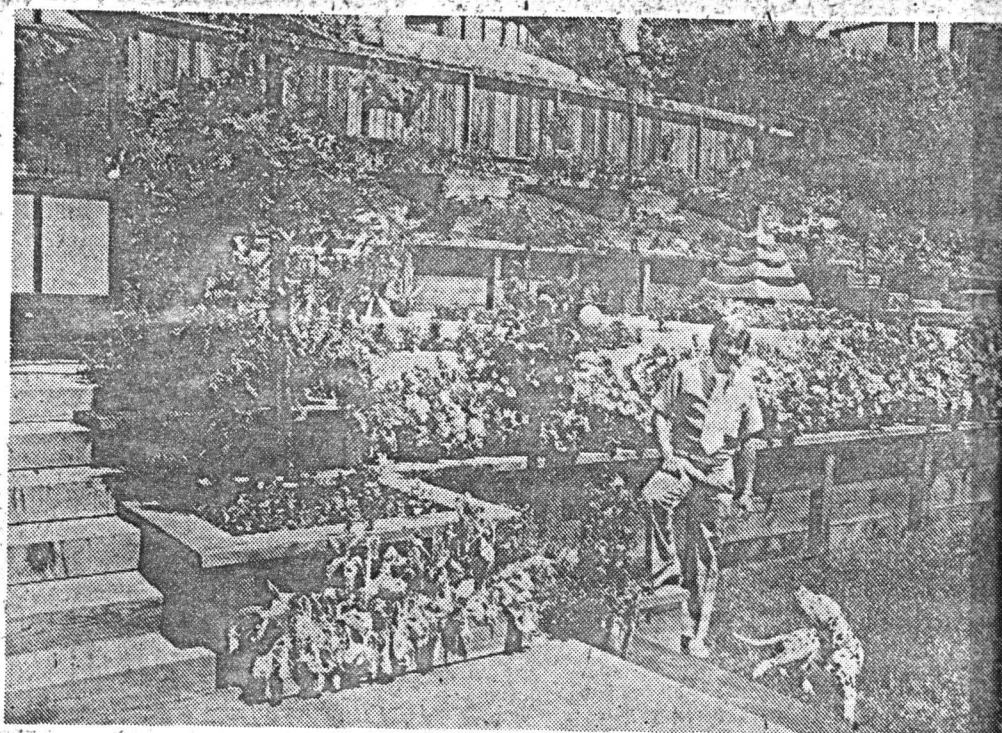
The house is constructed on a pole foundation that supports the four levels, and partitions were omitted in order to create a free spatial flow that visually enlarges the areas.

The downhill side of the house is extensively glazed, because that is the view side. A variety of decks also expand the visual and physical dimensions of the house. Large open space on the main level contains areas for cooking, dining and living and entryway.

Interesting details on the house include plexi-glass bubbles in the middle bedroom, which gather sunlight that is refracted as it passes through. The master bedroom is secluded among the treetops at top level of the house.

The house sits at an angle on the property in order to dissolve any feeling of narrowness, and presents two mostly opaque walls to neighbors, leaving the other two walls windowed to look out on the forested slope across a creek.

Titus, who is associated with Ellmore-Titus of Santa Cruz, also worked with a tight budget of \$25,000 and wanted to provide a garden and parking area.



Ken Recker and his Dalmatian, Jensen, enjoy the garden and patio area of his showcase home which will be shown Saturday on the Cabrillo Music Festival House and Garden Tour.

On its second go-round on the homes tour circuit this spring is the home and garden of Ken Recker.

Ken, the national president of the Association of Interior Designers, has a showcase home he's decorated himself. He and friends laid out and planted the garden of the home which was photographed for a national home and gardens magazine in May.

Ken's handling of his artifacts in decorating his home will be of interest to tour-goers. He owns many oriental pieces so has used an Asian theme in his decor. In the living room, a Japanese screen dating from 1600 hangs over the sofa. In the master bedroom Indian bronze is on display.

The home is a virtual collection of unusual wall coverings, ranging from a cloth treatment that matches the drapes in the dining room to a jungle mural in the kitchen. Three variations of the same wallpaper are used in the guest bathroom with earth and magenta tones used.

There are two studies in the home — one which blends with the entertainment area and has a wet bar, and the other a cosmic decor with chrome and

white geometric wallpaper.

Windows are treated in a variety of ways, the most unusual being ceiling-to-wall sliding panels in the master bedroom which cover the entire wall and the windows. A Tibetan mural was devided and mounted on the doors, so when closed, the complete scene of Tibetan warriors may be seen.

The tour is a benefit for the Cabrillo Music Festival and musicians will be featured at each of the homes. All our volunteering their time.

At the Jack Lingafelter home in Rio del Mar, guitarists Lee Eisenstein, Paul Farley and Ron Freshmen will be featured along with Pianist Victor Spiegel.

Harpsichordist Joe Heise, Cabrillo Guild of Music board member, will be playing at Wilder Ranch up the coast where paintings by Diane Devine will be on view. At the James Ellmore home in Santa Cruz Debbie Smith, violin, Becky Padzieski, cello, and Leslie Schmida, flute, will entertain.

tain.

Young musicians provided by the Santa Cruz Symphony Talent Bank will play at the Stephen Titus home in Aptos.

Guitarist Andy Zieldan and Flutist Caroline Williamson will be featured at the Ken Recker home in Santa Cruz.

Reception for tour-goers will be at the Manuel Santana home on Day Valley Road beginning at 4 p.m. Here the University Brass Ensemble will present an outdoor concert from 4:30 to 5:30. Mrs. Richard Struck is in charge.

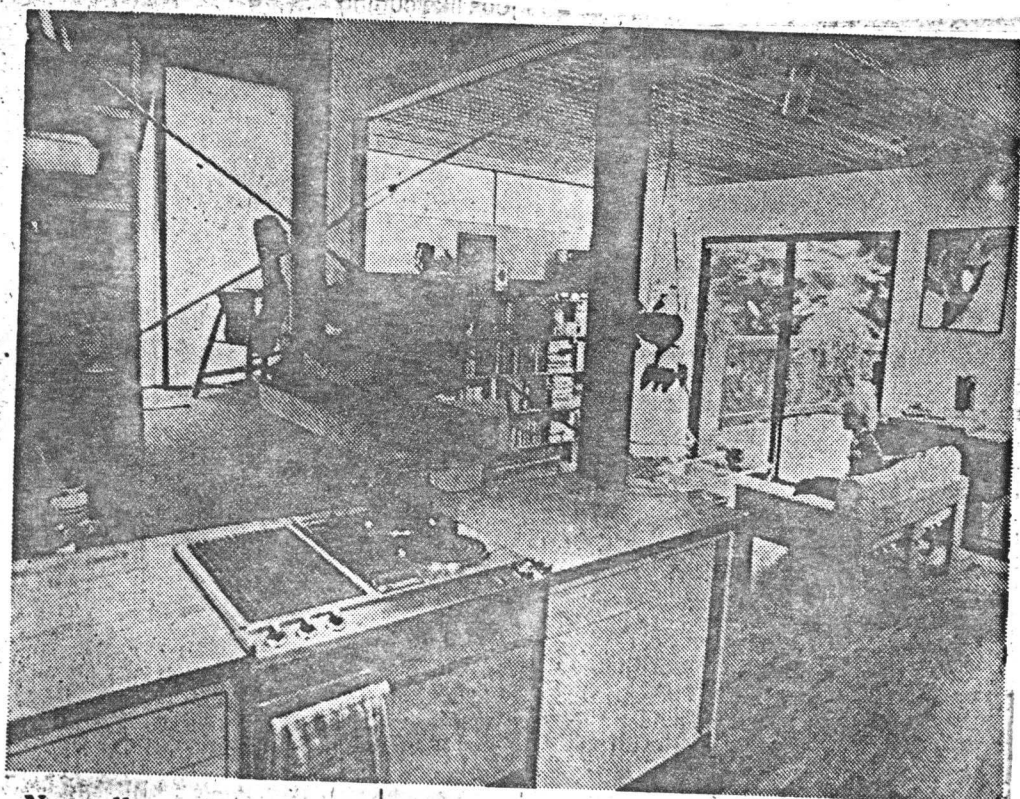
REFERENCE

APOTOS BUILDINGS





Entryway door is on uphill side of house which was built on four levels on narrow site. Redwoods were preserved on the property. Dining area extends up two full stories. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Titus, it will be included in the Cabrillo Music Guild's Home and Garden Tour June 19.



No walls make for open, airy feeling between living, kitchen and entry areas. Dining off to far right. Intense blue and "true white" contrast with natural wood hues in carpet, tile and accessories.