

# 'Afternoon in Country' Features Unique Home

A contemporary country home with sweeping views of trees, fields, hills and beaches will be the setting for the Second Women's Invitational Art exhibition sponsored by the Democratic Woman's Club.

The spot "up the coast" atop a knoll was chosen for their home by Sig and Shirley Rich when they made their move from southern California to Santa Cruz County.

And their rambling home, which follows the contours of the land, was designed for them by Roy Rydell. It houses their personal art collection and expresses the varied interests of the owners. And it is an appropriate backdrop for the display of works by seven of the county's outstanding weavers.

The seven artists whose work will be featured are Bonnie Britton, Anne Dizikes, Vicki Farrell, Linda Griggs, Lynn Giles, Bette Hochberg and Jean Peterson.

The exhibited weavings — some of which will be available for purchase — will include wall hangings, costumes, rugs, floor pillows, dresses, bags and shawls. There also will be demonstrations of spinning and weaving and a display of natural fibers.

Served during the "Afternoon in the Country" will be champagne and wine, a variety of cheeses and hors d'oeuvres prepared by women of the club under the direction of Joyce Baker, Sharlya Gold and Phyliss Norris.

Others planning the event are Barbara Morris and Eloise Smith, co-chairwomen, aided by Joy Cattani, Mary Schneider, Cynthia Mathews, Kay Harry, Nancy Stinson, Elizabeth Moore and Beth Hall.

Tickets, at \$5, may be reserved with Mrs. Cattani at 476-6535 or Mrs. Schneider at 423-1678. Maps are available showing the location of the Rich home.

Shirley formerly was an interior decorator and it is very apparent when you tour the

chen and two bedrooms.

In all the house contained 3600 square feet and includes a hobby room where family members do metal work, wood-working, lapidary and welding.

The four-car garage (another 860 square feet) has enough room for son David's Hobbie Cat and a bathtub which Sig, a veterinarian, uses for bathing the two Rich dogs and for sheep-dipping the sheep.

The Riches have a number of fine pieces of wood sculpture and in addition to their paintings, several brass rubbings done by their daughter Susan adorn the walls. A feature of the

dining area is a jewel-like stained glass window, more than 100 years old and which Shirley says came from an old Victorian home in Chicago. Because of the high windows, Shirley designed and made Roman shades which festoon when lifted.

Sig Rich, whose speciality is laboratory animal medicine, formerly was UCLA campus veterinarian and was at the Health Science Center there.

"When he left UCLA he planned to retire," says Shirley, "but now he is busier than ever serving as a consultant."

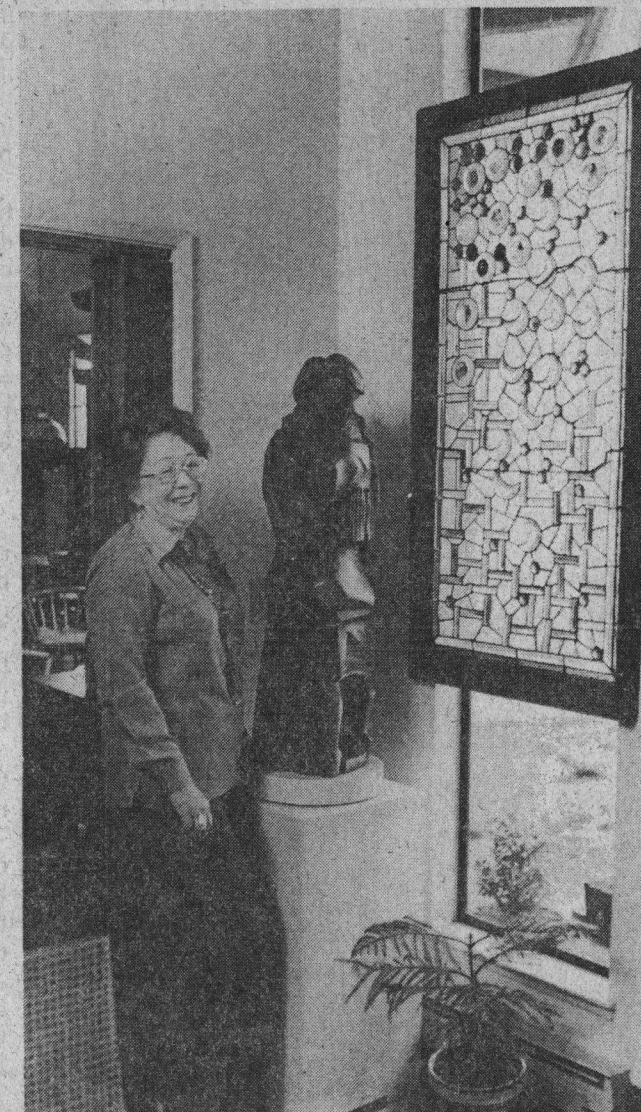
She herself has a master's

degree in public health and formerly was with the UCLA School of Public Health before coming here.

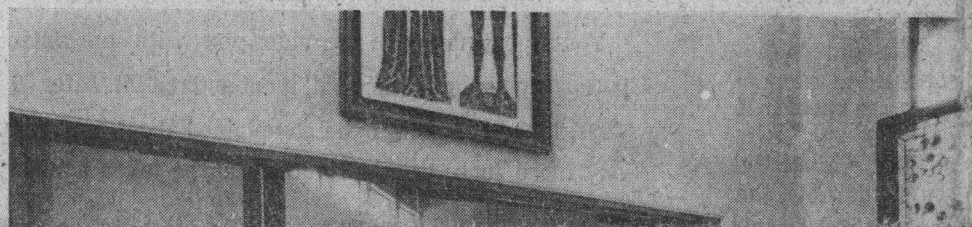
In addition to David, a sophomore at Cabrillo College, the other Rich children are Susan Berk of Danville, Johnathon, a Los Angeles businessman, and Tera, a junior at Sonoma State.

Of their home Shirley comments, "We really enjoy it. We're in the country but only six miles from town; we're above the fog and below the frost line — we couldn't possibly have found a better location."

—MILDRED ANN SMITH



The Sig Rich home "up the coast" is of brown stucco with slanted red roof and is set amid live oak trees, following the contour of the land. It was designed by Roy Rydell. Attached guest house, at right, has its own entrance.



The home of Sig and Shirley Rich is meant to be lived in and enjoyed. In photo



Shirley formerly was an interior decorator and it is very apparent when you tour the Rich home. Walls are a mellow gold tone throughout, beams are charcoal brown and the grained wood in between has been stained with a touch of blue. She has continued the blue in huge custommade couches and a rug over the tiled floors in the living room.

There are walls of closets and built-in bookcases of natural birch, coziness provided by Ben Franklin stoves, and folding wooden doors which can open up or close off the living areas.

Only rooms which are not tiled are Sig Rich's library, warm with natural wood and an orange tweed rug, and the bedrooms.

An unusual feature is an attached guest house which when the doors are opened, makes a sweeping extension of the living area.

Shirley says the only new piece of furniture she added when the house was built were the couches which were made to her design. "I took the blueprints and placed each piece of furniture to be sure it would fit," she says.

Her furniture is eclectic (from all periods).

The Riches were their own contractors and were on the ground from the very beginning, working right along with the carpenters and other craftsmen. Shirley painted the beams before they were raised to form the roofline.

"The house is functional, shaped around the view and with very little maintenance," notes Shirley. "We have four children and three grandchildren and that is why the house was designed with attached guest quarters."

Included in this area are a kit-



The home of Sig and Shirley Rich is meant to be lived in and enjoyed. In photo above, Shirley relaxes with the family dogs, a German shorthair, Zeke, and a Lab, Rema. The folding wooden doors at the end of the dining area open into the attached guest house, photo at left. Contained in the wall of closets in dining room are Shirley's sewing center, her desk and typewriter.

Shirley Rich enjoys her spacious home which features many wood sculptures and paintings as well as this century old stained glass window.

## Up the Coast