

HOME ★ and ★ GARDEN

House of the Week

Circular Kitchen Dramatic and Efficient

By JULES LOH

When the average housewife goes looking at new homes, usually she first makes a long and careful survey of the kitchen—then decides whether to look at the rest of the house.

Not only must today's kitchen be a bright and efficient housekeeping control center, but it must be a pleasant place for the rest of the family to congregate (isn't that what always happens?) without interfering with Mom.

Seldom does a kitchen meet this test as superbly as the unusual one in today's House of the Week. And, happily, the rest of the house is equally exciting, functional and fetching.

The house, design J-44 in the series, is a 1½-story by Rudolph A. Matern.

It contains two bedrooms and two full baths on the main level, plus living room, dining room and family room. The upstairs, which needn't be finished until family expansion makes it necessary, contains room for two extra bedrooms and a third bath.

The garage is separated from the main house by a covered breezeway—actually an outdoor living room—which flows around front to a loggia. The front treatment of loggia, posts and flat arches tied into the straight roof eave creates the impression of luxurious width.

Actually the house itself is only 48'8" wide, extended by 11'-wide breezeway and 12'-wide garage. Its depth is 35'7". The house contains 1,413 square feet of living area on the main level, not counting the garage and porches, and 833 square feet of expansion room on the second floor.

The flagstone of the breezeway and porch continues dramatically into the large central foyer of the home, successfully integrating indoor and outdoor areas.

Beyond the breezeway and in the back of the garage is a rear terrace, further enhancing the outdoor features.

The circular kitchen, shown

at the bottom of the page, not only is unusual in appearance but also in function. It completely eliminates the wasted space of corners, puts all the facilities and counters within easy reach and saves countless steps.

The breakfast table is a continuation of the counter, making serving easy and clean-up a snap. It is arranged to separate kitchen and family room. The family kibitzers are thus isolated, though in effect right in the same room, and no traffic whatsoever has to cross the kitchen work area.

The entire wall of the semi-circle is made of glass, giving a fence-to-fence view of the whole backyard besides letting in an enormous amount of natural light and fresh air. The projection, like a large bow window, also adds interest to the rear view of the house.

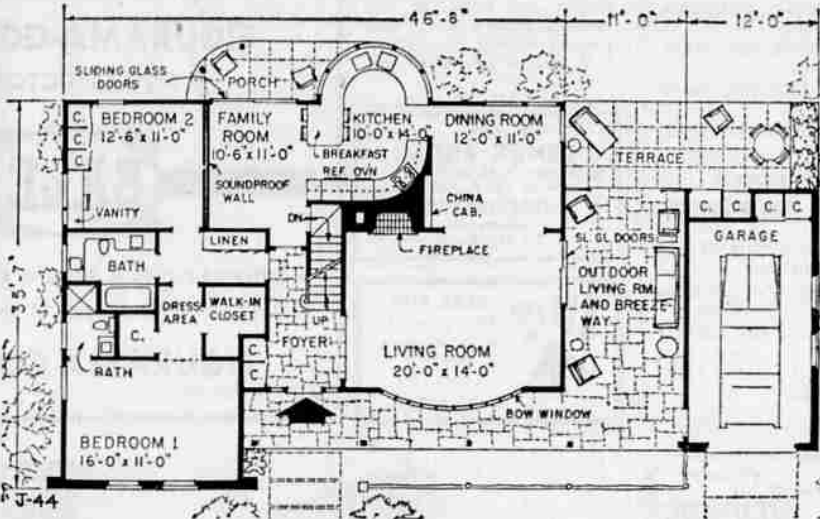
An added, if indirect, benefit of the kitchen design is the open deck on the second floor. The deck forms the roof of the kitchen projection and of the porch adjoining the family room. Both upstairs bedrooms have access to the deck, and it makes a pleasant and private spot for warm weather evening relaxation.

All the bedrooms of the house are large and well equipped.

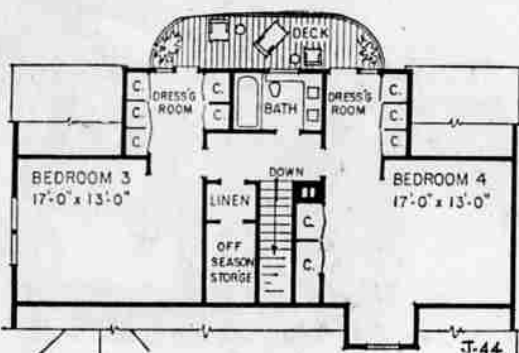
The master bedroom has a 32-square-foot walk-in closet plus a dressing area; the second bedroom has a built-in vanity. Both upstairs bedrooms also have dressing rooms and ample closets.

Other closets also are large enough to do their jobs. There's a double closet in the foyer, and the large linen closet downstairs contains 45 square feet of shelf storage. The upstairs linen closet is even larger.

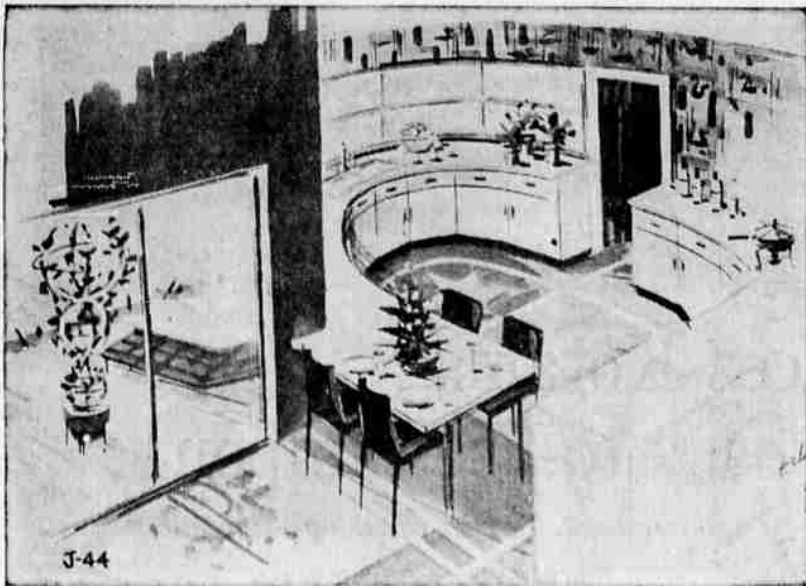
Incidentally, the original artist's drawing of this house was done in full color and you can get a 35 mm slide, free, by writing to architect Matern whose address is on the study plan.



First Floor



Second Floor



J-44

Eugene Register-Guard
Building Editor:
Enclosed is 50 cents. Please send me a copy of the study plan of the House of the Week, J-44.

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