

THE HOUSE OF THE WEEK

A Touch of the Far East

Oriental Elegance Styles Sturdy American Home

By JOHN O. B. WALLACE

Japanese architectural features, such as those which helped inspire today's modern trend in American homes, have been stressed in this elegantly styled seven-room residence. Emphasized also are sensible and practical living features.

As in the finest examples of Oriental architecture, this exceptional House of The Week plan, designated HW-95, has delicately perfect proportions. It embodies still another feature of Oriental homes—that of indoor-outdoor living where gardens, terraces and surrounding landscape are integrated with the house through open construction.

Designed by Herman H. York, an American architect often cited for unusual accomplishments in residential architecture, HW-95 uses an authentic Japanese garden as its central theme.

All major living areas overlook the lily pond and foot bridge, the garden's focal point. Another feature is an immediate garden view from the entrance foyer, called in Japanese house plans an "ante room." The architect says:

Circular Glass Wall

"The garden is not only viewed from all areas, but can be approached through door openings from the living room, the dining room and the sitting room.

"Likewise a feature is the indoor plant room with its circular wall of glass. This area can be screened off from the dining room if desired to produce a greenhouse at the rear.

"The complete sweep of the rear terrace, which is accessible from the kitchen, the dining room, the sitting room and the owner's (master) bedroom, creates an area of complete outdoor living in privacy. The garage acts as a screen, should the house be built on a corner plot."

The house has three bedrooms—owner's, son's and daughter's rooms—a sitting room, living room, dining room and kitchen plus two bathrooms, lavatory, indoor plant room, the garden, ante room and a two-car garage.

The large ante room or foyer opens to the Japanese garden through a large window wall. An indoor-outdoor planting is at the wall base.

The dining room, also opening to the garden, has an indoor plant room. The plant room itself is separated from the dining room and the kitchen by shoji screens.

There is an indoor grille for preparing steaks or the tasty Japanese beef dish, sukiyaki.

A Walk-In Closet

Sliding rice paper doors form two walls of the sitting room, 14

by 15 feet 6 inches. The master bedroom has a walk-in closet and a sunken bathtub.

Sliding doors enclose closets in the bedroom hall and in the second and third bedrooms as well as the family clothes closet in the foyer. The foyer has a separate closet for guests.

The service entrance in front of the garage opens into an area which includes the basement stairs, a lavatory, a mud room and a step-up to the kitchen. Built-in shelves flank the living room fireplace.

Nearly all windows are of picture-window dimensions and have wood louvers below for ventilation. There are large wood louvers at all gable ends of the house to provide good air circulation.

Outside, the Japanese garden is made up of stepping stones. The walk is of flagstone or slate, set over the finished grade. The roof is of dark asphalt shingles with aluminum-covered insulation between the rafters.

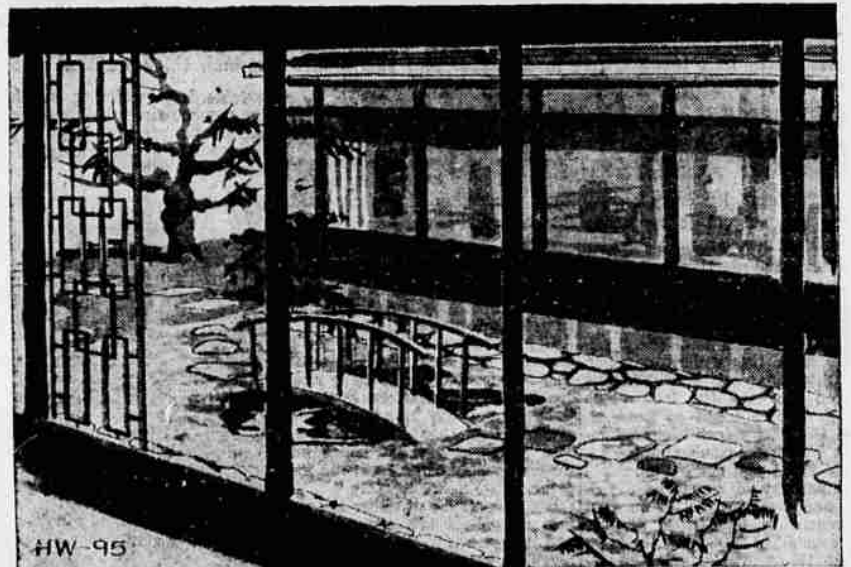
Exterior surfaces are of waterproof plywood panels with 1 by 2 inch battens over all joints. The architect explains that should other exterior materials be desired, the frame construction is conventional and such materials as shingles or clapboards may be used instead on side walls.



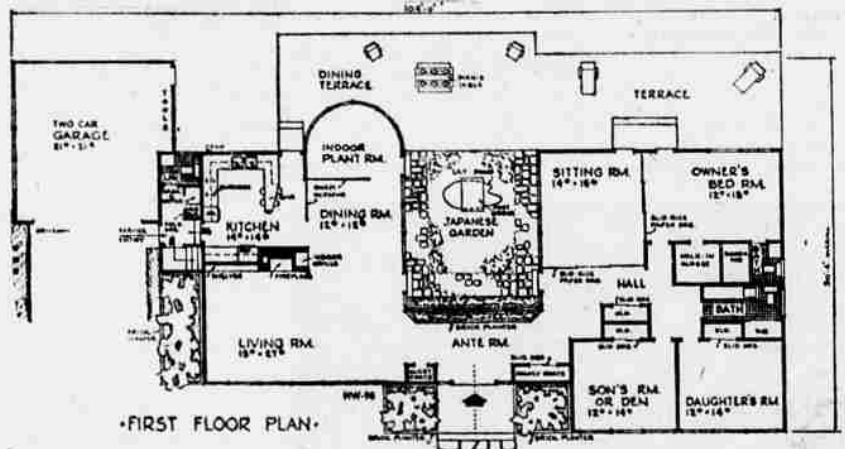
THIS SEVEN-ROOM house has the perfect proportions and balance of the best Oriental architecture plus the sensible and practical living features of modern American homes.

Statistics

The overall dimensions of House of The Week design HW-95 are 104 by 50 feet 4 inches. A minimum plot of 125 by 100 feet is recommended. The house has 2,434 square feet not including the garage and the Japanese garden. The two-car garage has 462 square feet.



AN AUTHENTIC JAPANESE GARDEN, with a lily pond and a foot bridge, sets the theme for this graceful and beautiful house inspired by the best features of Oriental architecture.



CAREFUL ARRANGEMENT of all living areas, the basic ingredient of any good house design, is clearly seen in this floor plan of House of The Week HW-95. There is a full basement under all habitable areas of the house.

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