

THE HOUSE OF THE WEEK

The Famous Splitnik:

U.S. Home Goes to Moscow Fair

By DAVID L. BOWEN

House of the Week offers an entirely new kind of opportunity to day: If you build this design you will have a home that has made—and may make more—in international history.

X-61 is a Cold War celebrity—the "typically American" three-bedroom ranch that is being put up in Russia as a star attraction in the American National Exhibition opening July 25 in Sokolniki Park of Moscow.

The designer is Stanley H. Klein, a Long Island, New York, architect whose plans have been followed in thousands of development homes. He was asked to design the house for an average middle class family, holding the cost to around \$12,000, not including land, basement or garage.

The Russian news agency Tass already has paid unwitting tribute to the skill of architect and builder, charging that "there is no more truth in showing this as the typical house of the American worker than, say, in showing the Taj Mahal as the typical home of a Bombay textile worker, or Buckingham Palace as the typical home of an English miner."

In addition to confounding the Russian propagandists, who apparently are apprehensive over the possible impact of the exhibit on the poorly housed Russian public, the design should have wide appeal here at home because it was so carefully aimed at the average American family.

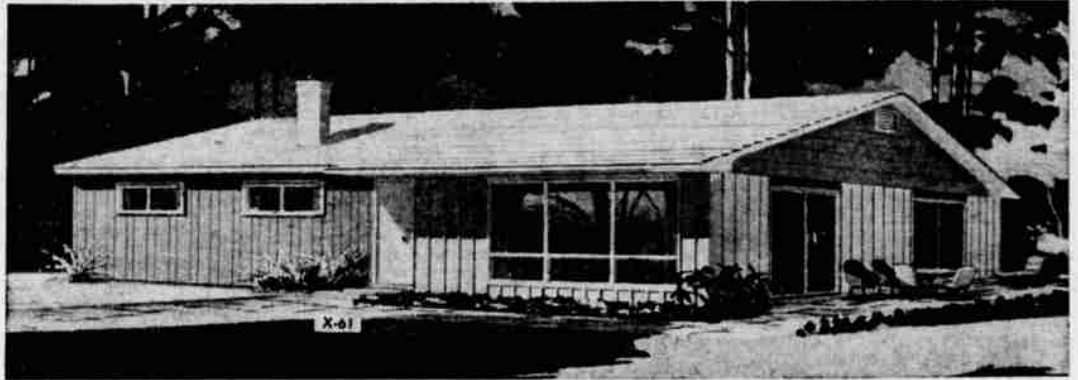
The building firm chosen by the State Department to select and construct a typical American home at Moscow, All-State Properties, Inc., has the identical model for sale with completely improved quarter-acre lot in a Commack

Long Island, development for \$14,490. Available on 30-year mortgages, the homes in Commack can be purchased by a veteran with no down payment and monthly carrying charges of about \$101.

Company officials maintain that the house, with no basement or garage and exclusive of land should sell for \$11,000 to \$13,000 anywhere in the United States.

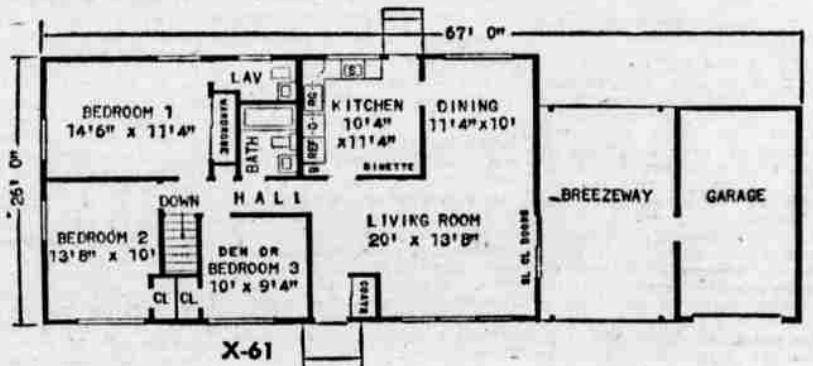
When erected in Russia, the house will have a 10-foot wide corridor splitting it down the center. This is to permit all of the estimated 3½ million Russian visitors to see the interior, which will be furnished by Macy's on a retail budget of \$5,000. The corridor also has given the home its popular name: the Splitnik.

If custom built in the United States, the house would probably have a garage (few private citizens in Russia own cars) and

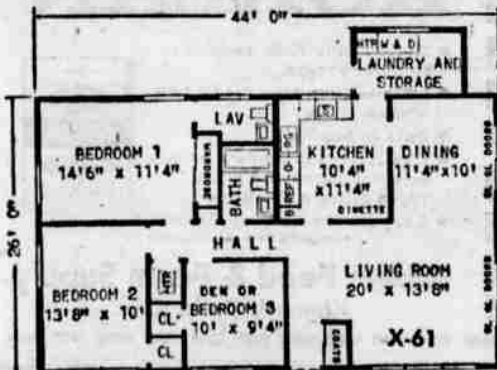


COLD WAR CELEBRITY: Here's an artist's rendering of the "typically American" home which will be a star attraction at the American exhibition in Moscow this summer. The ranch has three bedrooms, 1½ baths and covers 1,144

square feet. The builder says that without land, basement or garage, the house should sell for \$11,000 to \$13,000 anywhere in the United States.



WITH BASEMENT, BREEZEWAY AND GARAGE: Here's how the home would be laid out to provide basement and garage. Note the generous master bedroom and big entertainment area.



NO BASEMENT VERSION: Laundry is placed in a small room added to the kitchen when the house is built on a slab.



CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN LUXURY: Artist's view looks from dining room into living room. The furniture shown here has been selected by Macy's for the Russian exhibit and has already been denounced in Russia as "too luxurious" for the average American. Furniture for the entire house, counters Macy's, has a retail value of \$5,000.

might have a basement. At the request of House of the Week, the architect has worked up these alternate versions.

So much for background, here's the house:

The main entrance brings the visitor into a modest foyer set apart from the remainder of the living room by a coat closet. The living and dining rooms are laid out in the familiar "L" shape, with the kitchen in between and handy to both.

A three-pane picture window gives the living room an "open feeling and sliding glass doors lead to the terrace or breezeway at right. In the no basement version, a laundry and storage room is put off the kitchen, creating a kitchen vestibule. The laundry goes downstairs in the basement ver-

sion and wide windows are put in the rear dining room wall.

With counters and kitchen appliances in an "L" shape, there is plenty of room in the kitchen for a dinette table.

The three bedrooms are arranged along a core hall with the family bath conveniently located to double as a guest lavatory. Bedroom three is the only one without double exposure. The other two are corner rooms, with windows high enough to permit any desired furniture arrangement. The master bedroom has its own lavatory, and

in a large wardrobe closet.

In the basement version, a stairway is located between the two front rooms at the end of the bedroom hall. The basement would provide space for laundry, hobby and shop space, and a big recreation room. In the no basement version, the heater would be located in the stairwell space.

With no garage, the house measures 26 by 44 feet. Garage and breezeway extend the width to 67 feet. Habitable area is 1,144 square feet, with 252 additional in the breezeway and 231 in the garage.

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