

THE HOUSE OF THE WEEK

Modern Ranch Fits a Narrow Lot

By DAVID L. BOWEN

Designing a modern home for a narrow lot is one of the toughest problems facing an architect.

Years ago narrow bungalows were the most common type of family homes built in many sections of the United States. Now, however, the "modern look" almost invariably demands that the home's longest dimension be from side to side.

X-95 in the House of the Week series is one of the exceptions to this rule. Its gable end is to the front, but the stigma of outdated architectural style is artfully removed and the switch made an advantage by resourceful design.

Main elements creating the pleasing modern effect are the dramatic window rising all the way to the roof beams, the low pitch of the roof and the wide roof overhang.

Just as modern inside as out, X-95 has sloping ceilings in all principal rooms except kitchen and family room. This enhances the modern theme and provides a feeling of spaciousness throughout the house.

Under many zoning ordinances, the house without garage would fit on a 50-foot lot since width of the main structure is only 31' 8". Including breezeway and garage, width is 48' 4", which would require a 60 or 65-foot lot, depending upon local rules.

Architect Herman H. York provided three bedrooms in a plan covering 1,743 square feet, with a large front living room, separate dining room, and family room adjoining kitchen and opening on a well-shielded side terrace. Basement offers ample room for a recreation room, laundry and workshop.

Additional Details

Breezeway patio solves one of the basic problems of a narrow front house: how to create a grace-

ful and attractive entrance. A convenient closet fills one side of the entrance vestibule, which leads traffic into the living room.

Sloping ceiling, fireplace, high window and louver screen give the living room distinction. Dining room, with an attractive cantilevered bay, connects with the living room through archway at the fireplace end.

The big family room and kitchen are laid out in an "L" with breakfast bar marking the division and set at an angle. Sliding glass doors lead to the side terrace, which is shielded on one side by the house, on the front by the garage, and on the second side by storage closets and a wooden fence. It is open only to the rear.

No Space Wasted

Maximum use of available space is illustrated in the kitchen by the unusual pantry, formed by placing sliding doors in front of shelves only six inches deep. Ordinarily wasted, this space inside a partition is entirely adequate for storage of canned goods.

The three bedrooms are served by a rear hall. The main bath is compartmentalized, with a second lavatory in the forward section. The master bedroom has a dressing alcove and a private bath with corner tub.

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You can take this study plan to your bank or other mortgage lender and to your builder and get rough estimates on the cost of construction in this area as well as an idea of the cost in relation in your budget.

With this information you will know whether you will want to proceed with construction by ordering working blueprints direct from the architect and asking for bids for the work.

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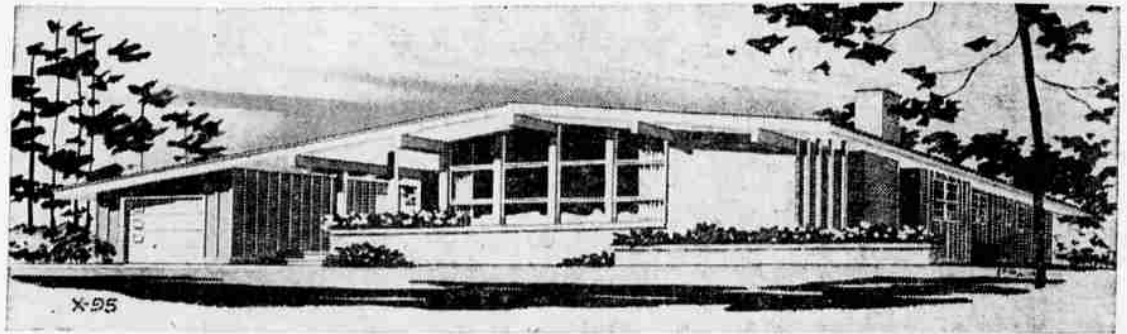
Building Editor:

Enclosed is 50 cents. Please send me a copy of the study plan of **The House of The Week X-95**

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LOT SAVER: This three-bedroom home was designed for property too narrow for ordinary sprawling ranch houses. Its over-all width is 48' 4", yet it offers 1,743 square feet of living space, including a large family room.



MODERN LIVING: Artist's view looks across family room to kitchen, with its angled breakfast bar. Flagstone terrace and barbecue are visible through sliding glass doors.

A combination of brick veneer and boards and battens gives the house a well balanced exterior. Plant areas of brick add accent and interest.

Building plans were engineered to employ standard size lumber to eliminate cutting and waste.

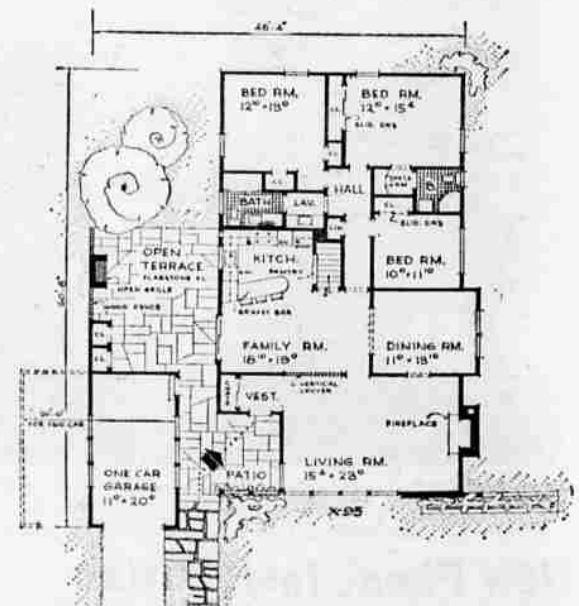


BASEMENT: Recreation room, laundry and shop area are located in basement.

X-95 STATISTICS

This home contains 1,743 square feet of habitable area, with three bedrooms, living room, dining room, family room, kitchen and two full baths.

Basement is called for in plans but the home could be constructed on a slab foundation. The over-all dimensions are 48' 4" in width by 60' 8" in depth.



FLOOR PLAN: Patio provides interesting sheltered entrance. Note how terrace is shielded on three sides for privacy.

TO EACH HIS OWN WAX

CHICAGO (UPI) — Using wood floor wax for asphalt, vinyl or rubber tile floors can be harmful. Here's why: The easy-spreading wax products usually contain a solvent, which is also the cleaning agent. This solvent can damage asphalt, vinyl and rubber tiles. On the other hand, the water in waxes recommended for tiled floors will eventually spoil fine finishes on hardwood floors.

STRETCH

AKRON, Ohio (UPI) — Rubber bands up to an inch and a half wide, six feet long and capable of being stretched to 18 feet are being used in warehouses and shipping rooms throughout the country. According to Clyde O. DeLong, an executive of the firm that makes these king-sized rubber bands (the B. F. Goodrich Industrial Products Co.), they can hold cartons together in stacks so they won't slip or tumble while being loaded.