

= Malloch Building =

The Malloch Building is a private residential apartment building on Telegraph Hill in San Francisco designed in the Streamline Moderne style and built in 1937 . The building , one of the best examples of its type in San Francisco , is also known as Malloch Apartments , Malloch Apartment Building , and simply by its address : 1360 Montgomery Street . Some have called it the " Ocean @-@ Liner House " , though other Moderne buildings have also been known by that nickname .

Designed by Irvin Goldstine for father / son architects John " Jack " S. Malloch and John Rolph Malloch , the building was used as a filming location in 1947 's Dark Passage , a noir work starring Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall .

= = Design and construction = =

The building was intended as a home for Jack Malloch and his son , John Rolph Malloch . Both men were partners in a father / son architectural firm based in San Francisco , and both wanted to live on Telegraph Hill with a view of the San Francisco Bay . They determined to build an apartment which would provide them with fine dwellings and also with income from the rental units it held . Irvin Goldstine (sometimes written Irving or Irvine) designed the building for them ; he had recently graduated from l 'École des Beaux @-@ Arts but had not yet earned his architect 's license , so he was not listed as the architect of record . Instead , the Mallochs were listed . Goldstine obtained his license in 1940 , four years after he first sketched the Malloch Building .

The building site is on a steep hill , so the street @-@ level entrance at the upper edge of the property is not the lowest floor . Four stories of apartments start at the ground floor and go up , and two more floors consisting of a 10 @-@ car garage and a sub @-@ basement storage space are below grade , jutting out to the east because of the slope . A manager 's apartment was added in 1947 by extending steel beams from the garage and suspending a two @-@ floor unit with steel cables . Structural engineer W.S. Ellison oversaw construction of the primarily wooden frame structure , built atop a foundation and two utility floors made of reinforced concrete to meet exacting state requirements for stability .

Muralist Alfred Du Pont (also known as Dupont) was hired to design images to decorate the exterior . Du Pont produced two 40 @-@ foot (12 m) high silvery figures in sgraffito , or raised plaster , on the western facade of the building , and a third on the north side . Du Pont applied colored concrete to the exterior and carved it into shape . Flanking the main street entrance are two male figures . The image on the right facing left is a Spanish explorer with a telescope raised to one eye . The image on the left facing right is a bare @-@ chested worker holding a globe , towering above the San Francisco ? Oakland Bay Bridge , with sleek aircraft flying above and below him , and ships moving in the bay . The actual bridge can be seen from the house ; it had been completed the previous year when the Malloch Building was under construction . Around the corner from the main entrance , the third silvery mural shows a robed woman , the spirit of California , standing in front of California represented as a map .

The building 's elevator was designed and added to the foyer after the building was occupied . It is encased in a backlit glass brick shaft at one edge of the open @-@ air lobby . Scalloped steel railings line the central staircase which is anchored by a glass brick column . Sandblasted designs are featured in glass plate windows above the entrance .

The interiors were streamlined as much as possible , without traditional touches such as baseboard moldings . Indirect lighting was used throughout . Curves were abundant , with rounded fireplaces topped with indirect lighting and a round dining room with floor @-@ to @-@ ceiling windows . Rounded balcony edges were set off by rounded bay windows . The bedrooms included circular dressing rooms with ample closet space . In some of the units , glass brick was used as partition material .

The city of San Francisco notified the Mallochs that they were in violation of a building code prohibiting more than three floors above a garage , because the building contained four floors of apartments above the garage . The Mallochs successfully argued that their structure stepped back

in progression up the slope of Telegraph Hill so that the top floor was not directly above the garage . No part of the building was in violation of the code .

= = Use = =

Before the building was completed , it was fully rented . In 1937 , the two Malloch men moved into the two penthouse suites in the 12 @-@ unit apartment building , collecting rent from the other 10 tenants .

The Malloch Building was featured in the 1947 film noir work titled Dark Passage . In the film , Humphrey Bogart , playing an escaped prisoner , is invited by Lauren Bacall into her apartment unit , Number 10 on the third floor of the Malloch Building . In the apartment , Bogart hides out while he heals from plastic surgery , and plots to clear his name . Bogart wearily ascends the nearby Filbert Steps in one scene , on his way to the Malloch Building . Modern @-@ day residents have been known to put a cutout of Bogart in the street @-@ facing window of Number 10 .

Owner / occupant John Rolph Malloch died in 1951 at the age of 39 . In the early 1980s the building was converted from rental apartments to condominiums . The original plans had been lost to fire , so the renovating architects had to form new plans taken from measurements of the building .

A six @-@ page writeup about the building appeared in Architect and Engineer in December 1937 . The article listed the owners and the structural engineer , but did not name the architect . In the early 1980s , geologist and architectural historian Gray Brechin discovered that Irvin Goldstine had designed the building ; Brechin subsequently interviewed Goldstine regarding his career . An article about the discovery was printed in Metro Magazine , a defunct San Francisco magazine . Until that time , the building was thought to be designed by the Mallochs .