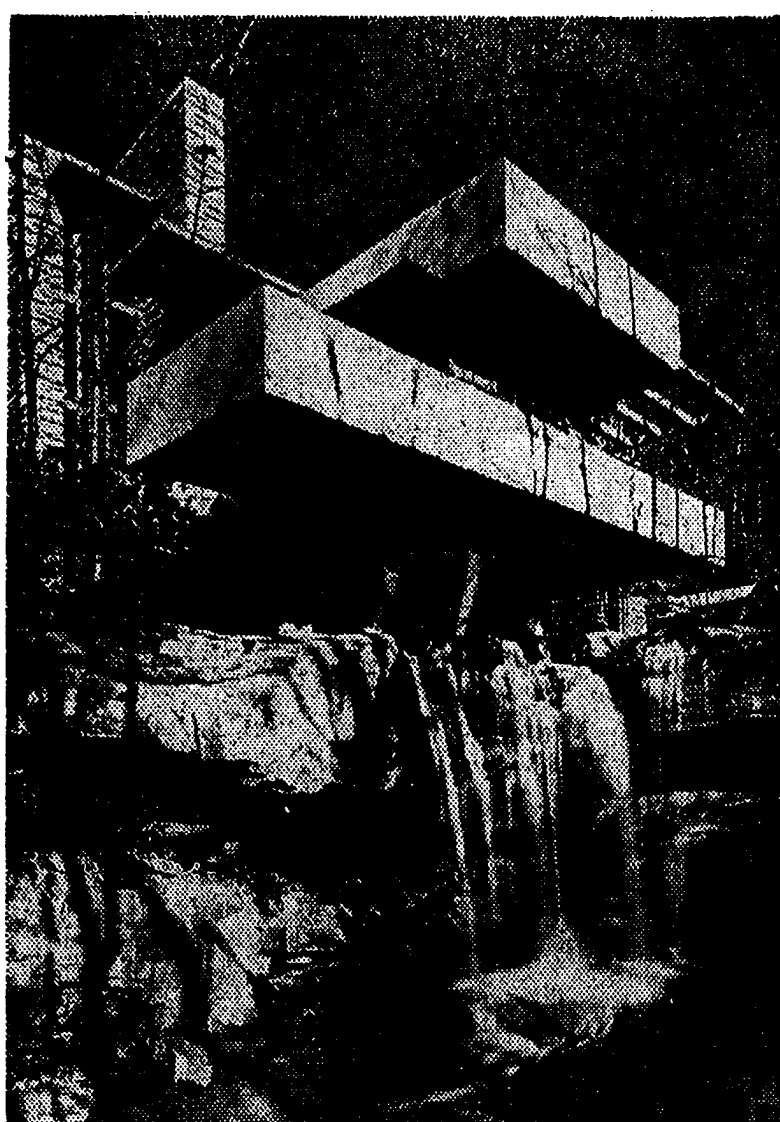


Landmark's Preservation Assured



Fallingwater, built by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1936 for Edgar Kaufmann at Bear Run, Pa., will be given by Edgar Kaufmann Jr. to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.

Wright House at Bear Run, Pa., Will Be Given Away to Save It

By ADA LOUISE HUXTABLE

A house universally considered to be one of the supreme architectural landmarks of the 20th century is about to be given away, to insure its preservation.

An announcement will be made in Pittsburgh today that Fallingwater, the internationally famous "house over the waterfall" by Frank Lloyd Wright, in Bear Run, Pa., is being presented by its owner, Edgar Kaufmann Jr., and the Edgar J. Kaufmann Charitable Foundation to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.

Bear Run is about 50 miles southeast of Pittsburgh, near the Maryland-West Virginia border.

Mr. Kaufmann, a member of the Pittsburgh family noted in business and philanthropy, is an art collector and authority on architecture and design, who studied with Wright in the nineteen-thirties. A New York resident, he has been a dedicated weekend commuter to his landmark home for many years.

Built In 1936

The house, built by Wright for Mr. Kaufmann's father in 1936, is one of the most admired, visited, photographed, written about and lectured about modern buildings in the world.

It is being given to the conservation agency with 500 acres, an endowment fund of \$500,000 and an educational grant of \$30,000 a year for five years. It will be maintained as a recreational and cultural center, with a program of studies in science, music and the arts, under the management of the Conservancy.

The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy is a nonprofit organization centered in Pittsburgh, dedicated to the preservation of beauty in nature and in landmarks of historic im-

portance. Under a 1951 Kaufmann grant it has purchased or optioned about 9,000 acres of land in the region, 3,000 of which will be a new state park.

The unusual decision to give the house to a nature and wildlife association rather than to an organization devoted specifically to architectural preservation was made because of the inseparable relationship of the house and its site.

"The land and building should never be divided," Mr. Kaufmann said. "I felt that we should consider only those agencies that could guarantee the continuity of the water."

'Organic' Relationship

The building's extraordinarily beautiful blending of nature and architecture, with its tiered, cantilevered concrete balconies projecting over rushing waters, marked the high point of Wright's romantic preoccupation with what he called the "organic" relationship of man-made and natural elements.

The gift to the Conservancy was prompted by Mr. Kaufmann's devotion to the house, which he encouraged his father to build, and his concern for its future. "I keep seeing buildings go wrong," he said. "I can arrange for its proper preservation better now than after I'm gone. My personal pleasure has to be subordinated to the future."

The decision to insure the future of Fallingwater comes at a time of crisis for other important Frank Lloyd Wright buildings.

Wright houses have been mutilated by remodeling; some have burned, others stand derelict and empty. Their accelerating loss is becoming a matter of increasing alarm to historians and conservationists.