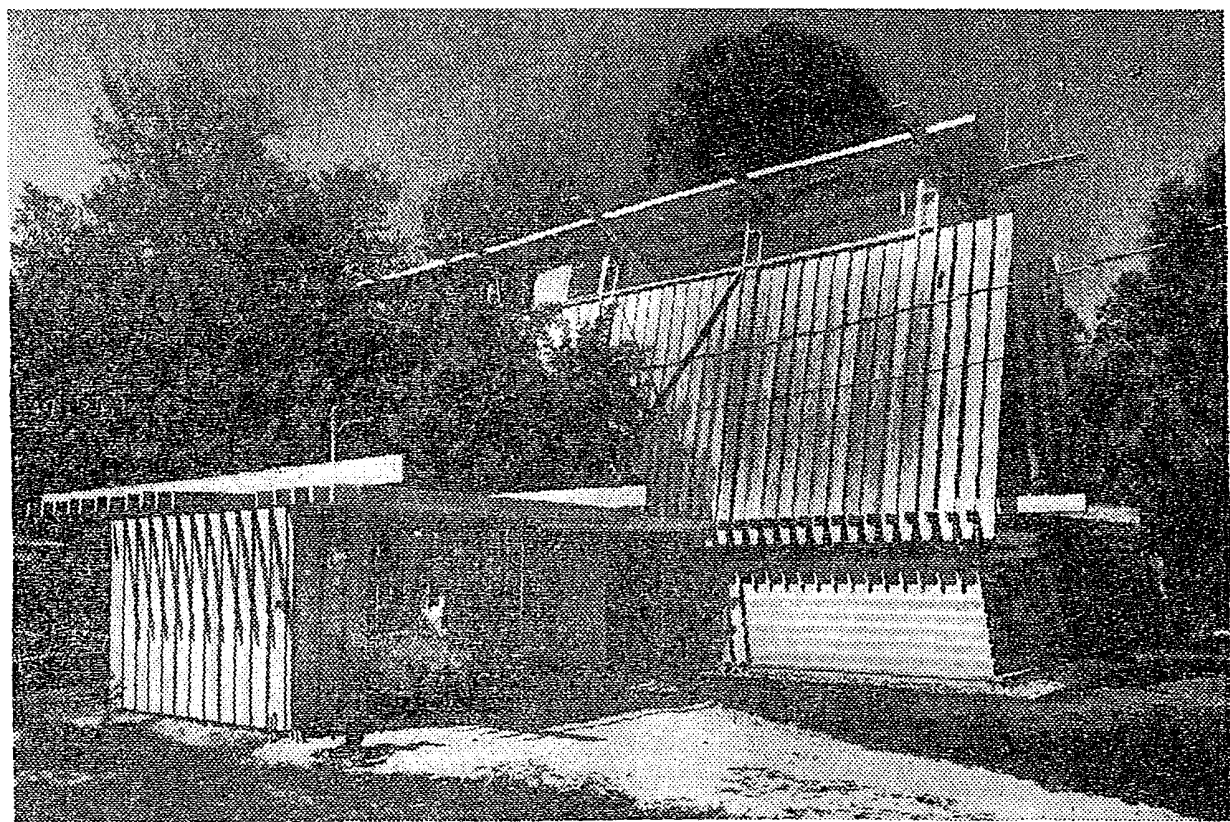


Unusual House Designs Win Architectural Accolades: New and Remodeled ...

By ADA LOUISE HUXTABLE:

New York Times (1923-Current file); Nov 8, 1964; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times pg. R1

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House in Sarasota, Fla., has barnlike upper floor supported by masonry. First award winner was designed by William Rupp. Ground floor is isolated visually from outside. It cost about \$20,000, excluding land.

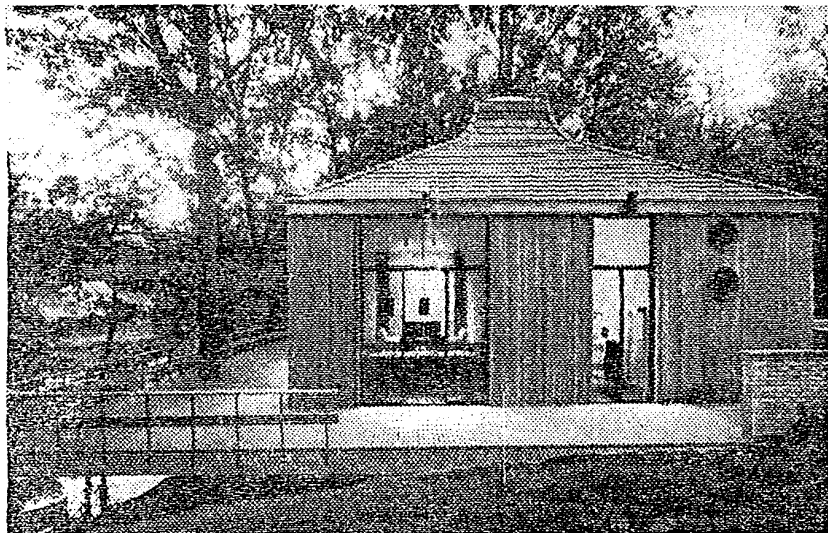
New and Remodeled Homes Are Cited in Competition

By ADA LOUISE HUXTABLE

Awards were announced yesterday in the fourth annual house design competition of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the results are light years away from Suburbia, U.S.A. In style, sophistication and quality of design, these prize-winning dwellings bear little if any resemblance to the standard builders' houses sold to millions of Americans from coast to coast, and it may be another generation before they affect the mass market, if at all.

Four awards were given in the nationwide competition, and they represent the cream of the house-design field. Of three categories set up—new single houses, alterations to houses, and groups of houses, new or altered—prizes were given only in the first two divisions.

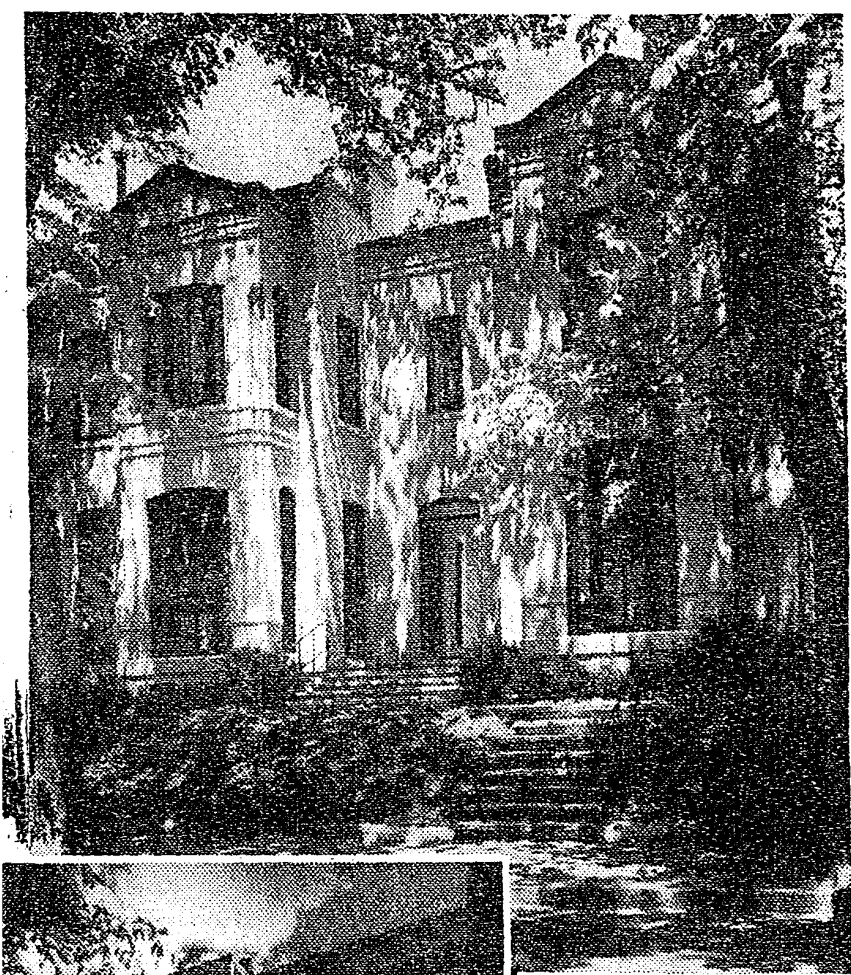
Two Awards for Jacobsen
Only in the new-single-house category was there a first prize, and it went to William Rupp of Sarasota, Fla., for a studio house in Sarasota. A "mention citation" in the category was given to Hugh Newell Jacobsen of Washington for a vacation home near Annapolis, Md.
In the alterations-and-additions category, Mr. Jacobsen won again, with a mention citation for a remodeled Georgetown house. All submissions, incidentally, were judged anonymously. Another mention citation went to Ulrich Franzen and Associates, for an addition to a house in Greenwich, Conn.
The first-prize new house, by William Rupp with J.G.F. Far-



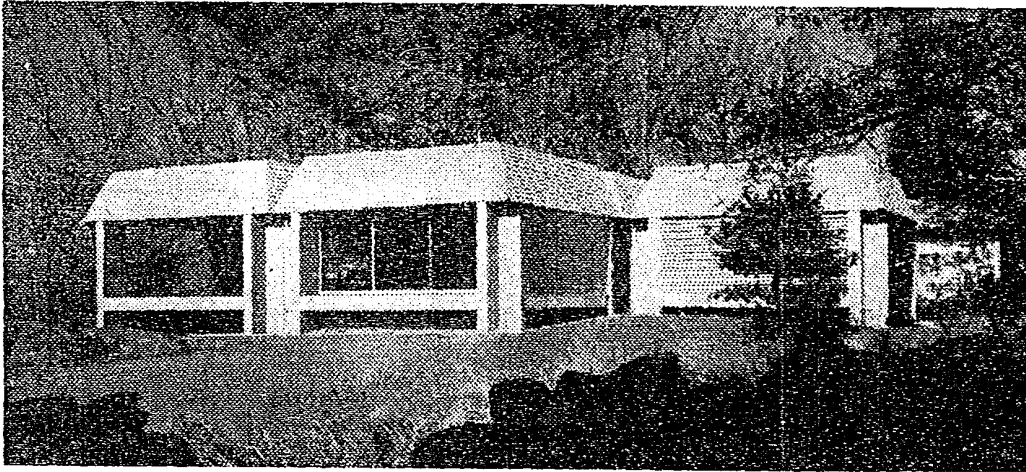
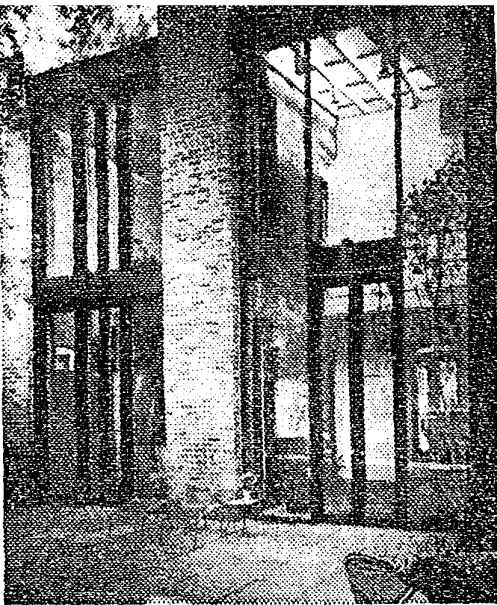
Vacation home near Annapolis, was also designed by Mr. Jacobsen. House stands on side of slope. Cost of the house was about \$32,000.

rell associated, is a dramatically canted wooden superstructure of rough-hewn cypress on a battered block masonry base, washed with concrete. Living areas are above and sleeping quarters below.
The wooden superstructure, glass-topped for the view, has sliding glass panels and Plexiglas vents between coarse vertical boards. Even the garage shares the dynamic mood with sweeping wood beams. There must be something in the balmy Sarasota air, for this is where Paul Rudolph, now one of the country's architectural trend setters, began his career designing houses of comparable experimental drama.
The second-prize new house,

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This remodeled row house in Washington won citation for Hugh Newell Jacobsen. Rear of home, left, was given a modern glass wall. Remodeling cost \$29,500.



Sizable addition was built onto a conventional clapboard cottage in Greenwich, Conn. Remodeling was designed by Ulrich Franzen. It would cost about \$60,000 to duplicate.

4 AWARDS GIVEN FOR HOME DESIGN

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by Hugh Jacobsen, also of cypress, is marked by considerable elegance of design for a vacation home. Carefully related to the site — a wooded, hilly inlet of the South River near Annapolis — it uses the slope to build on two levels. All living and sleeping quarters are above, opening onto a surrounding deck with sliding glass doors. More sliding doors inside connect the rooms, or close them off completely. Below are utility, boat and storage space.

Although both prize-winning houses are of wood, they are totally different from one another. The Florida example is romantically, even belligerently, rustic while the northern house stresses a classic simplicity and quiet refinement of detail that verges on delicacy. Each is outstandingly well done, in its own way, and together they illustrate the range of approaches applicable to the commercial house-design field, almost untapped as yet below the custom level.

In some ways, the remodeled or "added to" houses are even more interesting than the all-new examples. Both prize-winners in this group had to cope with existing structures or restrictions, and both show exceptional sensitivity in doing so.

Mr. Jacobsen's Georgetown house is an instructive demonstration of what to do in a historically zoned neighborhood. The Old Georgetown Act requires all new construction to conform to the character of the original houses in the area.

Remodeling Problems Solved

The original here was an 1885 building of "Tuscan Villa" character, with classicizing pediment and cornices. It was quite simple for Victorian architecture, with pleasant proportions and details. The architect doubled its size by repeating its row-house facade on the street side, with a gain for the house and the neighborhood. It is not a formula to be followed blindly to the exclusion of freer interpretations, but it worked perfectly in this case.

The rear of the house, away from the street, was completely redesigned in an unabashed but sympathetic modern style. The whole garden facade has been opened with steel-framed glass walls set in brick, a contrast

that doubles the effect of old and new by sensitive and surprising relationships. It proves simultaneously the value of historic zoning for neighborhood preservation and attractiveness, and the possibilities of fresh, contemporary design within those legislative and esthetic restrictions.

Ulrich Franzen's citation in the same category illustrates a more usual problem of how to enlarge a rather routine house with distinction.

In this design, a conventional clapboard cottage has been connected to a sizable new unit, treated as a series of joined pavilions of indoor and outdoor rooms. Each unit has carefully scaled concrete-block piers that serve as a design module, and a raised, platform-like base.

A hall linking both wings serves as an entrance court and gallery, and grey clapboards and sloping shingled roofs unite the new and old buildings. The effect, paradoxically, is of formal informality, through an emphasis on symmetry and simplicity. The house has a casual, but unmistakable elegance.

The prices of these prize-winning houses are equal to builders' homes of considerably less distinction. They range from approximately \$20,000, exclusive of land, for new construction, to \$60,000 for alterations and additions.

In more expensive commercial

homes, exterior trim is usually substituted for thoughtful planning. The most popular devices, as prices rise, are two-story two-by-four paste-ons with wrought iron decoration vaguely suggesting ante-bellum porches, or a pastiche of materials from gewgaw shingles to newly antiqued brick lavishly embellishing a standard product.

The gap between the A.I.A.'s best-in-show and the American mass-produced home is a design gap, and there is little indication that it will be closed in the foreseeable future.

Members of the jury were Lewis Davis of Cooper Union; John M. Dixon, associate editor of Progressive Architecture; Prof. Jan Hird Pokorny of Columbia University; Stanley Salzman of Pratt Institute; Edgar Tafel, and Frederick W. Woodbridge, former president of the New York Chapter of the A.I.A. All are architects.