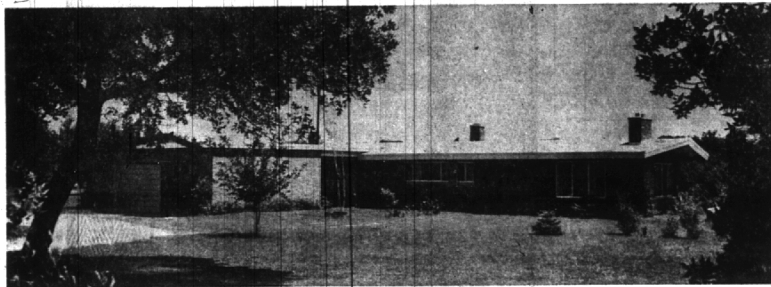


Architect's First American Designed Home



Natural Look Carried Inside

The natural outside look of this brick and cyprus paneling home has been carried to the inside by designer Edmund Arbas. His first American designed home after

coming from Lithuania in 1948 was for his family. The structure is on a one-and-a-half-acre site at 4755 Dover, near Charing Cross road.

Patio

Picture window in the dining area at the southeast end of the house gives pleasant view to the patio and stone retaining wall built by Mr. Arbas.

Combines Brick, Cyprus Paneling For Natural Outside, Inside Look

Photo Story by Fran Maier

The family of a Lithuanian who received his architectural and engineering degree in Kaunas, is residing in his first American designed home.

Edward Arbas, 4755 Dover road, came to this country in 1948 with his wife and daughter, Violet, now 12. They also have two other children born here, Rasa Emily Ann, 2 1/2, and Arimantas Edmund, Jr., 6. An AIA architect and designer for Swanson Associates, Inc., Mr. Arbas feels that first experience in private practice should be for himself.

MR. ARBAS combined his modern and new ideas, yet not extreme, in designing his family home on a one-and-a-half-acre site on Dover near Charing Cross road with plenty of room for the kiddies to play and a small garden.

He carried the natural outside brick and cyprus paneling to the inside where the living room has a brick fireplace wall with the balance paneling.

HE USED the same room and ceiling slope, exposing the open beams, which he feels gives more room inside and a pleasant atmosphere.

The natural wood floors have what Mr. Arbas considers a patterned grain . . . the more you look the more you find . . . therefore never tiring of their simplicity.

BESIDES the house, Arbas designed and built much of the furniture including the dining room table and kitchen cupboards. From the kitchen mother can keep a watchful eye on the kiddies in the spacious backyard.

At the rear of the yard there are bushes and trees which the Arbases call "loveland". It is a spot in the bushes with a picnic table and old fashioned European style benches where you can just sit peacefully with your friends and chat. Sometimes the young neighborhood spooners go there for private chats away from younger brothers and sisters, according to Mr. Arbas.

INSIDE, on the fireplace wall, there is

a natural piece of sculpture which Mr. Arbas cut from his own back yard . . . or "loveland." It is the art of nature.

Off the living area is the dining room accented by the library designed by Mr. Arbas especially for his wife, Elena, who considers it "the nicest corner in the house."

THE BOOKS are selected mostly by Elena, whose pen name is Ale Ruta, the author of six books. In Lithuania she was a high school teacher. In her native land she was awarded first prize for her libretto written to a children's opera "Ziogas Ir Skruzdė", composer Kuprevicius. This opera is still very popular and allowed to be played under the soviet regime.

Mrs. Arbas' books have been published in Germany and the United States. Her last novel "The Brief Day" won her a thousand dollar award in 1955 by the Lithuanian Catholic Society "Draugas" in Chicago.

A SYMBOL of their native land Lithuania, the three crosses are the only decor on the library shelves besides the many books. The three crosses are the symbols of enslaved Lithuanian people who do not have any more freedom in religion, culture or politics.

Elena's work desk occupies one corner of the master bedroom where she does her writing and just outside the bedroom is father's own private work and study room.

Besides the degree he received in Lithuania, Mr. Arbas studied in Vienna, Austria and Stuttgart, Germany at their Technische Hohe Schule. He received his American degree in architecture at Lawrence Institute of Technology.

During the war Mr. Arbas was very active in the Lithuanian underground work against nazism and communism. He was one of the leaders of Free Lithuania.

Before the war he was vice president of Statyba and also served as professor in Germany for the UNNRA refugees.

Just so he doesn't lose that homeland atmosphere, Mr. Arbas has a European car in which he scoots to and from work.



Art of Nature from 'Loveland'

Simplicity predominates in the Arbas household. A natural piece of sculpture, accenting the brick fireplace wall, is the art of nature cut from the wooded area in the

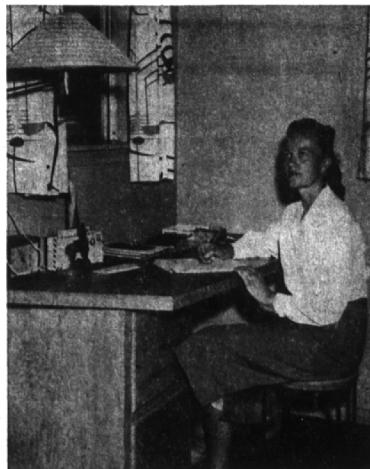
rear of the contemporary structure which Mr. Arbas calls "loveland." Two of their three children are Rasa Emily Ann and Arimantas Edmund, Jr.



Nicest Corner in the House . . .

. . . according to Ale Ruta, author of six books, is the library designed by her architect husband Edmund Arbas. Natural colored grass paper from a background for

the books written and selected by Mrs. Arbas. Only other decor on the shelves are the three crosses, symbols of the enslaved Lithuanian people.



Concentration

The corner where thoughts are collected, put on paper and eventually into book form. Mrs. Arbas, whose pen name is Ale Ruta, is the author of six books and works from a desk in the master bedroom.

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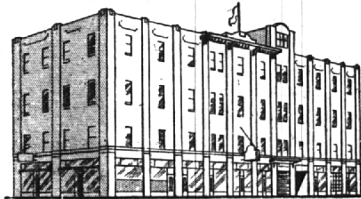
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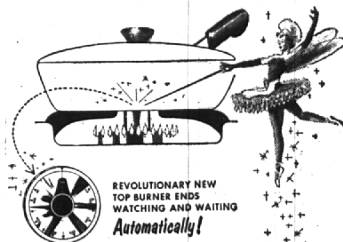
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