

Western Homes

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and living



BEHIND THE COVER . . .

Displayed on the parking lot of the Hudson's Bay Company in Vancouver, "The Sky Bungalow" attracted thousands of visitors when it was opened in 1950. Designed by Fred Hollingsworth, this was one of the few display homes that actually introduced the public to new trend-setting ideas in house design. Many of its features, radical at that time, have now been widely adopted in the West Coast home.

1950



GRAHAM WARRINGTON

HOW 'THE SKY BUNGALOW'
DISPLAY HOME CAME

down to
earth . . .

1957



SELWYN PULLAN

Carried across Burrard Inlet by barge and trucked up the mountain, "The Sky Bungalow" was given a permanent site in Capilano Highlands, and is now the home of Mr & Mrs L. A. Nikoloric. As seen in this view of the back, the house has been extended, filled in, and modified by an attractively designed landscape setting, but it still retains the lines of "organic architecture" which it helped to introduce in 1950.

WHILE display homes usually carry such high-sounding titles as "House of Ideas", "Trend House", "Home of Tomorrow", few live up to the promise of their names. Seven years ago, however, several thousand Vancouverites had their first look at a style of contemporary design that was startlingly new to this area, but which introduced many of the currently accepted features of the West Coast home.

Although it sat on an asphalt parking lot in downtown Vancouver, its soaring lines dwarfed by tall buildings around it, this prophetic display house was called "The Sky Bungalow" by its young designer, 31-year-old Fred Hollingsworth. Other homes and other architects have contributed immeasurably to the development of our contemporary West Coast style, but this home gave the public its first close look at "organic architecture" and set the trend for future acceptance.

To many visitors, it was their first experience with the "open



Originally open at ground level, the house has been filled in and extended here to provide a spacious living area opening directly to the patio and gardens. Living room in the foreground has polished green concrete floor contrasting with white British India cotton rug. Nikolorics made coffee table of B C black slate . . . other pieces are Danish, American, and domestic. Beyond partition wall on left is family room. On the right is the dining room.



Family room opens to patio and landscaped garden at back of house. Casual furniture grouping faces built-in hi-fi and TV cabinet on left. Floor here is cork on concrete. Walls are Japanese grasscloth in a salmon tone.

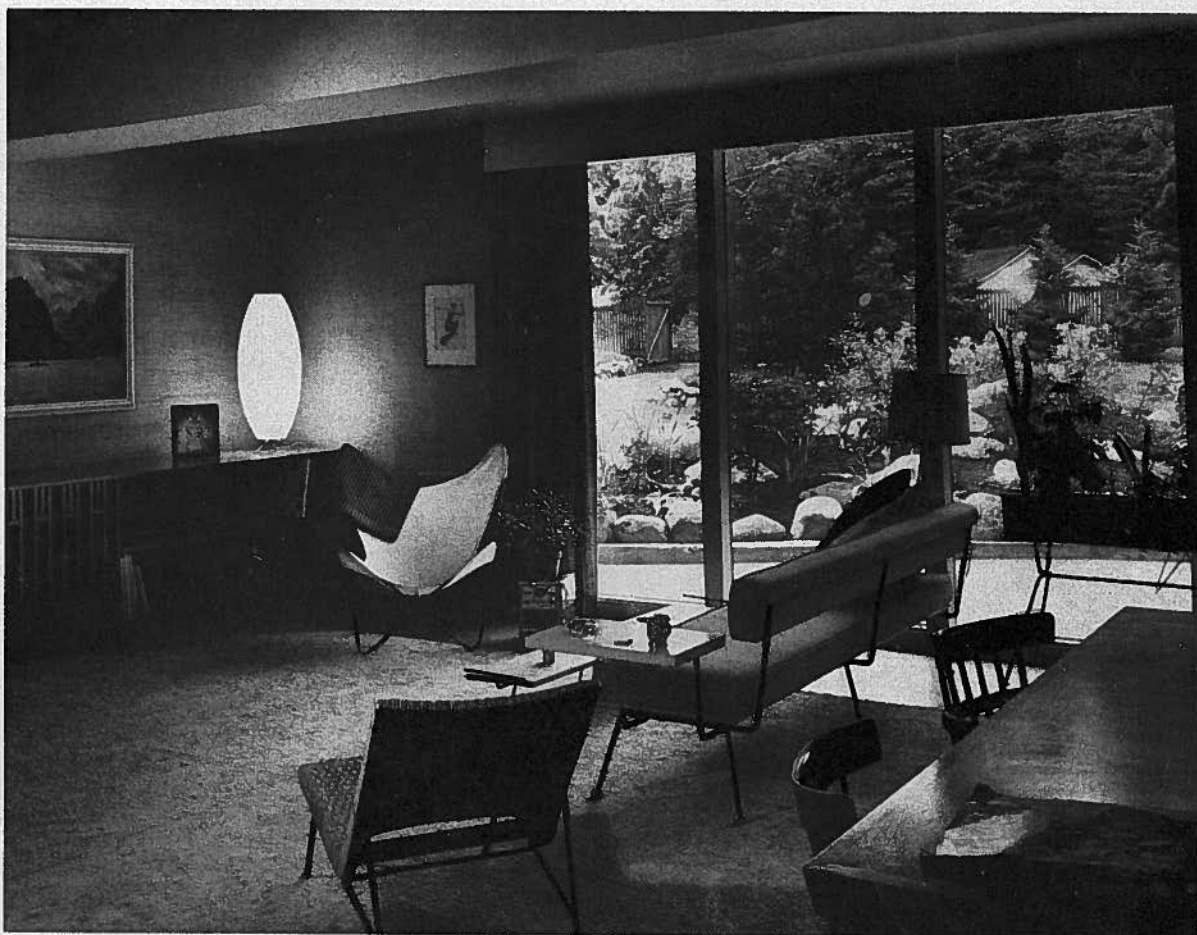
plan" . . . kitchen, dining, and living areas were only informally separated.

Exterior wood finishes were carried inside the house as well . . . in a design which exploited the decorative possibilities of construction lumber.

Clerestory windows added a new dimension, made the shelter a part of the setting, not just a secluded cave.

With principal living areas on the top level opening to a wide suspended balcony, the design gave a logical solution to the problem of a sloping West Coast lot . . . a solution which is standard practice now with almost any style of design.

Eventually the house was moved from its parking lot, transported by barge across Burrard Inlet, and carried up the North Shore mountains to a lot in Capilano Highlands. This wasn't exactly the hilltop site which designer Fred Hollingsworth had visualized for his "Sky Bungalow" but the house settled into the attractive rustic



Dining room also opens to patio, is paved with waxed brick. Marble-topped table in walnut frame was designed by Allen Segal. Two end chairs are work of Charles Eames, others are wrought-iron garden chairs painted gold to match. Wall here is also grasscloth, with buffet covered in same material.



down to earth

C O N T I N U E D

setting and has modified to its surroundings over the years.

Originally built to float in space on two steel girders supported on brick columns, the house was later closed in at ground level to provide a living room opening directly to the patio. An addition at the back expanded the main floor living area and converted the upstairs entirely to sleeping quarters. Designer Fred Hollingsworth planned all these changes for the new owners and also designed the landscaping which has done so much to coordinate the house with its site.

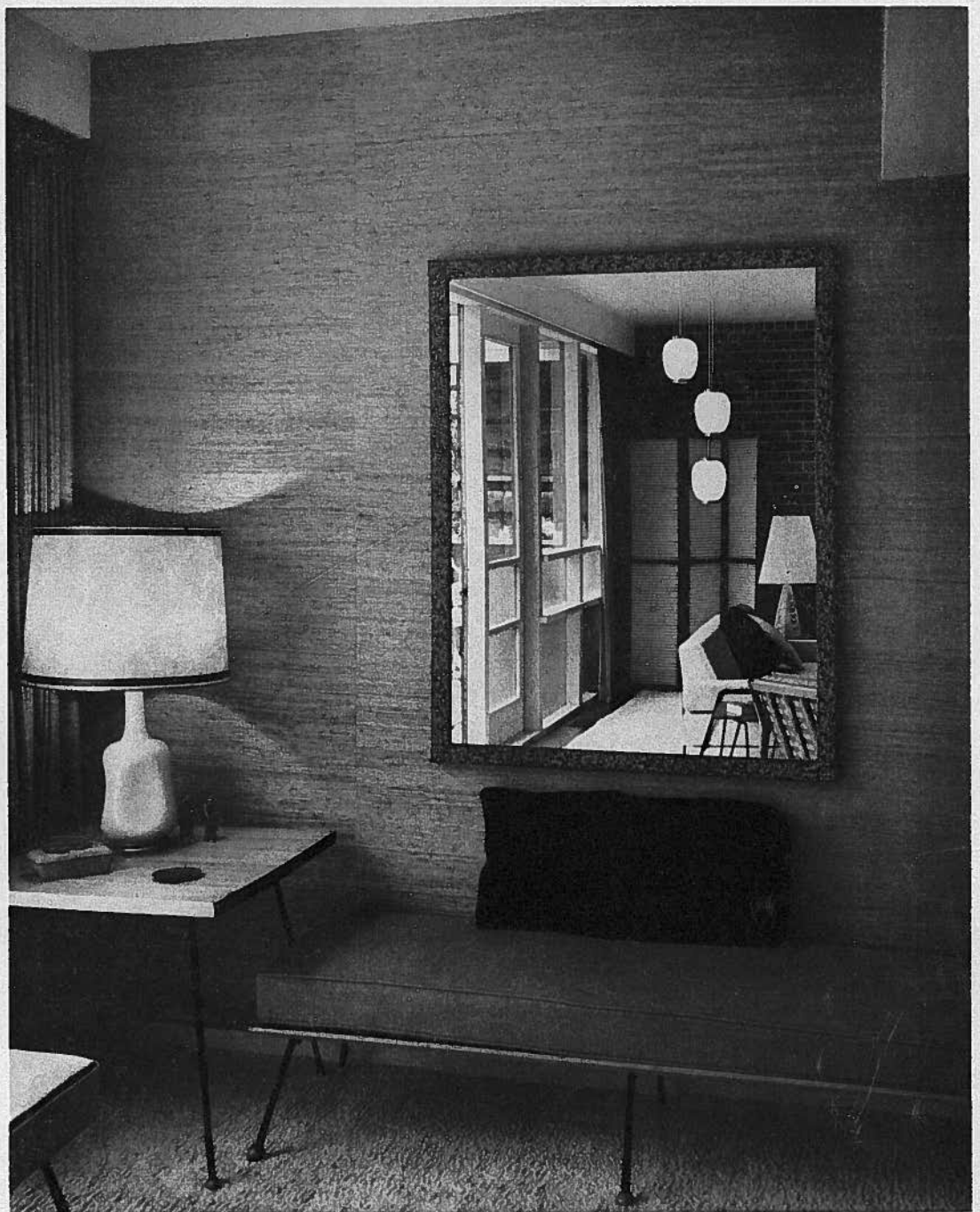
The present owners, Mr and Mrs L. A. Nikoloric, have continued these improvements, including much of the landscaping, and have furnished the home in a semi-formal contemporary theme that suits its advanced architectural style. A fine art collection, including works of Rodin, Mestrovic, and Childs, is a feature of this attractive West Coast home.

Bookcase corner of living room is an attractive setting that includes Steuben glassware, sculpture and sketch by Mestrovic, and unusual lamp made from one of the rollers used to print wallpaper.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SELWYN PULLAN

Reflected in mirror on living room wall is view of sliding doors opening to front patio which has been glassed in as a conservatory (see cover photograph).



Music cabinet of natural and stained oak was designed by Fred Hollingsworth. Black ceramic vase is Danish. Bubble lamp is by George Nelson. Painting is work of Charles Childs.