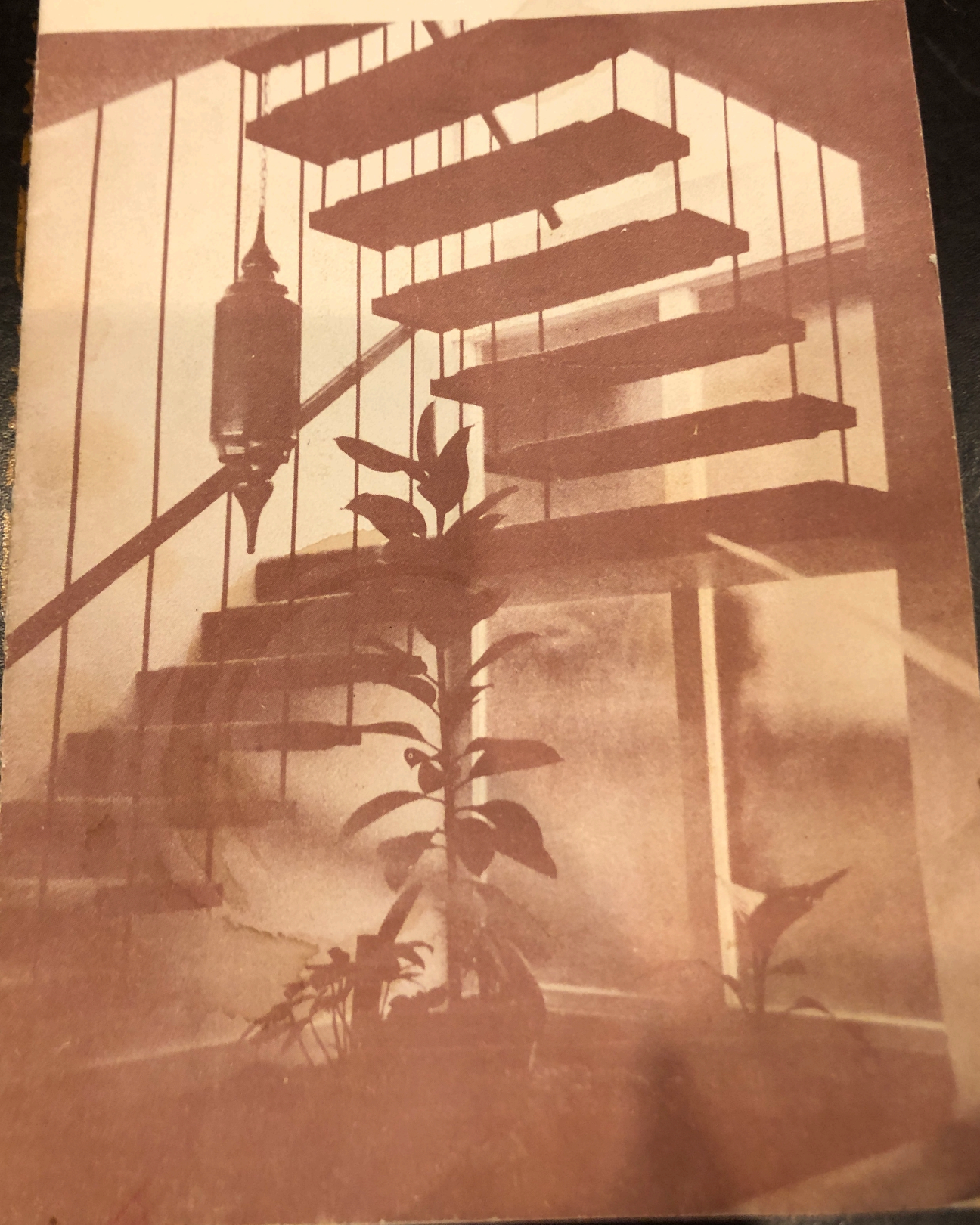


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# THE SPEC SHEET

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View of pool area looking at living room and second story master suite from kitchen planning area

## Designer of the Month

JOHN J. REUKEMA  
Vice President and Program Chairman  
San Gabriel Chapter, A.I.B.D.

Rarely does a designer have the near perfect combination of 100% compatibility with client and builder. The Triche residence in Manhattan Beach proved to be the perfect marriage of the three . . . . designer, builder, client. This near-perfect union is all too often "The Infernal" triangle. Not so this very unusual home.

Entry,  
Planter, and  
Hanging Stairway



This home was designed by John J. Reukema, A.I.B.D., for the Henry Triches on a problem lot in Manhattan Beach. The first floor had to be completely ramped, with no steps whatsoever, because of the use of a wheelchair. While accomplishing this ramping it was also necessary to avoid the "institutional" look and feeling. The proof of this being accomplished is in this statement by Mrs. Triche,

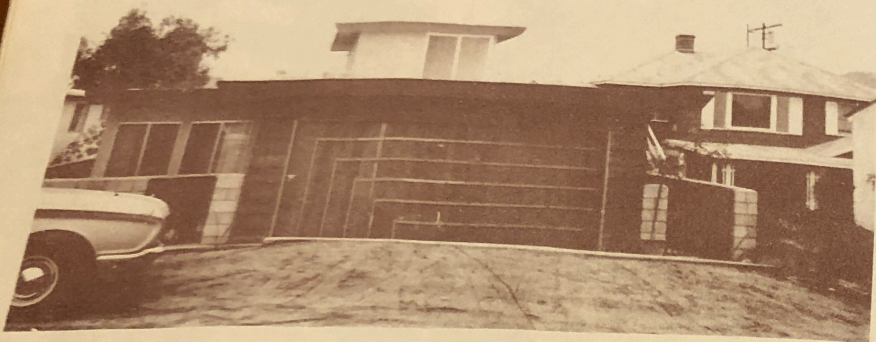
"Pete's needs are met beautifully, he rolls busily everywhere, in one door and out another, landscaping up a storm."

This narrow hillside lot had to be leveled with retaining walls on three sides and a large amount of fill to level off. The lot size is 40 x 110 with a 6'-0" slope to the rear. The square footage needed was 2450 including the double garage attached. Other needs were: an outdoor swimming pool, privacy for the master suite, areas for planting, "all" portions of the house visible from all the other parts, good kitchen layout and a utility area handy to all.

The pool was put near the center of the plot and near one side. This pool is for therapy as well as recreation, so a delightful water fountain was designed to act as a "whirlpool" as well as for esthetic values.

The kitchen, family room, living room, and two bedrooms .. all the first floor .. surround this refreshing "oasis", and overhead the master suite looks out on this area. Mrs. Triche says,

"We have a sort of 'lively' living room, and a serene living room, a place for kids, a place for adults. The 'togetherness', and the 'separateness' so needed by families."



Front view from street

The entry opens on one side, after a delightful walk through interesting landscaping, into a spatial entry which introduces one to a glassed hallway paralleling the pool, and an unusual hanging stairway to the master suite.

The entry has terrazzo tile floors and a generous planter beneath the stairway. To the left is a small but attractive powder room. It has antique mirror walls surrounding the plate glass mirror at the lavatory, and the water closet is separated with an opaque glass compartment.

"I'm very smug about the entry, stairway, and powder room .... they are beautiful,"

Now Barbara Triche feels about this area of her home.

The kitchen is a part of the family-dining room. The appliances are built-in, and the working counter (food preparation, cooking, sinks) is carefully canted to give the feeling of spaciousness. Listen to what Mrs. Triche said,

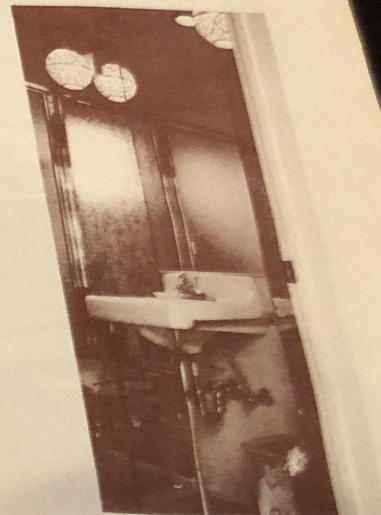
The sewing-laundry area was a surprise ... it's perfect ... all the thousands of items seemed to gravitate to its proper place in the kitchen and utility room."

The master suite has bedroom, bath, outside balcony (overlooking the pool) and an outdoor solarium. The solarium has a ceramic tile "outdoor" shower. One of the realtors in Manhattan Beach has copied the Triche's master suite, and now incorporates it in his plans. It has been said, "Imitation is the highest form of flattery ... or is it plagiarism?" To quote Oscar Levant.

The exterior has unfinished cedar (to weather in the salt air) siding, and gold colored mechanically applied stucco. The fascia, the main doors, and the trim around the garage door are painted "paprika". The interior finishes are terrazzo, vinyl, and carpet floors. The ceilings are blown plaster. The walls plaster. The cabinets and bookshelves are natural wood. All sliding glass doors are equipped with wired glass, and amazingly, are very attractive.



Double doored front entrance



Powder room from entry

Mrs. Triche covered the whole thing with these words,

"John, the house is a delight, somehow you accomplished the impossible ... the spaciousness Hank wanted, the square feet I demand to cope with alone, the feeling of 'being outside when I'm inside' and still complete privacy for all, the house is so very much *home*, and our children, and our way of living. I think, John, you must also have a degree in Psychology. We all love it, John, thank you for a beautiful designing job."

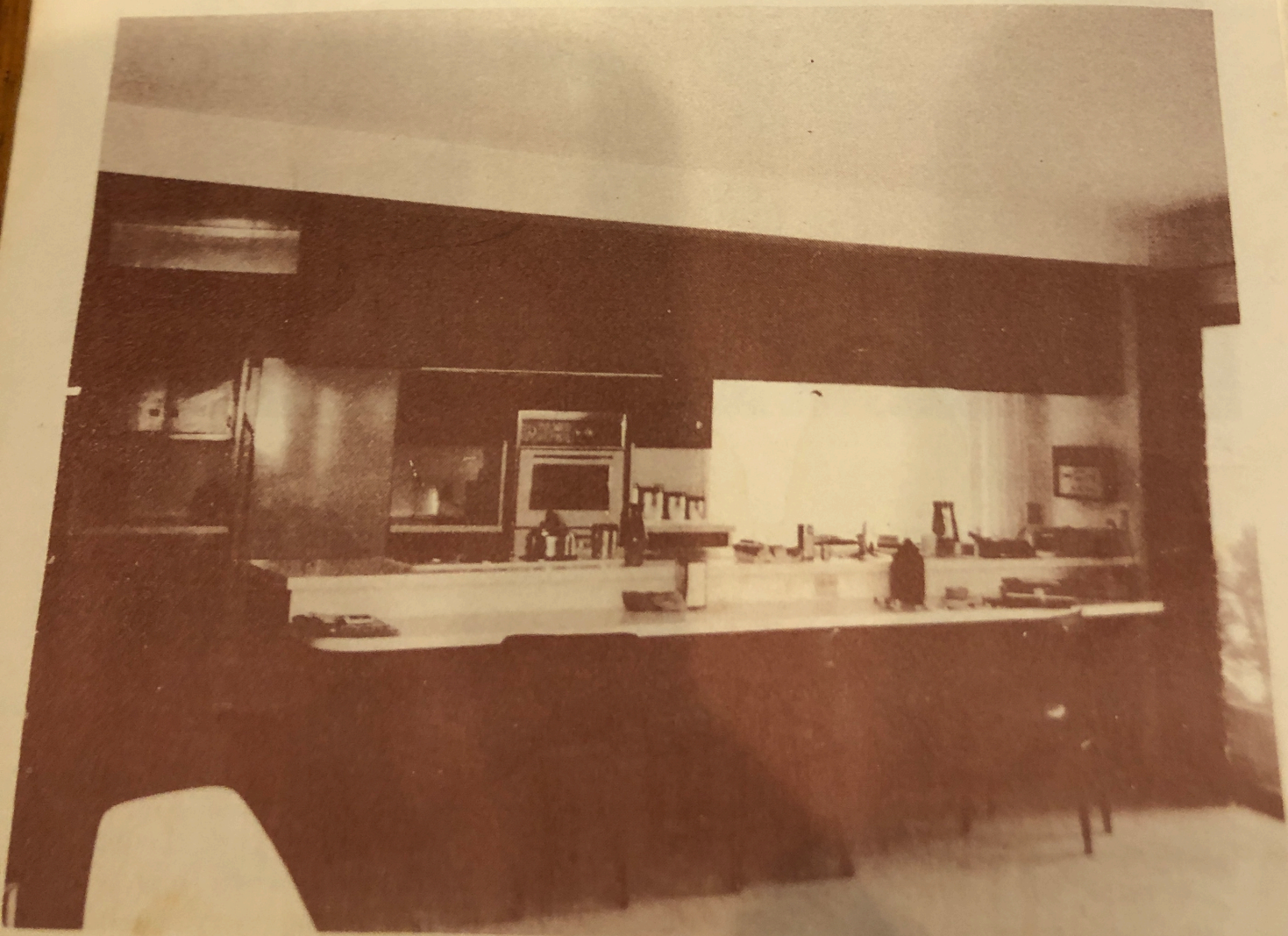
Good design quite often is 'butchered' by bad building. The final success of a good design is reflected in the craftsmanship of the builder, the abilities of his artisans, and the sympathetic approach to 'something different'. Part of the credit for the success of this building must go to a very able builder, William A. Buckland, 1057 Tenth Street, Hermosa Beach, California. Bill's understanding, sympathy, skill, and knowledge were a big factor in the success of this building. This, of course, applies as well to all of Bill's sub-contractors.

The Spec Sheet would also like to thank Jane Walsh for her contributions: her knowledge of real estate, her kindnesses, her knowledge of finance, and her ready understanding of good design. Jane is an associate in the Phil Helm Real Estate Agency, one of the larger of the South Bay agencies.

The following is a list of some of the manufacturers of items specified for the Triche residence: Pomona Tile Co., Fuller-Trimview Aluminum Windows, Moen Faucets, Eljer Plumbing Fixtures, Graning Lavatories, Sea-chrome Accessories, Range-Aire Intercom System, Waste King Appliances, Ameritone Paints, Schlage Hardware.

William Simpson of South Pasadena was the Structural Engineer.

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Kitchen