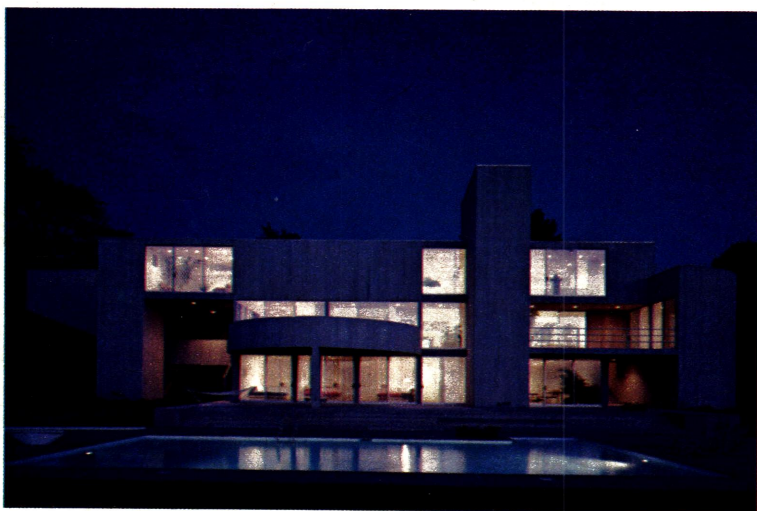


AN ABSOLUTELY SPECTACULAR MODERN HOUSE



The pool, equipped with a solar heating system, is a shimmering temptation in the cooler months, as well as the hottest days of summer.

Every inch of this house is designed for living and playing—from pool to rooftop tennis court

Take the ultimate: a hill on the edge of a wildlife preserve, a front yard that stretches out to meet the Long Island Sound. It's a setting to challenge any architect. Here, Myron Goldfinger has designed a house that's dazzling in its own right—but is also right at home in the landscape. His subtle use of geometric forms blends the house into the hillside (the back of it is actually partly earth-sheltered)—and cedar siding gives it a natural softness. In the front,



a pool links it visually to the sea. A dramatic two-story wall of windows opens the interior to the spectacular views, a more-than-adequate compensation for the rear, underground wall. Being close to nature was important for the owners, an active sports-minded family with three grown children. Architect Goldfinger worked around their needs and even incorporated a tennis court into the house's design—it's on the roof hidden from view in the front, but at ground level in the back. (Since the land slopes around the house, all three levels have ground entrances.) The childrens' rooms were placed on the lower pool level so that in their absence the house never seems empty. And on the second, main floor, two sculptural decks extend the living space.▶



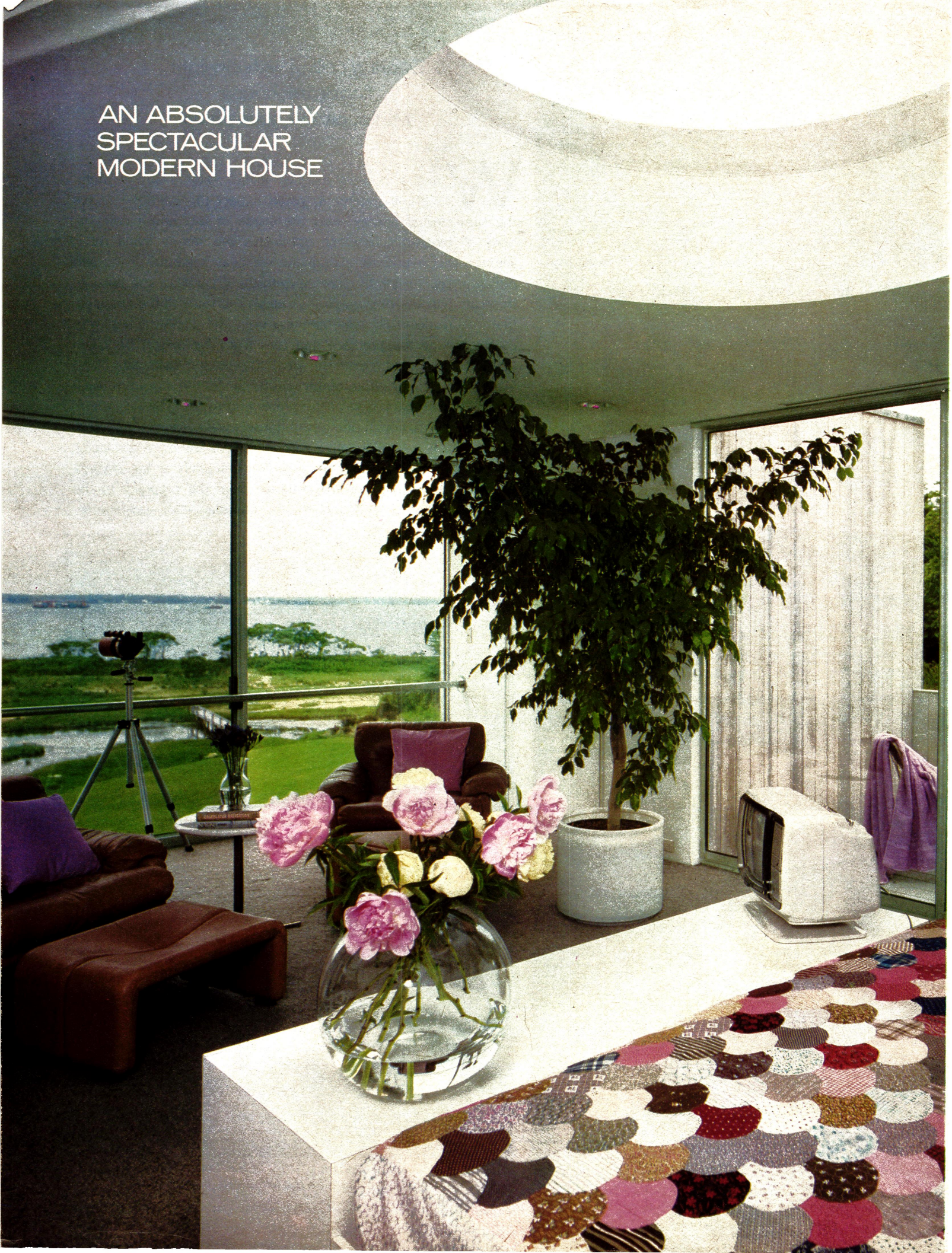
Sun-drenched balcony on second floor overlooks the pool, a marshland (see the house reflected in the marsh waters, above) and the Sound.

NORMAN MCGRATH

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MODERN HOUSE



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Soaring ceiling with skylight
floods the house
with sunshine, opens it up

When a house's exterior makes such a strong architectural statement, you'd expect the interior to have the same visual energy. And the inside of this house certainly does. A two-story fireplace dominates the serene living room setting—and overhead, a dramatic walkway separates living and dining areas. To link the interior with the great seascape outside, there are two sets of glass doors, one on each side of the fireplace, that lead to decks for entertaining. Above the doors the walkway passes behind the fireplace and runs from the master bedroom to a library and an exercise area; the section over the buffet leads out to a rooftop tennis court. Since the house is built into a hill, the back side of the tennis court is actually at ground level. But even though one of the house's walls is earth-sheltered, the interior is splendidly alive with light. Two stories of sea-facing windows contribute, of course, but it's actually a big skylight vault overhead (it spans the distance from the fireplace to the opposite wall) that accounts for the abundance of sunshine. ▶



Since the back of the house is built into a hill, the third-story tennis court, adjacent to the master bedroom, is actually at ground level.



Around the corner and down a story is the house's main entrance—and a three-car garage. Pool's on the left, down another story.