

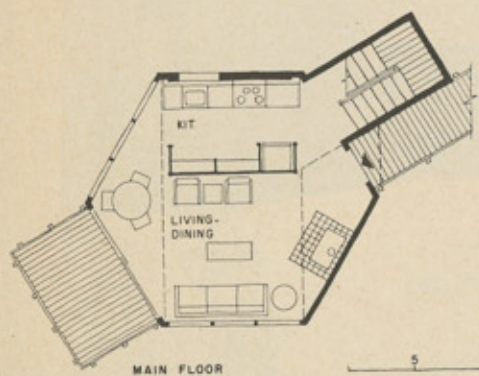
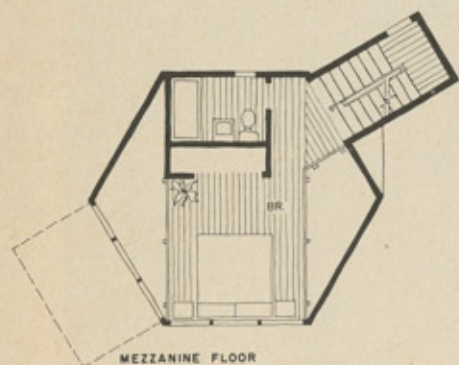
## Hexagonal tower for a steep site

This low-budget (\$15,000) vacation house at the Sea Ranch, a complex of vacation homes north of San Francisco overlooking the Mendocino coast line, was built as a prototype to show prospective buyers the sort of house that might be built on a steep, heavily wooded hillside lot with a distant view of the water. The house is a festive and simple one-room hexagonal tower with an attached stair tower. The stairs lead to a sleeping-shelf mezzanine with bath, and then on to a roof deck with a magnificent view. The main level, containing living room, kitchen and porch, is entered via a bridge, with the entrance sheltered by a canopy roof. The exterior is horizontally- and vertically-applied redwood treated with bleaching oil; with a built-up roof and duck board decking. Interior walls are fir and plywood, with ceilings of exposed fir beams and decking of plywood. The house is designed for any number of steep, wooded lots (two examples have been completed), and is expandable by adding hexagons.

Vacation House, The Sea Ranch, Sonoma County, California. Owner: *Oceanic Properties*; architect: *Marquis and Stoller—Pete Kampf*, associate; engineer: *Eric Elssesser*; contractor: *Matthew Sylvia*.



Karl H. Rieck photos



A sleeping deck overlooks the two-story living room in this vertically-organized octagonal house for a steep, wooded site.