

# American Institute of Architects Sunset Magazine Western Home Awards Box 2345, Menlo Park, Ca. 94025

## Committee

*Directors, NORTHWEST REGION, A.I.A.*  
A. P. DiBenedetto, A.I.A.  
Vladimir Ossipoff, F.A.I.A.

*Directors, CALIFORNIA REGION, A.I.A.*  
Whitson W. Cox, F.A.I.A.  
Rex Lotery, A.I.A.  
Robert Marquis, F.A.I.A.  
Joseph Thomas, F.A.I.A.

*Director, WESTERN MOUNTAIN REGION, A.I.A.*  
Robert A. Fielden, A.I.A.

*Editor, SUNSET MAGAZINE*  
Proctor Mellquist

**How to prepare your entry.** Please hand-letter or type. Do not use rubber cement in this entry binder. Insert this page in the first sleeve.

*Material to be submitted.* All material shall be 8½ by 11 inches or smaller, displayed in the window sleeve so it can be viewed without removal or unfolding. It is not mandatory that all sleeves be filled.

*Photographs.* Photographs shall be black and white. They must show the environment and setting, the exterior design, and the interior features in sufficient number and variety to present a comprehensive picture of the entry. In case of remodels, photographs of the house before alteration should be submitted if available; otherwise, the original house shall be shown in perspective or elevation drawings. Entries of innovative schemes also shall include photographic documentation. Sketches may be used for clarification.

*Plans.* Entry materials shall include a plot plan, showing ground use and planting, with compass orientation indicated; and a floor plan of the house. Swing of doors, lighting, and other minor details shall be omitted for greater clarity, but room sizes must be stated. Floor plans of remodeled houses before alteration shall be included.

*Descriptive material and identification.* The first transparent sleeve should contain this completed page. Do not include any names after this first page. One additional 8½ by 11-inch page of descriptive matter, typed single space, may be included. This should be a statement of the architect's problem plus any other information that will give the jury a better understanding of the project.

Evidence of solutions to specific problems in all categories of entry should be included in the last sleeves of the binder. The jury will be making Special Awards for details, so please include and explain anything you feel adds to the livability of a dwelling.

No entry fees will be returned, whether followed by a completed submission or not.

**Deadline for completed binder  
at Menlo Park: June 13, 1975**

**1. Name and address of architect:**

OBIE G. BOWMAN  
P. O. BOX 900  
THE SEA RANCH, CALIFORNIA 95497

**2. Name of owner:**

DR. AND MRS. GEORGE PICETTI  
174 GLORIETTA BLVD.  
ORINDA, CALIFORNIA 94563

**3. Name and address of builder:**

FLOYD GAITHER  
59 OXFORD DRIVE  
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA 94901

**4. Name and address of landscape architect (if pertinent):**

**5. Name and address of photographer:**

MERG ROSS  
5437 LAWTON AVENUE  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94618

**6. Category:**

Family home (custom or merchant-built); remodel; townhouse; vacation house (custom or merchant-built); innovations in residential land use and land division (includes planned residential communities); achievements in significantly reducing building costs; achievements in significantly reducing long-range energy consumption; young architect (35 or younger)

VACATION HOUSE (CUSTOM-BUILT)  
YOUNG ARCHITECT

**7. Location (complete address):**

LOT NO. 8, UNIT 28  
THE SEA RANCH, CALIFORNIA

**8. Month and year entry was completed:**

OCTOBER 1974

**9. Submitted by:**

OBIE G. BOWMAN  
P. O. BOX 900  
THE SEA RANCH, CALIFORNIA 95497

**SITE:** A grassy slope sprinkled with rock outcroppings and young pines that overlooks a partially developed meadow and the Pacific Ocean beyond. It is bound by an access street to the west and Highway 1 on the upper, inland side.

**PROGRAM:** A vacation house for a middle-aged couple to provide some ocean view and a special play area for their five children. The recently established state coastal commission restricted construction to the lower half of the lot with height and bulk of special concern and subject to commission review. Because the neighboring houses all have generous setbacks, it was important to reduce the front side bulk (in addition to the back side height and bulk) of a house set so near the front street.

**SOLUTION:** A set of moderate height rooms clustered about a great skylighted hall set perpendicularly to the roadways. The hall gives the house its order, provides contrasting height and view experiences, and is large enough to hold a play loft within it. Although two stories high, it is quite narrow and an unobtrusive element as seen from the highway above. On the inside, the window-seat/solarium captures the primary view for the entire length of the hall and also the living, kitchen, and dining areas. At the rear of the house the bedrooms relate closely to natural features of the site, with the children's rooms sporting a common diagonal wall containing five bunk spaces.

**SIZE and MATERIALS:** 1300 sq. ft. with another 120 sq. ft. in the loft. Exterior is redwood boards and shingles that blend with the surrounding natural hues. Interior is rough sawn beams with pine paneling and decking.