

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

Committee

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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

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:

OCEANIC CALIFORNIA, INC.
P.O. BOX 1
THE SEA RANCH, CALIFORNIA 95497

3. Name and address of builder:

MATTHEW D. SYLVIA
P.O. BOX 7
THE SEA RANCH, CALIFORNIA 95497

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 (MERCHANT-BUILT)
YOUNG ARCHITECT

7. Location (complete address):

UNIT 29A
THE SEA RANCH, CALIFORNIA

8. Month and year entry was completed:

OCTOBER 1972

9. Submitted by:

This development of fifteen "walk-in" vacation dwellings on a rugged forested hillside was guided by the primary concern for minimizing the visual and physical impact on the land. Coupled with this concern was the developer's desire to provide retreats that might increase one's experience of the natural environment, yet remain within the limits of good marketability.

Since the forest and its esthetic qualities would have been severely damaged by standard streets and subdivision, automobiles were restricted to a single parking area. Access occurs by means of a series of foot trails and a limited use/emergency road. Furthermore, the lots (2000 sq. ft.) were made just large enough to accommodate the dwellings, leaving nearly 90% of the land in perpetual natural reserve.

The architectural problem was how to provide a small (600 sq. ft.) low cost design that would lend itself to a variety of land slopes and view orientations, and sit comfortably when seen either alone or in groups. The solution is a square planned, two story dwelling that maximizes the volume enclosed relative to exterior wall area, and is very flexible for siting, thus requiring minimal tree removal. The simple, unpretentious forms are covered with natural redwood boards and shingles and recede congenially into their setting.

Entry is through a sliding barn door into a single large space. Against the rear wall is a one story enclosure that houses the kitchen, bath, stairs, and storage areas. The open bedroom gains privacy from its location above this enclosure, and a pair of bunk spaces open off the stairway. Since low light levels are common to the north coast forests, a pair of clear skylights are placed over the bedroom, allowing filtered light to fall into the bedroom and over and through the open balcony to the main space below. The skylights also complement the window views with glimpses of the soaring redwoods above. The ceilings have exposed rafters and the walls are rough sawn Douglas fir plywood throughout.