

A Carlsbad, New Mexico Home by Arthur A. Gorrell, A.I.A.

The Project: Design a large contemporary home with a Spanish architectural theme.

That was the assignment given Carlsbad architect Arthur A. Gorrell, AIA, whose completed project incorporates dramatic concepts that provide physical and aesthetic comfort to owner H. B. Aycock and his family.

The 2,200-sq. ft. home is situated on a sloping 90 x 130-ft. lot overlooking the Pecos River, at 1213 West Riverside Drive in Carlsbad.

Both because of topography and discreetly to "direct" traffic flow in the house, Gorrell planned the structure on four slightly varying levels. Guests enter at one level, step up to the living room, up again to the bedroom-family room level and down into the master bedroom.

Soft colors and openness abound throughout the home, built almost entirely of concrete products. Exterior and partition walls are of concrete masonry block, every wall is fully insulated with perlite to cushion noise and contribute to a feeling of muted luxury.



Use of glass was a challenge. To integrate the home's interior with landscaped exterior garden areas and patio, glass obviously was required. Yet its over-use would have blunted the Spanish architectural theme. Architect Gorrell resolved the issue by the tasteful use of large areas of grey-tinted solar glass at carefully selected points.

For color contrast, Gorrell conceived the use of a massive, hand-carved front door and matching overhead panel. He used colorful terrazzo tile in the family room and service areas and bordering the vertical face of the open mezzanine pathway overlooking the

living room. Decorative screen walls provide privacy and shadow relief for the exterior of the handsomely landscaped home.

Heating and air conditioning units are buried in the concrete floor, providing even temperature control and again lessening noise.

The three-bedroom, two-bath home was built for \$25,000. Cliff McCutcheon Construction Co. of Carlsbad was the contractor. Rose Gravel Co. supplied ready-mixed concrete, Carlsbad Block and Supply Co. the masonry block.

The hand-carved front door with matching overhead panel of the Aycock residence.



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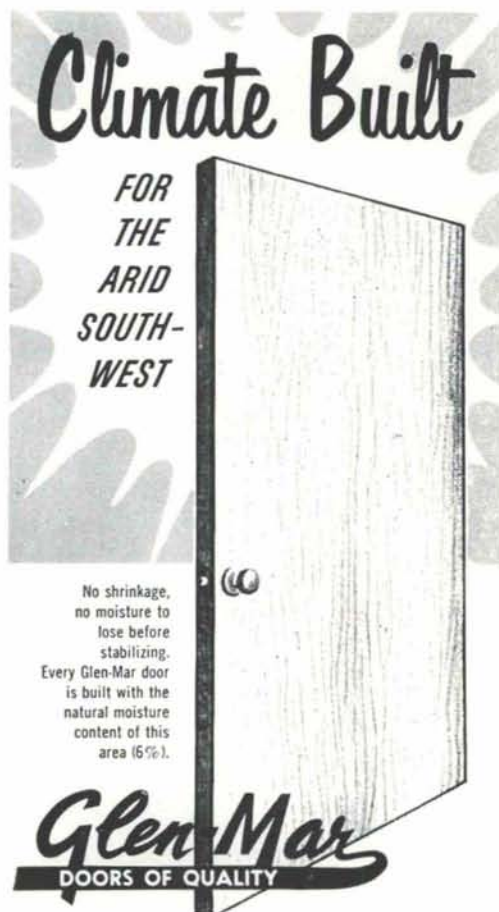
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