

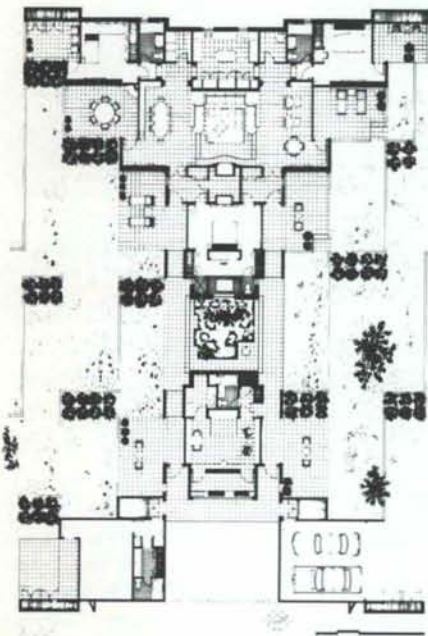
Honor Award

Robert W. Peters, A.I.A.
Architect

Single Family Residential

A Passive Solar Residence

Tesuque



A Passive Solar Residence

Tesuque, New Mexico

Clients:

Mr. & Mrs. Morton H. Meyerson

Architect:

Robert W. Peters Architect, A.I.A.
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Principal:

Robert W. Peters, A.I.A.

Job Captain:

Kent Blair, A.I.A.

Structural Engineer:

Richard H. Jolley, P.E.

Mechanical Engineer:

Don Felts & Associates

Electrical Engineer:

John R. Cejka, P.E.

Landscape Architect:

Entermann Designs Inc.

Interior Design:

Robert W. Peters, A.I.A.

Contractor:

David O. Wilson Construction Company

Photos:

Robert Reck, Photography
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Jury Comment:

A very special and elegant response to the traditions and environmental qualities of New Mexico. Clearly a contemporary house, its interior spaces are well proportioned, well lighted and finely crafted.

The "optimal site" contained 7.89 acres of open mesa north of Santa Fe, with solar access, sweeping views of the Sangre de Cristo mountain range to the east, and the distant Jemez range to the west, where the lights of Los Alamos glowed at night.

The program required a three bedroom house, a "second home", whose periods of use would vary with the seasons and increase in frequency as the clients grew older. Each bedroom was to have its own bath and to be separated into "suites" at opposite ends of the house, with a central great room, or "sala", to bring the occupants together for conversation, dining and recreation. An adjacent guesthouse was to provide accommodations for grandparents or visitors, with small kitchen and bath, and a greenhouse. A Studio apartment would house a caretaker or guest living full time on the property. A two-car garage, storage units, parking area screened from view, and outdoor living space on the east and west sides completed the space requirements.

Winter winds from the north were screened by the plan configuration which steps outward in a wedge-shape to maximize south trombe wall surfaces. South-facing clerestories focus winter sun on north mass walls of major rooms, with structural members casting shadow patterns changing as the sun moves in its orbit. The overhead electric radiant heating panel system warms quarry tile floors thus creating an "envelope" in which vertical and horizontal surfaces are either heat-producing or heat-receiving, while insulating shades on east and west glass, and "Heat Mirror" film between double glass in clerestories prevent nighttime loss. Energy analysis calculations indicate the solar contribution to be 70% or more. Placement of awning and casement windows for through-ventilation provide natural cooling at this 7000 foot altitude.

The client's request that it not be a "Santa Fe Style" house opened up possibilities for fresh interpretation of historic forms, materials and spatial sequence, punctuated by a few carefully chosen pieces of furniture and by the considerable art collection of 18th century Japanese temple lanterns and urns, and by the painting and sculpture of young New Mexico artists.

