

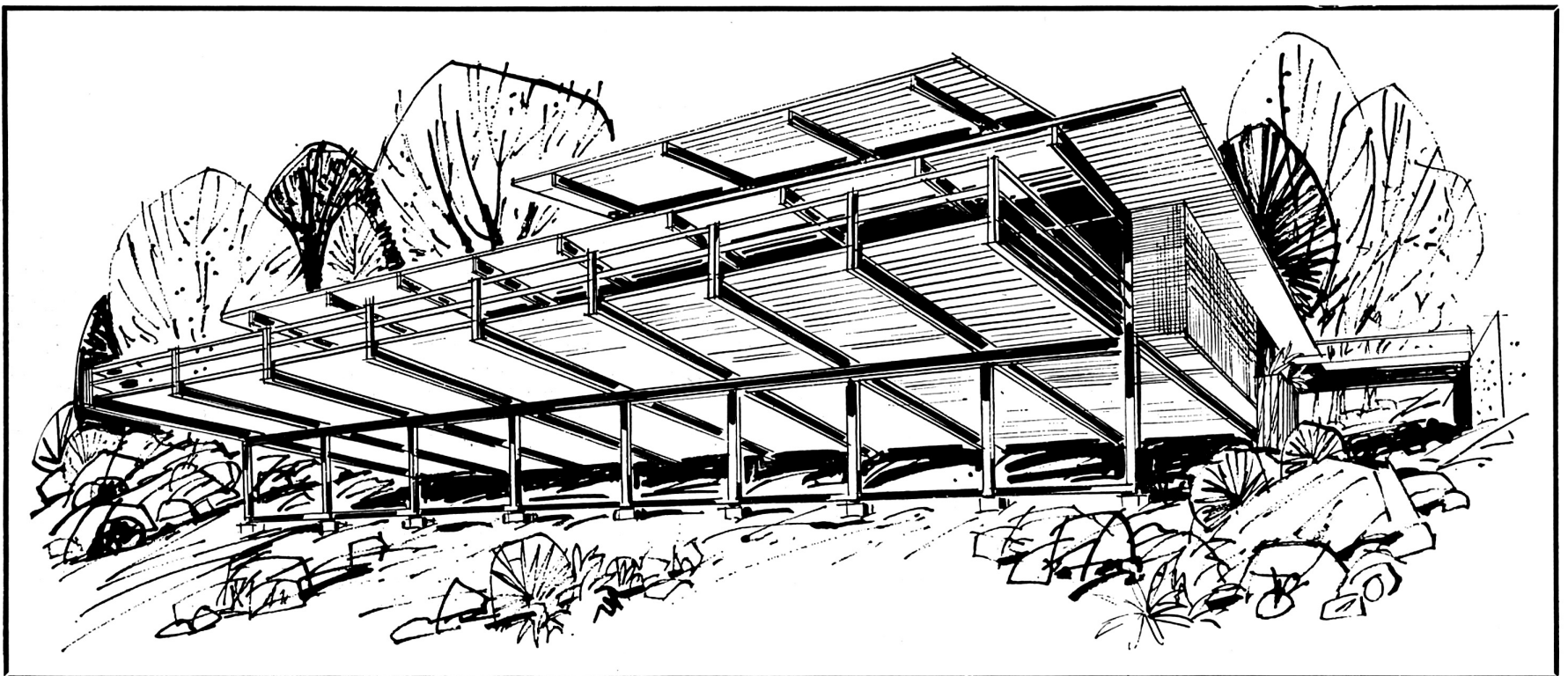
This project grew out of a discussion concerning the advantages and problems entailed in hillside steel frame construction. None of the acre-plus steep hillside sites under construction in San Rafael, California, had been built on at this time. Consequently, the idea of building a steel-framed house and a wood-framed house, side by side, could prove interesting and would provide information about the use of these dissimilar materials in hillside residential construction. The builders, Twentieth Century Homes, therefore, made arrangements with Bethlehem Steel Company to explore the project.

The following design program was established: a minimum of four bedrooms, two baths, family room, dining room, living room, utility room, and two-car garage or carport. Square footage was not to exceed 2,000. The architect never having designed a speculative house was concerned about the lack of client relationship. He met with two employees and their wives who had been in the process of searching for homes in the area for several months. Meeting with them as if they were clients, it was possible to inject warmth and personality into the sterility of a purely speculative program. The ideas of the two families explored were noted. They discussed the good and bad features of the speculative houses they had seen and their own living idiosyncrasies.

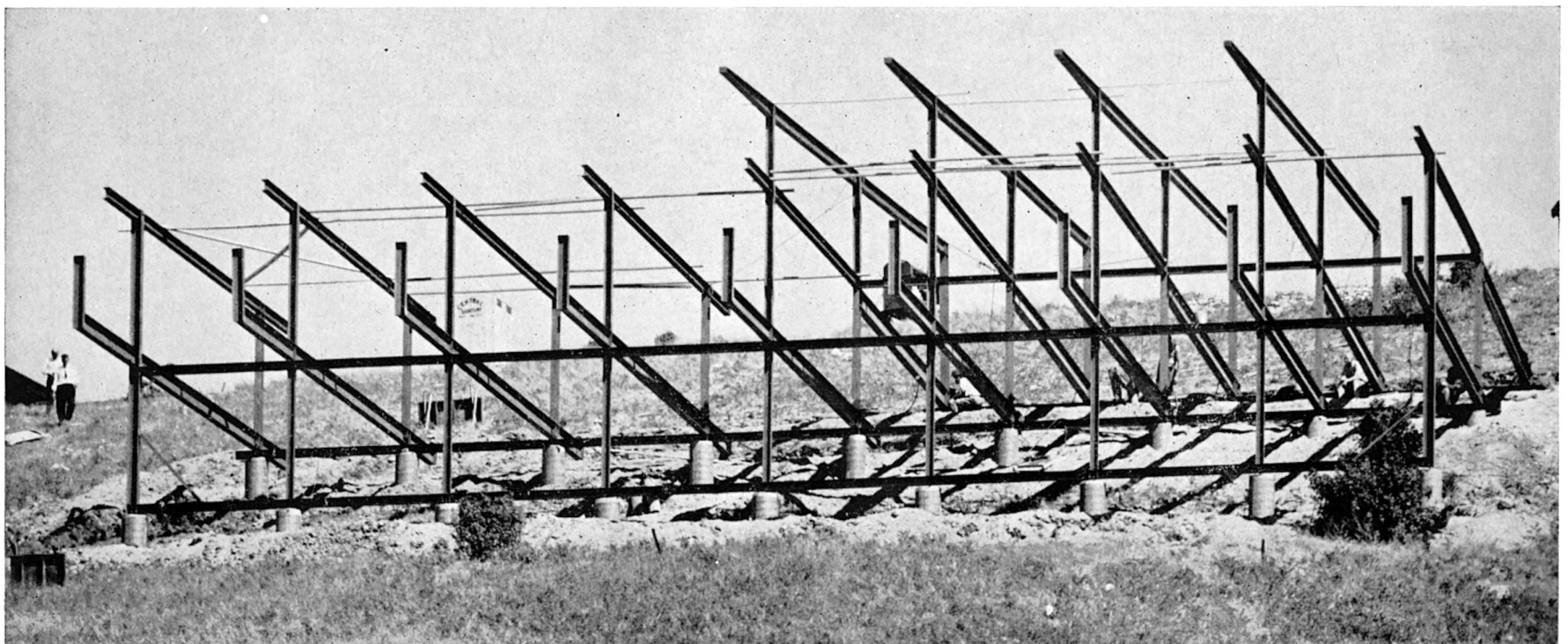
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FOR THE MAGAZINE, ARTS & ARCHITECTURE, IN ASSOCIATION WITH BETHLEHEM STEEL

BUILDER: 20TH CENTURY HOMES

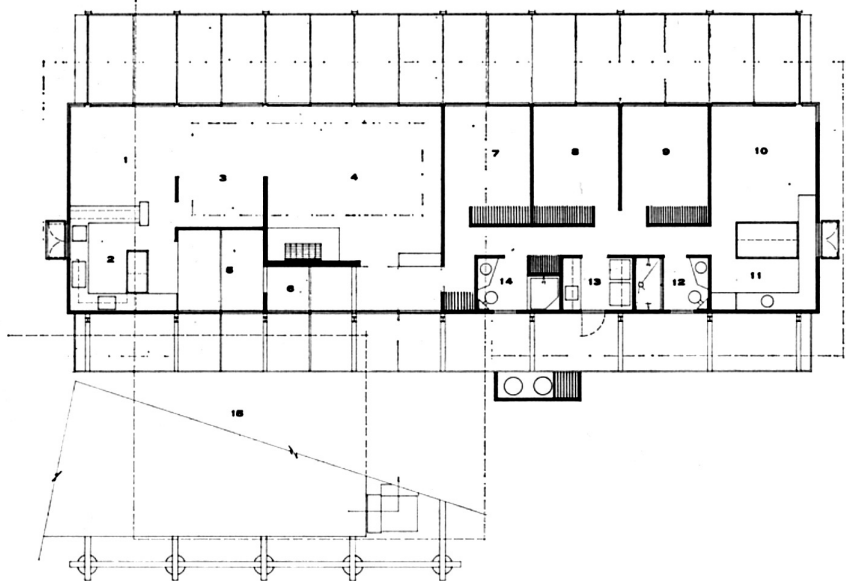


View looking uphill. The entrance to the carport can be seen at the upper right; 1400 additional square feet of living area could be incorporated below the house, making it a 3400 square-foot house at little added expense.

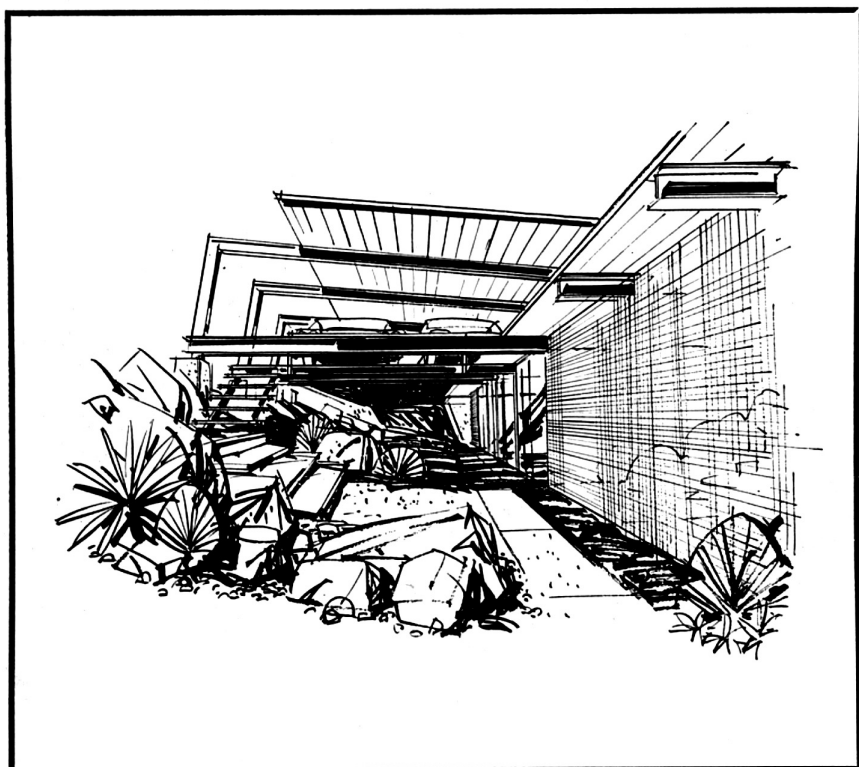


View of the steel frame from below

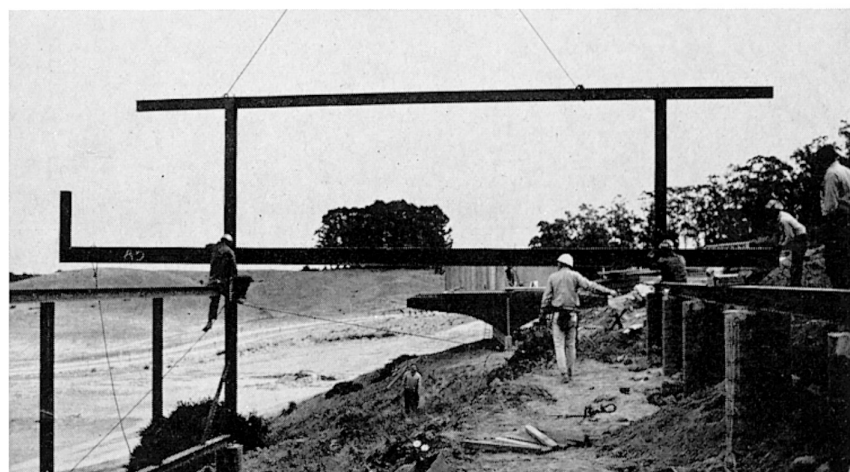
BY DAVID THORNE, ARCHITECT



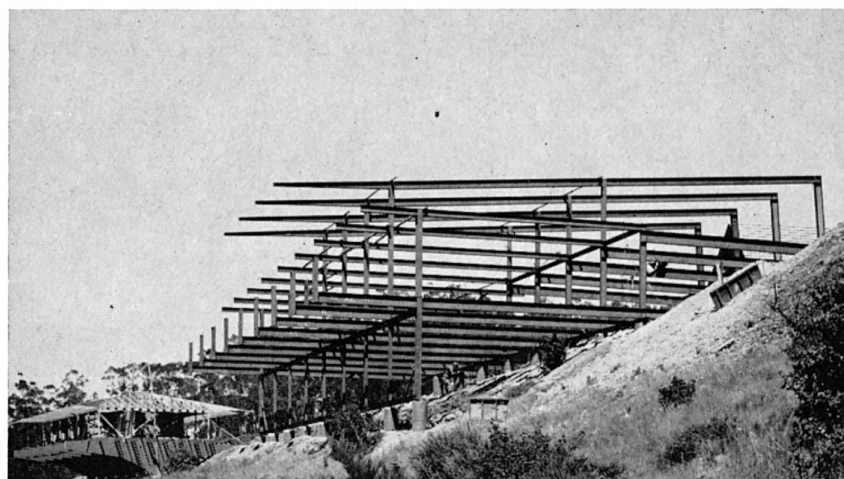
- LEGEND:**
- 1. FAMILY ROOM
 - 2. KITCHEN
 - 3. DINING ROOM
 - 4. LIVING ROOM
 - 5. BREAKFAST ROOM
 - 6. FOYER
 - 7. BEDROOM
 - 8. BEDROOM
 - 9. BEDROOM
 - 10. MASTER BEDROOM
 - 11. DRESSING ROOM
 - 12. BATHROOM
 - 13. UTILITY ROOM
 - 14. BATHROOM
 - 15. CARPORT



The sloping roof extends over the entire living area and creates a clerestory above the living room. Steel beams cantilever the deck 10 feet and provide 800 sq. ft. of outdoor living area.



Placement of the first bent to frame the living area and deck



The four sloping bents at the top will frame the carport and add height and openness to the living portion of the house below

