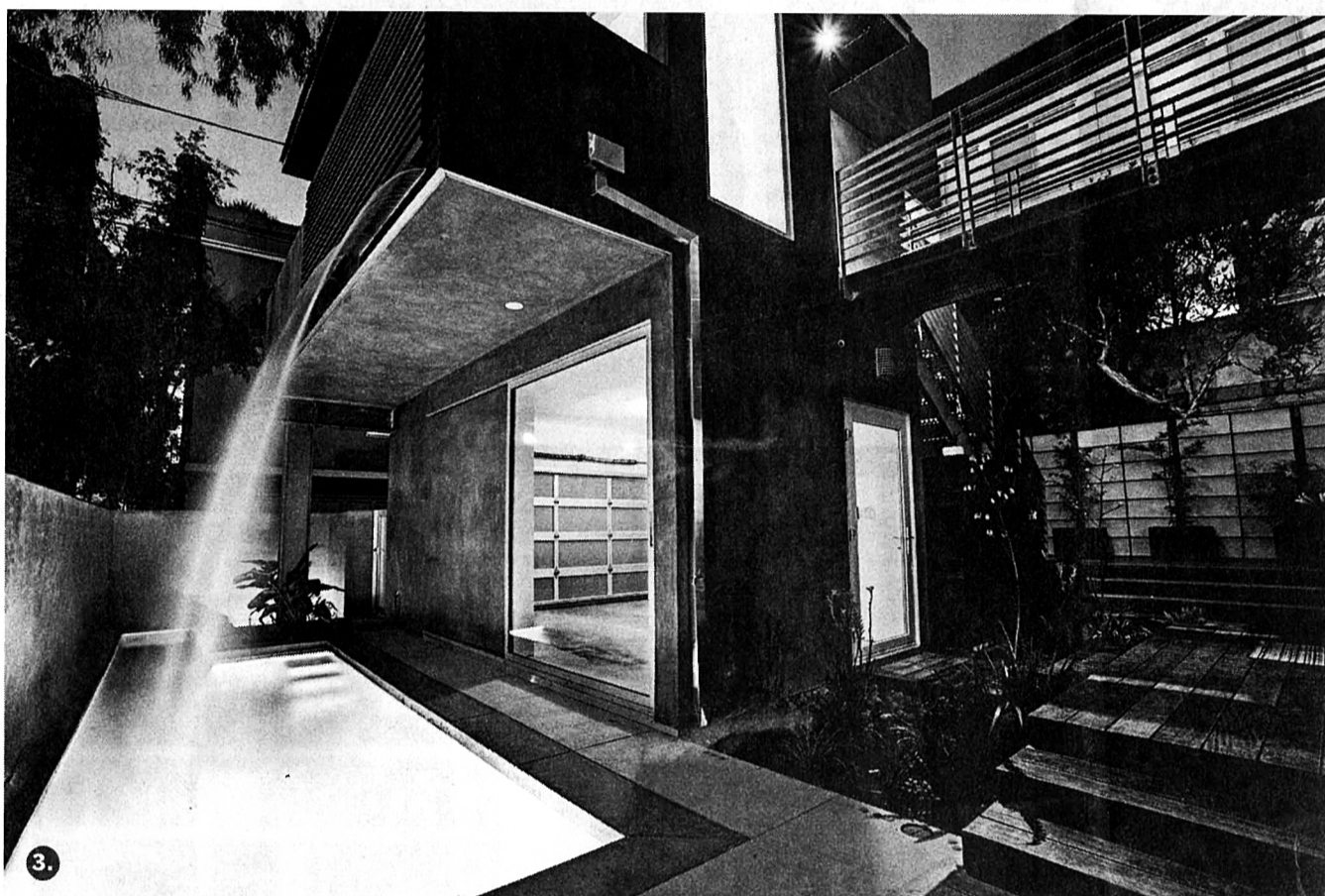


1. The house was built in 1923, but the second floor, with its mushroomlike mansard roof, was added in the '70s. The owners, David Feldman and Judy Iriye, decided to renovate rather than build a new house.

2. David Hertz, the architect, designed a network of ipe-wood slatted panels to create a striking facade facing the street. The panels slide shut over doors and windows, ensuring privacy and filtered light inside.

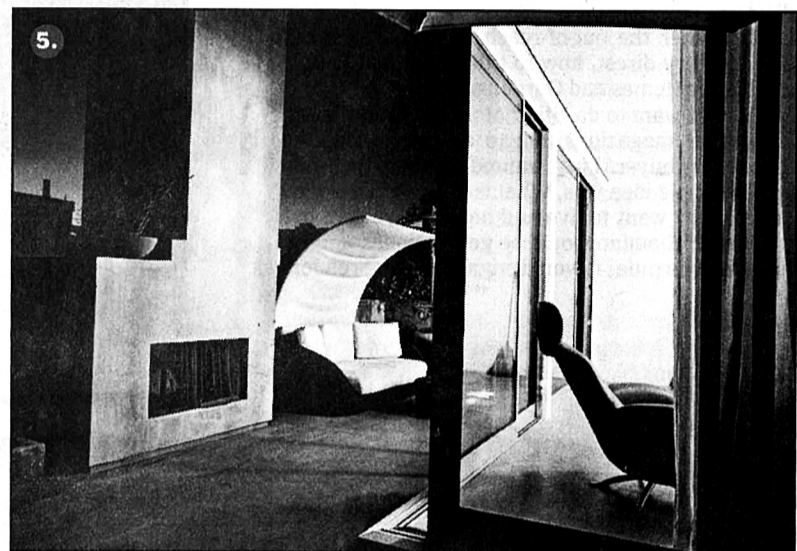
ON LOCATION

Striped With Light



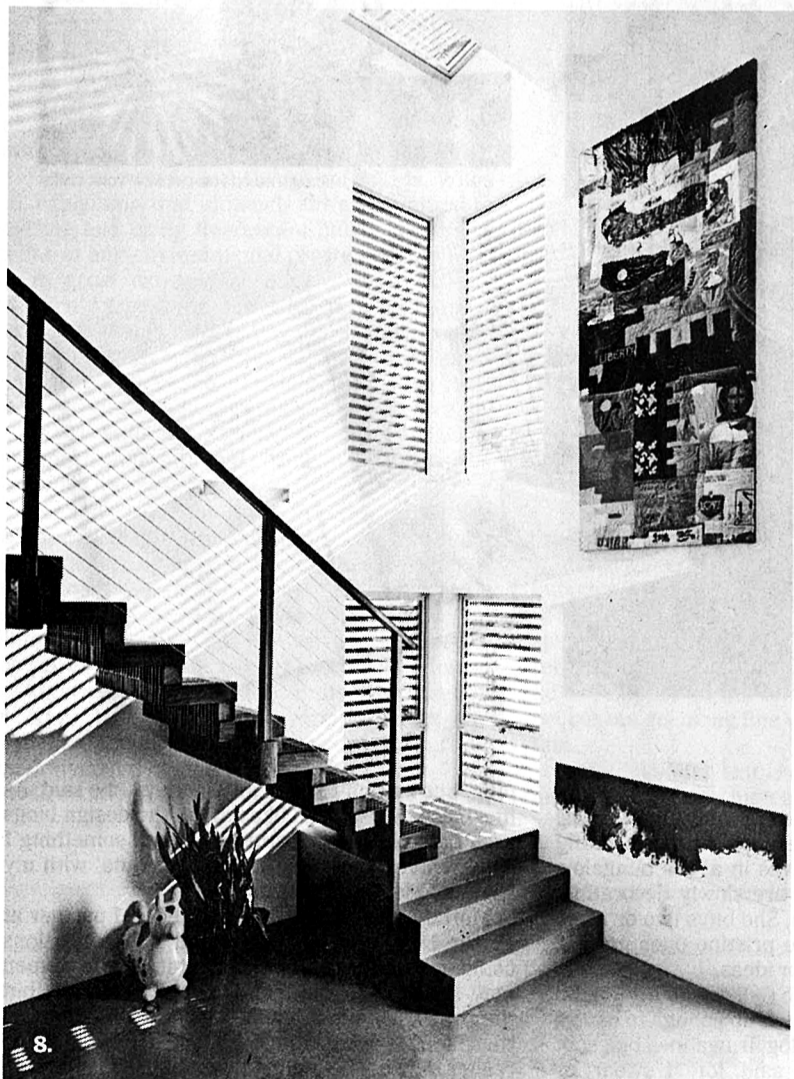
3. In the back, a guest room sheathed in stucco is connected to the main house by a catwalk, and a waterfall flows into the pool. Mr. Hertz's wife, Stacy Fong, designed the deck and the landscaping.

4. The Kartell dining chairs are by Philippe Starck for Driade. The chandelier is from Flos, the cabinetry is by Henrybuilt and the counters are made of Syndecrete, a light concrete created by Mr. Hertz.



5. Mr. Hertz added a third floor for Mr. Feldman's home office. Sliding glass doors at the corner open onto a roof deck, which has an outdoor fireplace made of steel-troweled stucco. The red chair, called Dodo, is by Toshiyuki Kita for Cassina. The outdoor loveseat with the broad, swooping awning is from the Roberti Rattan Greenfield Collection and is made of a woven polymer material.

6. In the living room, a corner door opens and slats slide back to let in the sea breeze. The Patagonian sheepskin beanbag is by Sundayland, the sofa is by Muzzi, and the coffee table is by Rodolfo Dordoni for Minotti.



7. A modular Kartell sofa in a rubberized fabric provides room to stretch out in the double-height rec space. The wood bench is by David Trubridge, the floor lamp is from Foscarini and the rug is from Gandia Blasco.

8. The staircase near the front entry has treads made of ipe wood. The large artwork, made of plastic bags, is by Dianna Cohen; the smaller piece below it is by the couple's 3-year-old daughter, Saya.

PHOTOGRAPHS, EXCEPT TOP LEFT, BY STEPHANIE DIANI FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

By ERNEST BECK

A California house loses a mansard roof and opens up to the sea and its breezes.

WHEN the architect David Hertz first saw the house that his clients, David Feldman and Judy Iriye, had asked him to make over, he was appalled. A squat box in Marina del Rey, Calif., built in 1923 but with a second floor and an unsightly wood-shingled mansard roof that were added in the '70s, the house "was a dog, an abomination," said Mr. Hertz, who dryly describes the renovation as "a community service project."

His clients, far from being offended, agreed. "I hated what it looked like," Mr. Feldman said.

Architect and clients also agreed that a tear-down wasn't an option. "It would have been more economical to start over," Mr. Hertz said, but the house had one rare quality — stunning beach views — that would have been lost had they rebuilt from scratch, because building regulations now require larger setbacks. Instead, Mr. Hertz reimagined the box from the inside. The interior was

stripped down to the studs, walls were removed, and a third level was added to the 2,800 square feet of the original house.

The most striking change, though, was the appearance of the house from the street. The mansard roof is gone, and the front is now shielded by a network of horizontal slats in dark brown ipe wood, which slide open to reveal windows behind. Mr. Hertz also devised a series of movable translucent glass panels echoing the slat pattern, instead of a traditional fence, to shelter the front yard from street noise and prying eyes.

The slatted front may look fortresslike, but it also adds "light and shadow and shading," Mr.

Hertz said. As the sun tracks through the house's all-white interior, the slats create patterns of filtered light on the walls, floors and ceiling. "It is a very Japanese feeling," Mr. Feldman said, noting that his wife is Japanese-American and his mother-in-law, Mitsuyo Iriye, who helps take care of the couple's 3-year-old daughter, Saya, lives there during the week. "She feels very much at home."

Mr. Feldman, the president of a lighting retailer, and his wife, a lawyer, bought the property for \$905,000 in 2003 and embarked on a renovation that would eventually take five years and "many hundreds of thousands of dollars," he said, to complete.

There were structural problems and termite damage, and at one point the entire house had to be lifted and a new foundation poured. They moved in when the house became habitable in 2005, and the renovations continued around them. "We didn't know the scope of what we were getting into," Mr. Feldman said.

Inside, a two-story open space is accented by a new ipe-wood stairwell. Skylights at the top open

thermostatically, so the atrium functions as a natural solar chimney — one of several environmentally friendly features.

With the kitchen and living spaces on the ground level and bedrooms on the second floor, the third floor is Mr. Feldman's private aerie, with an office and a roof deck. Outdoors, Mr. Hertz sought to utilize every inch of the lot, which measures just 3,150 square feet. He managed to fit in a lap pool and a separate structure cantilevered over the garage and connected to the main house by a catwalk. It's used as a guest room or a retreat for anyone seeking quiet and privacy.

Not surprisingly, the house stands out on a street of low-rise stucco houses and apartment buildings. Mr. Feldman has occasionally overheard disparaging comments from passers-by, he said, like "Why did they put a giant trellis out there?" But with the renovation finally complete, the family is enjoying the results. Opening the slats in the front, Mr. Feldman said, "we spend lazy Sunday mornings inside on the couch reading the paper in the sea breeze."