part 2  

proposal for case study house 4

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Other preliminary drawings were shown in the August issue.
• In the case of "Greenbelt" the architectural interiors are rather unimportant—for it is the greenbelt itself which is the interior. More—it is the essence of the type of living which will go into the house. This central area might take on a multitude of characters, depending on the season and the likes and dislikes of the occupants. In this case it is conceived with a large amount of planting and garden area. But it might as easily have been shown mostly grassed or paved, with emphasis on space for additional living or play—perhaps a croquet court, a billiard table or even a small swimming pool.

FLOORS: Radiant floor panel heating will be used throughout. The system will be hot water circulating through 3/4-inch O wrought iron pipe laid over an 8 inch gravel bed, over which will be poured a 4 inch concrete mat. An integral topping of light grey will be applied to the concrete floor. An alternate system of hot air, depending on cost, may be used. This system will employ 4 inch hollow clay tile through which the hot air will circulate and be supplied through clay tile ducts below. The glazed tile would be the finished floor.

WALLS: Exterior walls as described in the first edition, are various panel types placed in a grid-like frame, which will be painted a light grey. The panels may be fixed or moving and may be solid, opaque, or clear glass. In general the solid panels will be painted cement board or natural plywood panels. Although the color scheme for the most part will be obtained by painting certain panels intense colors. Pastel shades will be avoided in favor of strong values.

CEILINGS: Plaster ceilings throughout, painted a slightly off white except in the baths and kitchen, where the entire ceilings will be frosted glass panels with concealed fluorescent lighting—the entire ceiling thus becoming the light source. The glazed section over the greenbelt is to be cool-white wire glass or thermag semi-vacuum insulated glass.

KITCHEN-UTILITY: Here the emphasis has been not only on efficiency and functionalism but also on space articulation. Food preparation, food preparation and its consumption being the "heart" of living activities, the kitchen is located to give direct visual control over the entire space, yet being possible to be completely closed from the rest of the house. There is more than the normal amount of storage and counter-space with provisions for a deep freeze unit, automatic washer and dryer, ironer, etc., in addition to the visual kitchen equipment. Cabinets will be steel with counters of stainless steel with
glareless, scratch-proof finish. Fronts for upper cabinets will be sliding wood doors, for quiet operation and texture.

SLEEPING AREAS: Although minimum in size, the use of folding doors permits each sleeping area complete privacy or visual and physical enlargement of the entire enclosed space. Built-in storage units will be flexible and mobile as well as the beds.

For the most part furniture will be designed by the architect and kept only to essential units. All furniture and storage units will be kept light and mobile with as little as possible "built in." Fabrics will be strong in color and texture.