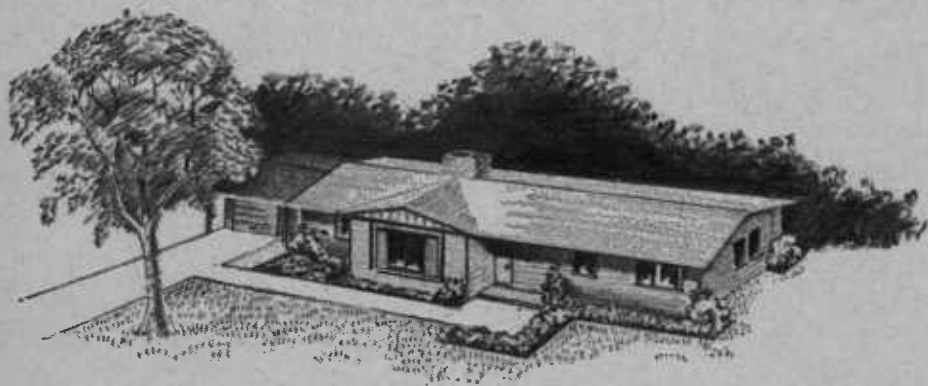


PLANTINGS

Around the Home



By DONALD J. MARTEL AND I. B. SOLBERG

Sketches by GEORGE NORMAN FREDEEN

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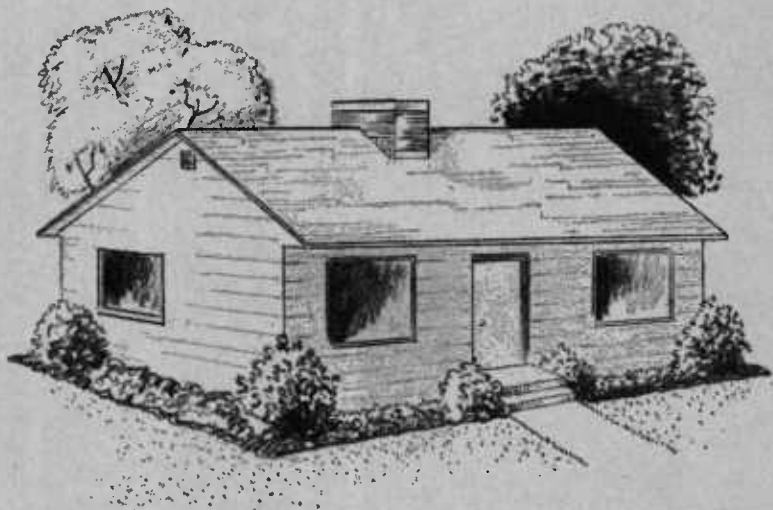


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When you choose plantings for your home, consider it by areas...

- The corners of the house
- The entrances
- The space between corners and entrances

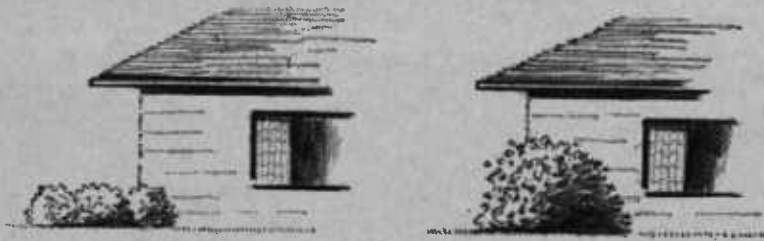


A symmetrical house invites the use of the same plants at each side of the entrance. Likewise, corner plantings of the same material are desirable.

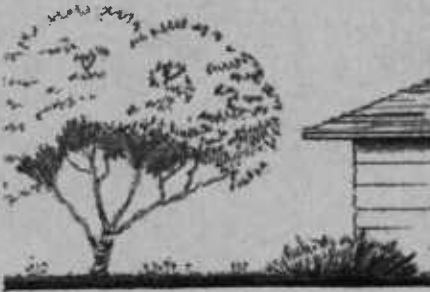


A nonsymmetrical house calls for plants of unequal size, form, and structure.

At the corners . . .

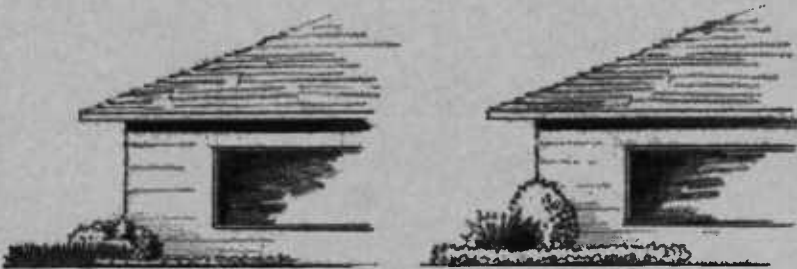


Plant corner shrubs that extend upward $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the distance from ground to the eaves or second story of the house. Usually they should be no less than 3 feet high nor more than 6 feet. Lower plants may appear inadequate; taller ones may seem too massive for a small house.

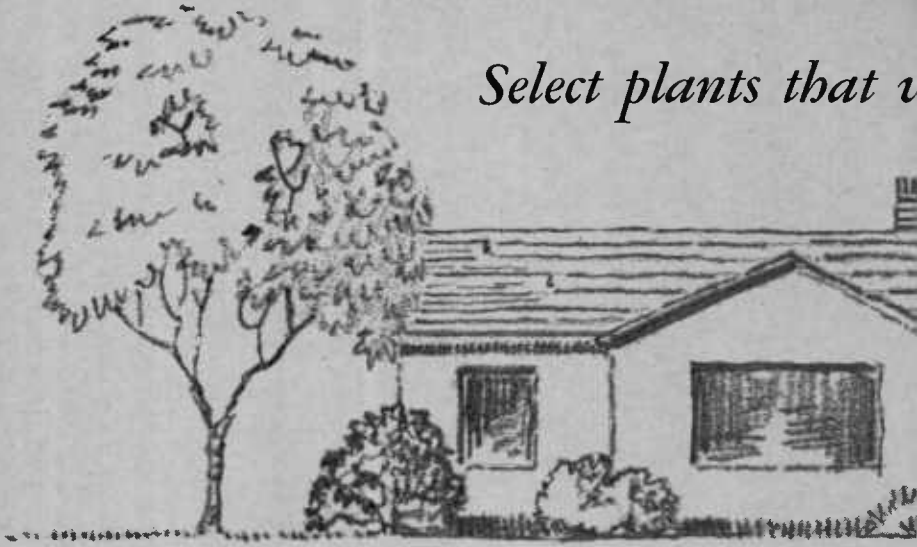


A "bushy" tree 12 to 20 feet tall can serve at the corner by itself. Low shrubs may supplement it. A ground cover flowing from tree to shrub can provide an interesting pattern.

Complex compositions of plants should be limited to 3 or 6 feet in height. Choose plants in a 36-18-12-inch height ratio. Or for a massive house set back at least 30 feet from the sidewalk or road and requiring a planting of considerable width, use a 6-4-2-foot ratio. In these ratios plants will be sufficiently different in size to be significant in the composition, and will be in scale with one another. In a two-plant composition, let the lower one be about $\frac{1}{2}$ the height of the taller.

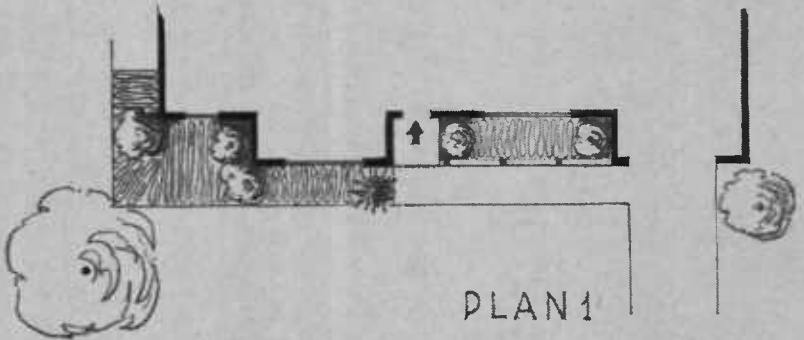


Select plants that v

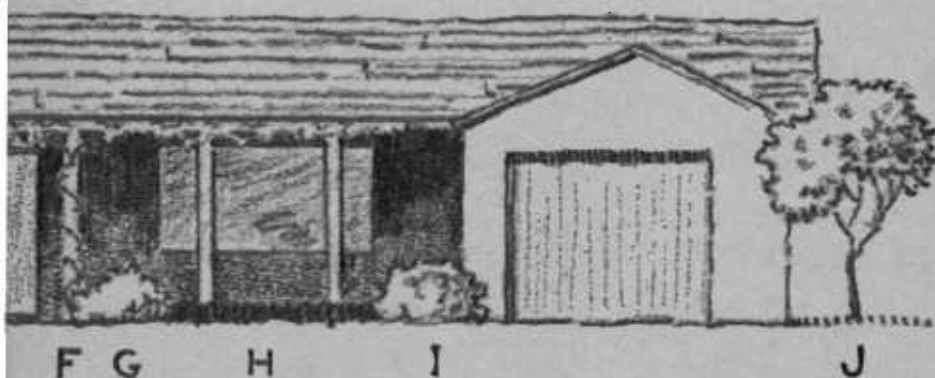


- A. Lavalle Hawthorn (*Crataegus lavallei*)
A small tree with white flowers and orange-red fruit.
- B. Burkwood Viburnum (*Viburnum burkwoodi*)
A large shrub with fragrant pinkish-white flowers.
- C. Bugle (*Ajuga reptans* and varieties)
A vigorous ground cover with spikes of blue flowers to 6 inches.
- D. Bush Cinquefoil (*Potentilla fruticosa* and varieties)
A hardy shrub with yellow flowers.
- E. Tamarix Savin Juniper (*Juniperus sabina* var. Tamarix)
A reliable spreading Juniper.

Plantings to achieve appearance of above sketch may be close to building as shown below, or they may be set away from house 6 or 7 feet as shown in Plan 2 on opposite page.



grow to right proportions . . .



F. Jackman Clematis (*Clematis jackmani*)

A vine with large violet-blue flowers.

G. Slender Deutzia (*Deutzia gracilis*)

A round, deciduous shrub with white flowers.

H. Rose Dahpne (*Dahpne cneorum*)

A broadleaf evergreen with pink flowers.

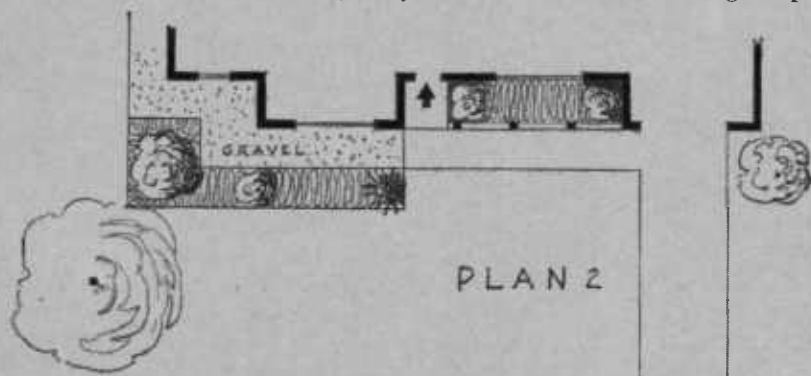
I. Mugho Pine (*Pinus mugo mughus*)

A round, compact pine.

J. Lilac (*Syringa*)

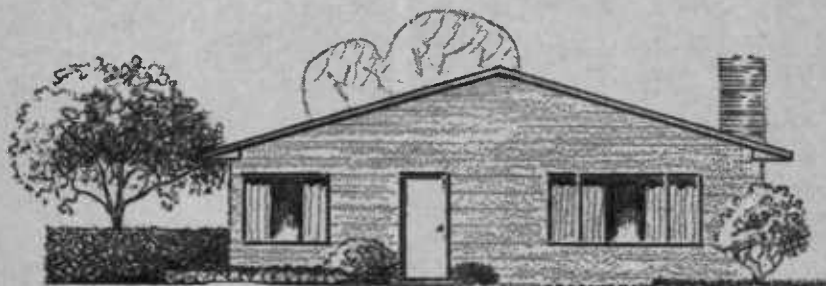
Available in numerous species and hybrid forms with single or double flowers and many color variations.

A strip of gravel intervening between house and plantings facilitates painting and window washing. Ground cover plants, which will tolerate occasional trampling, may be used in the intervening strip.



At the entrance . . .

Ornamental plantings can help preserve the symmetry of a symmetrical house, thereby creating a sense of composure.



In a nonsymmetrical house plantings can do much to achieve a pleasing balance in the composition of house and landscape. The entrance may be unbalanced with a large plant on the short sides of the house. The corner plantings may also be more massive to aid in restoring balance. If the entrance is near the corner, the entrance plantings and the corner plants can merge. Normally, plants at the entrance should not exceed 3 feet or $\frac{1}{3}$ of the distance from ground to eaves or to the second floor of the house; but corner plantings may extend to 6 feet or $\frac{2}{3}$ the distance to the eaves.

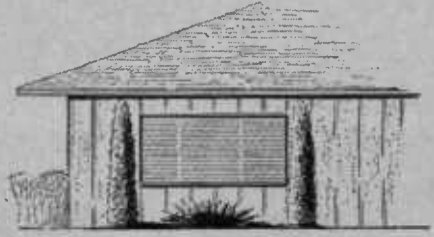


Between corners and entrance . . .

Use low plants or ground cover or you may need no plantings at all. You may allow the lawn to flow into this area. If the house is long and low, grass might look better—a continuous planting would tend to dwarf the house. A house with a foundation of 2 feet or more would not be so affected. Don't over plant!

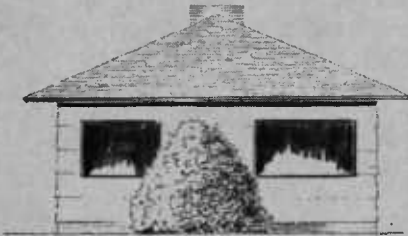
Avoid . . .

- ▶ “Framing” a window—it’s already important as a part of the architecture.
- ▶ Slender or cone-shaped conifers that grow too tall.



- ▶ Covering a fireplace chimney with a heavy vine or tall shrub—the chimney provides contrast.

- ◀ Treating the projection of an “L” shaped house as a separate unit.

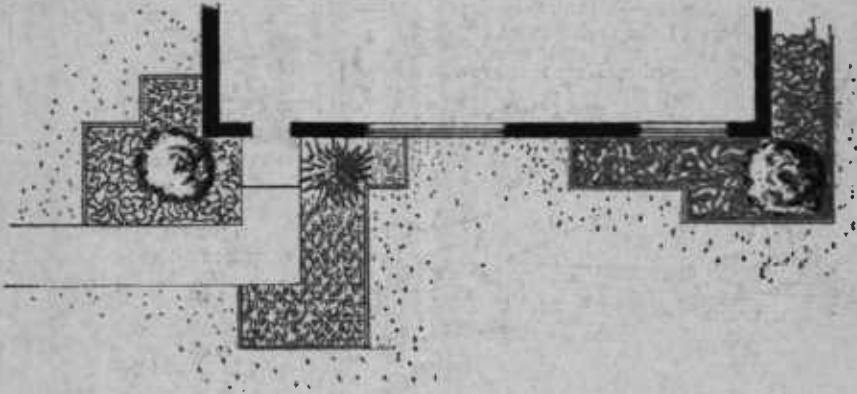


- ◀ Planting shrubs against every bit of blank wall between windows.

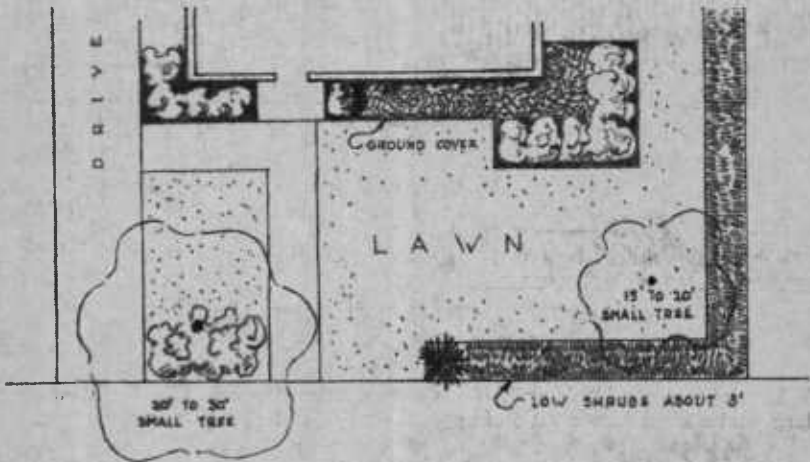
- ▼ Leaving a long, blank wall, if it’s a monotonous expanse. Divide it into a large and a small area in ratio of approximately 2 to 1.



Plan in three dimensions . . .



Low plants at the end of a walk that approaches the entrance from the driveway can be very effective. Front cover shows a variation.



Plants extended to road or sidewalk give depth. They capture a bit of space, define its form, and relate it to the home.

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