

Lumber Takes on New Look As Science Takes Charge

Imagine buying lumber in bright colored wrappers like oversize packages of chewing gum.

That isn't as strange as it might seem. Packaged lumber being marketed today ranges all the way from house siding to 200-foot-long glue laminated beams. Bright-colored wrappings on glu-lam beams requiring three freight cars to haul can be seen any day on the railroads.

More and more lumber manufacturers are wrapping finish lumber in heavy paper to protect the smooth surfaces from grime and scratches until it is actually put in place.

The packaging trend goes hand in hand with the push into prefabricating, pre-cutting and pre-finishing, and new patterns being designed for homes, churches, schools and commercial structures of today.

Pre-priming of lumber, particularly cedar siding, has been gaining rapidly. In the West Coast region alone, some 25 plants have installed prefinishing equipment.

The primer coat of paint is baked on in infra-red ovens at some mills, and the siding is sealed against moisture on the back side and edges as well as the facing. In the completed dwelling, only the final coat of paint is needed, and this can await the most favorable weather.

Pre-primed siding, doors and other items are slip-sheeted and wrapped in protective kraft paper, ready for delivery to lumber dealer or builder. This is one of the services lumber producers take on to continue competitive.

In this fiercely competitive building field, pressure is great for cutting costs all along the line.

The trend is toward delivery of finished components to the building site. The purpose is toward more rapid erection and more precise shapes, sizes and quality of all the elements in construction.

The lumber industry is keeping pace with this trend, providing the framing lumber, siding, paneling, doors window sash and trip to make homes livable, warm and sturdy, as well as freshly modern.

Most widely adopted component is the shop-made truss. This component is saving untold hours of construction time, while giving designers greater freedom on interior layouts. In some areas, more than 75 percent of new homes contain prefabricated trusses.

Another service that is growing is precision trimming of studs, a major West Coast product, the lengths other than the standard eight feet. Some suppliers also predrill studs to facilitate running of electrical lines.

Growing Forest Serene, Restful

A sound so tiny only a Lilliput could hear it is that of a Douglas fir tree releasing its seeds to help in the creation of mighty new forests of the future.

These seeds are so tiny it takes 40,000 to make a pound, yet they produce one of the world's largest living things, a Douglas fir tree that may be fifteen feet in diameter and as high as 225 feet. Some west coast trees like western red cedar have 225,000 seeds to the pound, and the west coast hemlock seeds take 400,000 to a pound.

The world's most prolific softwood forest grows on the 30,000,000-acre covered acres in western Oregon and Washington. Here a single acre will produce 700 board feet of wood a year.

In the Pacific Northwest King Tree will be the Douglas fir, most widely used tree in the nation, which provides nine billion feet of lumber and some 9 billion square feet of plywood a year.

A growing forest is a silent place, except for the song and noise of birds and animals. Only Lilliputians could hear the tiny seedlings push up through the soil, the hair roots creep through the rich earth, the trees reaching for the sun, the furrows opening in the bark as the tree expands in girth as layer after layer of new wood is added each year.

The forests are a mystery to most Americans, yet they are a serene and restful place where millions of people go yearly to commune with Nature and refresh their inner selves.

From Tee to Tea

New Homes Feature Country-Club Living



The gently rolling Brookhaven Hills just north of Dallas, Texas, are the site of Carriage Square Homes, a new group of quality homes. The \$24,000 Monticello, above—one of 15 models—has four bedrooms, two baths, and a 20x15-foot den.

Quality—and in abundance—is the keynote of Carriage Square Homes on the fashionable north side of Dallas, Texas.

Some people talk about "country club living" in a slightly figurative sense, but not so Warren Clark and Associates. Their Carriage Square Homes—500 of them—are being built around and between the fairways of the Brookhaven Country Club's three 18-hole golf courses.

"We stress quality in all our homes," said Joe C. Sowell, a partner of Warren Clark and Associates, "and that includes every phase of construction. Take the roof, for example. All Carriage Square Homes are roofed with heavyweight asphalt shingles, because we feel that's the best roof we can put on a house. The shingles offer texture and a wide variety of colors, and provide real protection against our Texas weather—and that means scorching hot summers and cold winters, as well as hail and high winds."

Sowell added that, in keeping with a recent Dallas trend, he is offering mostly darker blends in roof colors. These include black, brown, gray, red and green. White is also available.

Another quality feature included in the basic price of the homes is central air conditioning. To add to both summer and winter comfort and to keep heating and air-conditioning costs low, Carriage Square Homes are insulated to recommended standards with mineral wool.

Up-to-date insulating standards call for mineral wool with an installed resistance to heat loss of R-19 or 24 in ceilings, R-11 in walls and R-13 in floors above unheated spaces.

The homes, available in more than 15 designs, are priced in the \$25,000 class. They have either three or four bedrooms, two or more baths, and all have a family room or den. Several models also include a hobby room.

Exterior facing materials vary from home to home, but brick and stone are used extensively. On some models the brick is painted white, while on others various shades of red are used.

Brookhaven Hills, where the homes are being built, is located near the new Stemmons Expressway which puts it within easy commuting distance of downtown Dallas. Schools, shopping centers and churches are nearby.

For Warmth Today

'Bundling' Gives Way To Current Method

Descendents of the ingenious New Englanders who invented "bundling" as a way to keep warm are just as smart as their ancestors when it comes to comfort. Nowadays they're turning to electric heat for winter warmth.

Not only home owners, but growing numbers of apartment dwellers now enjoy the clean, consistent comfort of electric heating. Take Maurette Manor Apartments in the old New England town of Newton, Conn., for instance.

A Colonial-styled development consisting of 68 garden apartment units, it is completely heated by electricity. It's also equipped with modern electric appliances.

According to Maurette Manor's builder, Frank T. Ferrigno, "I wanted to give my tenants the most modern and comfortable apartments available; that's why I made them all-electric, but I also wanted to make them as economical as possible to maintain."

That's why I installed mineral wool insulation and wood windows and doors. It has paid off, too. After a year, I found that heating costs averaged about 25 per cent less than expected."

Ferrigno explained that wood windows are preferred for electrically heated houses because wood is a naturally warm material that is slow to let heat or cold pass through it. He added that wood windows are weather-tight because they lend themselves particularly well to built-in weather stripping.

"However," he added, "even if I hadn't installed electric heat, I would have used wood windows because they're traditional with Colonial architecture."

The double-hung windows of ponderosa pine used at Maurette Manor have removable sash that can be lifted out and replaced easily to permit washing both sides from inside the house.

Weather - Resistant Panels Top Value for Farm Work

For winter farm building repairs, the farmer likes to use easily-handled materials. He also wants full value for his money.

For these reasons, many farmers are residing and lining their interiors with factory-primed Masonite Weatherall, according to the Farm Service Bureau. The splinter-free panels may be worked with common tools, and they won't split, splinter or crack.

They needn't be painted for a year after installation, the bureau adds.

Long lengths, 12' to 16', make the use of Weatherall especially desirable because of the labor-saving factor. The panels are 4

feet wide and of quarter-inch thickness.

Available in lumber and building supply yards, this product is available throughout rural America.

No Paint

If you don't fancy painting, then you might consider letting your home siding weather gradually to a soft, attractive grey color. Weathered red cedar siding is especially recommended for this non-paint and non-stain treatment. Just leave the wood raw.

Hide-a-Way Screen

If you have a back door exposed to the street which affords little privacy, why not install a decorative screen or fence. A section will often do the job. It can be built of western red-cedar for long life. Use any pattern or simple one by one inch slats to break up the line of vision.

Conceal Storage

You can conceal storage units in the walls of your home if you use full walls of wood panels and have the doors to the storage units break on the board joints. West coast hemlock is becoming increasingly popular as a wall panel.

Rusty Gutters?

If you keep having trouble with rusting gutters, try long lasting wood gutters. You can buy wood gutters in Douglas fir, west coast hemlock or western red-cedar, and they never rust out.

Save the Tree

If you have trees in your backyard and want to build a wood deck in the same area, save the trees. If you design the deck in wood, like Douglas fir, you can fit around the tree and leave breathing space around the trunk so it can grow.

Home Guarantees

Some builders are going FHA-one-year house guarantee one better and are offering 5-and 10-year guarantees against structural failures. Actually, a home designed properly in good west coast lumber will never fail.

Saves Nails

When using wood sheathing in a house, you may nail siding directly into the sheathing. Non-wood sheathing requires more trouble and nails must be driven into the studs in order to hold.

ROOF LIFTS HOUSE

Replacing a weather-worn roof? A new roof of durable asphalt shingles in one of the new shades now available will give a lift to the appearance of the entire house; in addition to providing years of protection in all weather.

The colors, and patterns in the line of Marlite paneling are styled by American Color Trends, well-known authority in color preferences.

MOST WANTED APPLIANCE

Southington, Conn. — A new electric range valued at \$200 was taken from a new home construction on Mt. Vernon Rd., according to Southington police. Detective Lt. Henry Nonemacher and Detective Sgt. Frank Triano who investigated found no clues.

New Church Ready For Mountain Winds



Textured siding and shingled roof lend a traditional touch to the contemporary architecture of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Ogden, Utah. Wasatch Mountains form craggy background.

A modern version of an ancient wind harp, Trinity Presbyterian Church stands on a mountainside above Ogden, Utah, waiting for wintry gusts to play through its openwork spire and canopied narthex. And play they do.

Situated on a craggy slope of the Wasatch Mountain Range, the new church, which seats about 350 persons, must withstand the severe winters and fierce winds that buffet it from late September until well into the spring.

After wind damaged the original roof last year, Trinity's building committee had the church re-roofed with heavyweight wind-resistant asphalt shingles. This type of shingle, which is coated at the factory with an adhesive that bonds with the other shingles when the sun warms it, has successfully withstood winds of hurricane force.

The coral shingles blend with soft red siding and the deeper red of the spire to give the church a sense of warmth and timelessness often lacking in contemporary architecture.

Insulating a house to recommended standards is one of the soundest investments a family can make. A protective blanket of mineral wool installed in the ceilings, walls and floors of a house usually brings a sharp drop in heating costs.

Long Wear

Many architects call for rough sawn western red cedar or Douglas fir siding, which is stained to save maintenance expense. Such exterior stained walls keep their appearance for many years.

NO MUSS, NO FUSS

One advantage of re-roofing with asphalt shingles is that in most cases they can be applied directly over the old material. This eliminates the expense and mess of ripping off the old roof.

Electric Heat Gives House More Space

With construction and lot costs on the rise, many families are looking for ways to gain added living space without actually increasing the size of the house. One way to gain extra usable space in a house is to use electric heat. Many home owners feel this is an important bonus feature of the most modern heating system available.

An electric heating system based on ceiling coils, wall panels or baseboard units eliminates the need for a bulky, space-stealing fuel tank or chimney. This space is freed for other uses, such as more spacious playrooms, workshops, or more storage area for household goods.

To make sure heating costs are kept as low as possible, most families who install electric heat rely on insulation in excess of FHA minimum requirements. Mineral wool, the widely used home insulating material, can be installed easily in new homes during construction. It can also be applied to existing homes by the use of special equipment that blows it into the spaces between wall studs and floor joists.

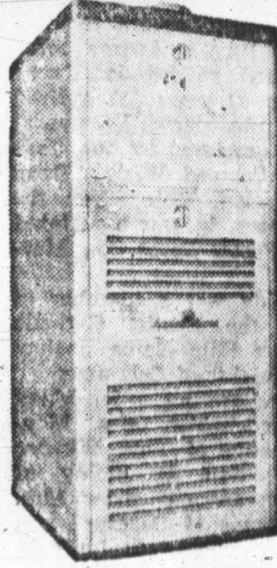
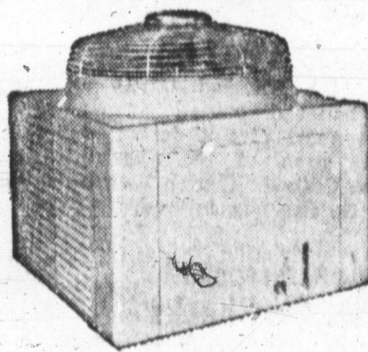
The National Mineral Wool Insulation Association advises families with electric heat to insulate their homes with mineral wool to provide an installed resistance to heat loss of R-19 or R-24 in ceilings, R-11 in walls and R-13 in floors above unheated spaces.

Comfort Now Added To Today's Schools

Recent school designs stress the importance of comfort in helping students to do their best. An example of this is the increasing use of a modern electric heating system coupled with mineral wool insulation in walls, ceilings and in floors above unheated spaces.

The mineral wool not only adds to winter comfort and heating economy, but also helps keep classrooms cool and students sharp during late-spring and early fall hot spells.

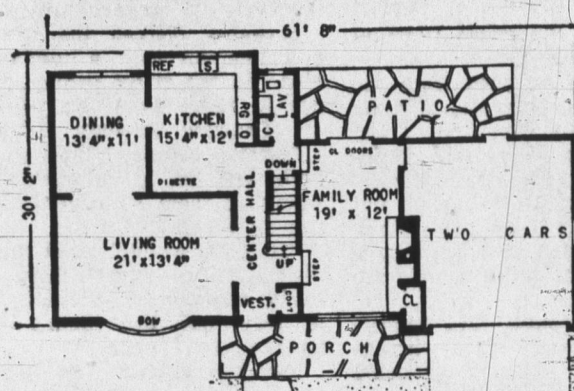
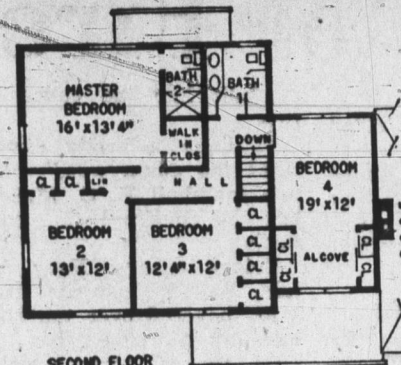
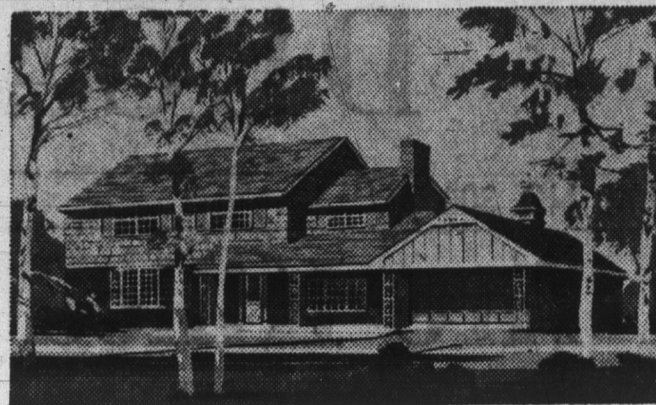
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DESIGN No. C-2049. The practical aspects of a two-story plan are shown in this lovely house. The first floor, 1030 square feet, is turned over to family activity rooms. The family room has a fireplace, utility closet, an entry from the garage, and sliding glass doors to the patio. A downstairs lavatory is convenient to family room and kitchen as well. The L-shape of work counters in the kitchen is practical. The living and dining rooms combine space and livability. There are two windows in the dining room and the living room has a wide bow at the front. Upstairs, 1,045 square feet, four bedrooms share two bathrooms—one private for the master quarters. The master bedroom has a walk-in closet. Three of the bedrooms have two exposures. For further information on Design C-2049 write Illustrated Publications, Room 704, 48 West 48th Street, New York 36, N. Y.

New Materials Permit Builder To Drop Price

It's not always necessary to pay top dollar to assure quality. Builder John Parker, president of Macc Realty Co., tested and proved this theory in his 1,300-home Glen Park development in Huntington Beach, Calif.

By careful selection of materials, Parker was able to reduce the selling price of these homes substantially—in one model by \$1,000—without sacrificing real value.

Parker told how he did this in a recent article in Building Design, the official magazine of the American Institute of Building Design.

The largest single saving resulted from a switch to asphalt shingle roofing, he said. On the two-story, \$24,450 model, the use of asphalt shingles saved more than \$450 compared with the cost of the material originally specified.

"Although the materials are different and the installation cost is substantially less, quality and durability remain unchanged and safety from fire is increased," he explained.

Other cost-saving steps included using unitized shower stalls, redesigning the plumbing system, kitchen cabinets and counters, and substituting asphalt tile for carpets in closets.

"Following the changes, we sold 85 of the two-story, 2,016 square-foot homes in three months," Parker said.

Cold Climate

Vapor barriers in dwelling ceilings are not considered necessary unless the house is located in areas where the temperature drops to -20 degrees in winter.



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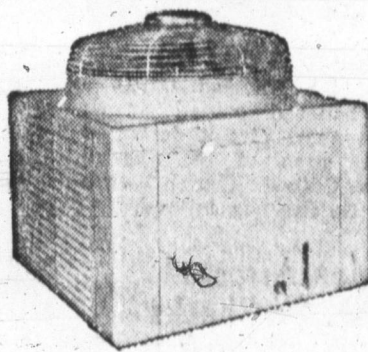
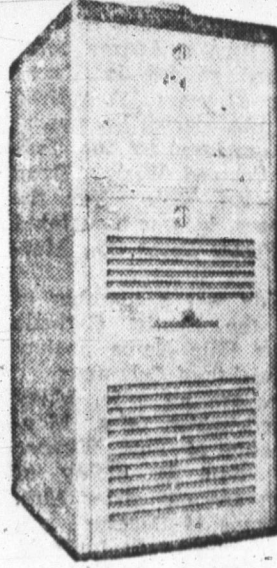
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