

Beautiful Georgia

HOMES and GARDENS

The Going Home

By REBECCA M. MAYER

WHERE would an actress and well known figure of Radio and TV fame choose to build her home? What kind of a house would it be to suit both her artistic personality and her husband's love of the out-of-doors?

As you have guessed it is far from bright foot lights of the city in a Shangri-la in one of DeKalb County's beautiful suburbs.



One almost has to look twice to see if a house is really there among the trees so adroitly does it blend with the shadows of the wild magnolias and century-old oaks.

This is what Mr. and Mrs. Commodore Going had in mind when they bought the seven-acre lot and converted it from a swampy thicket into a rustic, stream-crossed garden.

How they came to find it and the imagination it took to discover its possibilities is a story not many property owners experience!

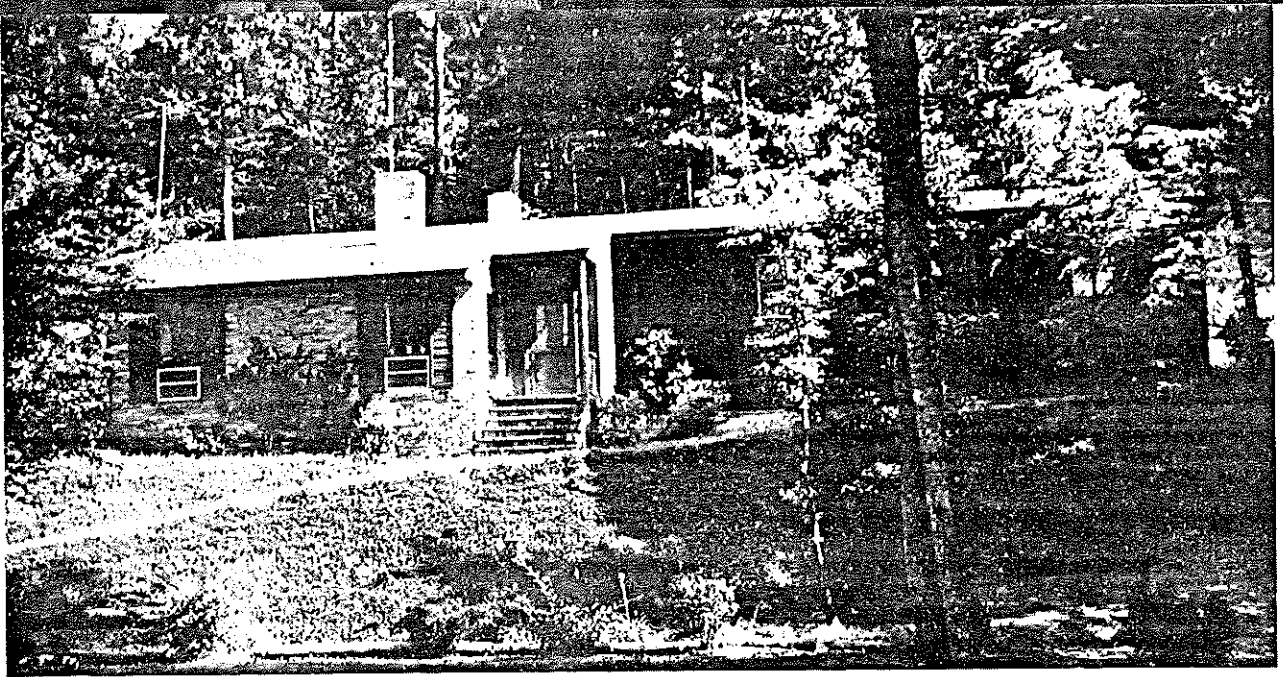
One long block west of the intersection of Johnson Ferry Road and P'tree Dunwoody one can turn right on a narrow road known for years by the inhabitants thereabouts by the descriptive name of "Balloon Road." The story goes that there was a brick factory in the vicinity which flourished but that the workers were put to it to make their way to it across swamp, bramble bushes and piney thickets. One exasperated man was purported to have said: "The only way to get across here is to go up in a Balloon, boys!"

This delightful epithet has been changed to Lake Hearn Drive after Jim Hearn of the N. Y. Giants fame who built the first house at this corner with a lovely lake which took care of the swamp.

"A balloon would still have come in handy," says Commodore reminiscently, "when Dean and I went exploring out in that section!" "Our prerequisites were



indexed



for a lot that would have a stream (preferably stocked with fish); a hill and a spring." . . . Not too large an order for Atlanta's infinite variations of hill and valley interwoven with Nancy Creek's endless tributaries.

Commodore is still amazed, as are their friends, at what Dean declared she saw in all that bewildering overgrown plot of wild Magnolia, sweet shrub and grapevines which lay adjacent to Jim Hearn's home and beautiful lake on the east, and the Braxton Blalock's estate on the south. But Dean's intuition, like a divining rod, just KNEW there MUST be a spring—if the stream at her feet which ran so broad and deep and was as clear as this one was! . . . that there MUST be a hill because the trees marched right up and over the steep ascent from the banks of "their" stream . . . "their" hill of course!

And Dean is amazed that Commodore not only accepted the inevitable, but also the challenge to clear this

"impossible" terrain himself. With ax and saw and a Jeep that knew no limitations, this happy landowner literally unearthed more trees and treasures than they had anticipated. There were not one, but three springs; a stream that yielded bream, perch, catfish, sun fish, and striped bass. They even discovered a rusty old dismantled still "protected" by yards of barbed wire.

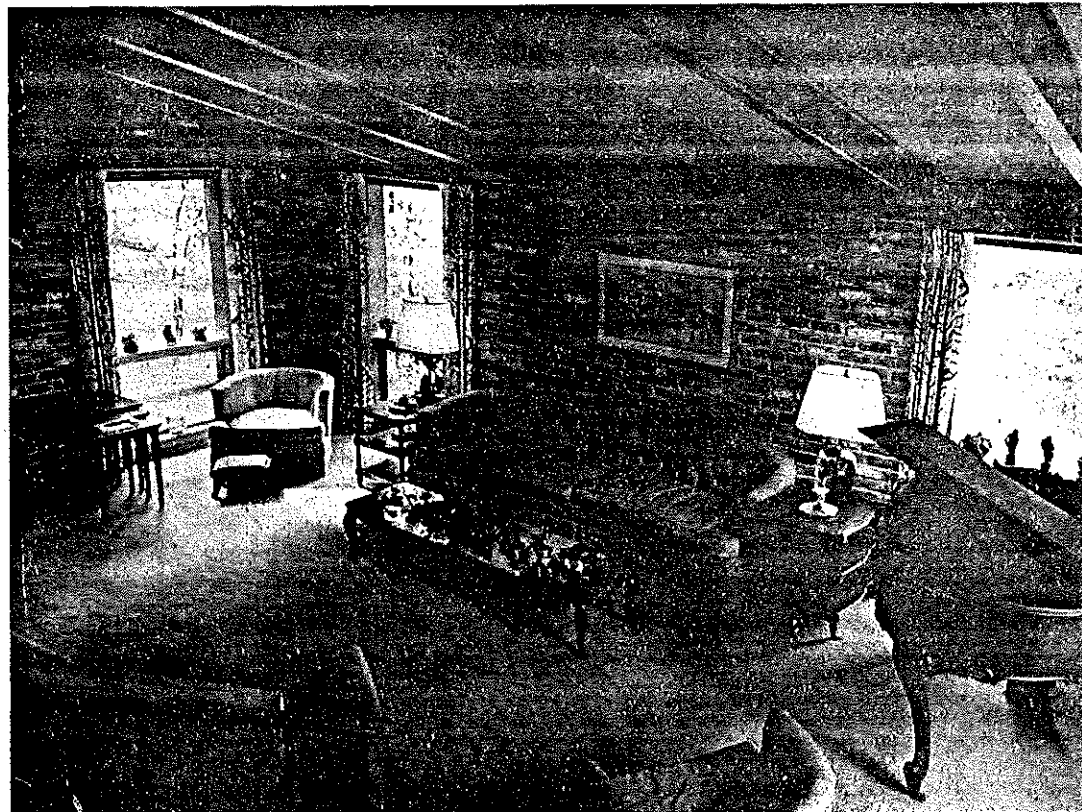
Dean says the positioning of the house was a challenge; should it command the top of their hill or nestle at the bottom? It finally came to rest half way up and half way down "like Christopher Robin's position on the stairs in *Winnie The Pooh!*"

Earl MacMillan entered the picture at this point and helped to design a home "which would be modern but not cold" to use his words. "The result is a house which wraps up all my dreams," smiles Dean. "After living in other people's houses for so many years I knew what I

On the opposite page, Mrs. Going shows one of the wild magnolias that abound on their property, along with many dogwood, flowering crabapple and weeping cherry trees.

Mr. and Mrs. Going, with their nephew, Murray Chappell, and one of their boxers overflow the jeep.

The old brick walls of the living room meet a slanted ceiling with beams exposed. The huge fireplace and the leafy design of the drapes give a rustic accent, while the heavy scrolled piano, the gold sofa and beige carpet add formality.



wanted, a home where we could live graciously and comfortably. You know," she confided, "we are Foot-Putter-Uppers and I was determined to have one utterly comfortable room where there would be a foot rest in front of every chair; a fireplace in which to broil steaks; also a wall of bookcases and a built in TV, where even the two Boxers, our inseparable friends, would be welcome."

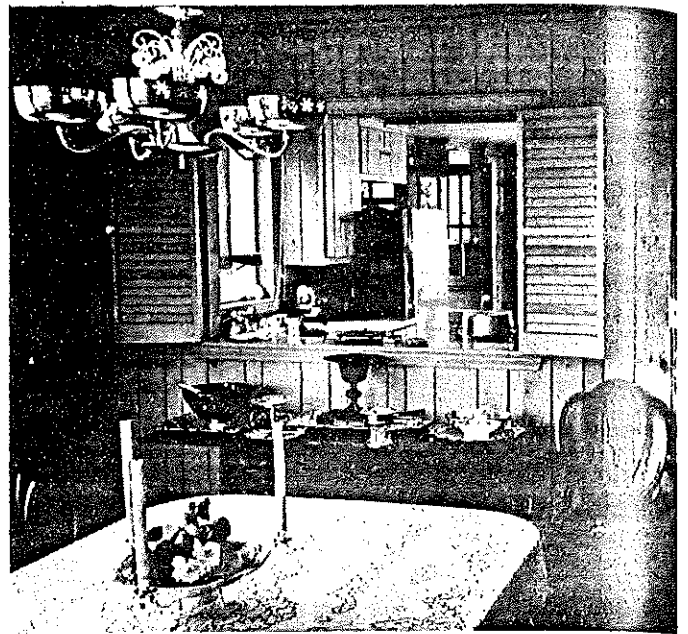
The Goings not only have their F. P. U. room but many others. The hallway runs the length of the house and leads to a charming master bedroom with a bath that is what every woman dreams of— a froth of pink organza, and a wall of full length mirrors!

Also opening on this same passageway are the guest room; Dean's study; the "F. P. U. Room" and with a grand finale ends in the dining room, sunbathed and with delightful views through a wall of casement windows.

Perhaps the most stunning room in the house is the more formal living room on the lower "split level." It boasts views from north, east and west. A large fireplace dominates the south wall and over between two windows stands the grand piano, a reminder of her career on the New York stage in light opera. There is a particularly fine print by Jean Duffy on the north wall which repeats all the colors in this beautiful room. The color scheme itself is all in muted fawn and desert sand, a fitting background for Dean's golden coloring and sunny disposition.

A patio runs along the south facade on which every room except the living room opens, via sliding glass panels.

I like to think of what Charles Dickens would say if he should wander in off this terrace some moonlight night and watch one of his direct descendants busy at her desk preparing to present and fight for some worthy cause.



The dining room overlooks the living room on a lower level. The kitchen is seen through the opened louvres.

For in her persuasive and articulate way Dean Dickens has carried on Charles Dickens' ideals for social and civic improvement through her well known programs on Radio and TV. Right now as president of the Atlanta Girl's Club she is giving her enthusiastic support to little girls as needy as Dickens' "Tiny Tims."

The good taste and beauty of Dean and Commodore's beautiful home cannot but inspire their life from now on.

FROM THE SHOPS OF BEVERLY HALL



Maryland Chest

Handmade Solid Mahogany
Satinwood and Boxwood Inlay

Beverly Hall, Inc.

INTERIORS

2293 Peachtree Rd.

Tel. 875-7588

Atlanta, Ga.

COMPARE
AND
THIS LABEL



WILL BE IN YOUR FURS

Leon Froksin

225 PEACHTREE AND LENOX SQUARE