

REAL ESTATE

HOME OF THE WEEK

Luxury from the ground up

A contemporary house on a Brentwood hill capitalizes on its natural surroundings.

DINAH ENG

Warm woods, natural light and the sound of water falling from fountains create a meditative atmosphere in a contemporary-style home in the heart of Brentwood.

Designed and built by owners Rob Hussey and Mark Keckeisen, the three-level house sits at the end of a wooded cul-de-sac on the edge of Kenter Creek in a neighborhood where residents often can be seen strolling along the narrow streets.

Keckeisen, an architect of luxury homes, teamed with Hussey, who has developed master-planned communities in Central and Northern California, to create a home that brings in the outdoors with numerous decks and an outdoor living room that has a radiant-heated floor, fireplace and electrical/cable connections.

"The sloping hillside allowed us to do things to tie the house in with the elements," Hussey says. "The trellises, windows and skylights are placed so that the feel of the house changes throughout the day as the sun moves across the sky."

There are no hallways in the vertical house, which is connected by a circular stairwell and uses an open plan. On the main floor of the three-level home, a curvilinear glass wall in the dining room looks onto a curvilinear waterfall outside.

A kitchen designed for entertaining features a granite center island and CaesarStone quartz counters. A separate butler's pantry and scullery area can serve as work spaces for party preparations.

Each of the five bedrooms has its own bathroom. The master suite includes a dressing room and master bath with three shower heads in the shower stall.

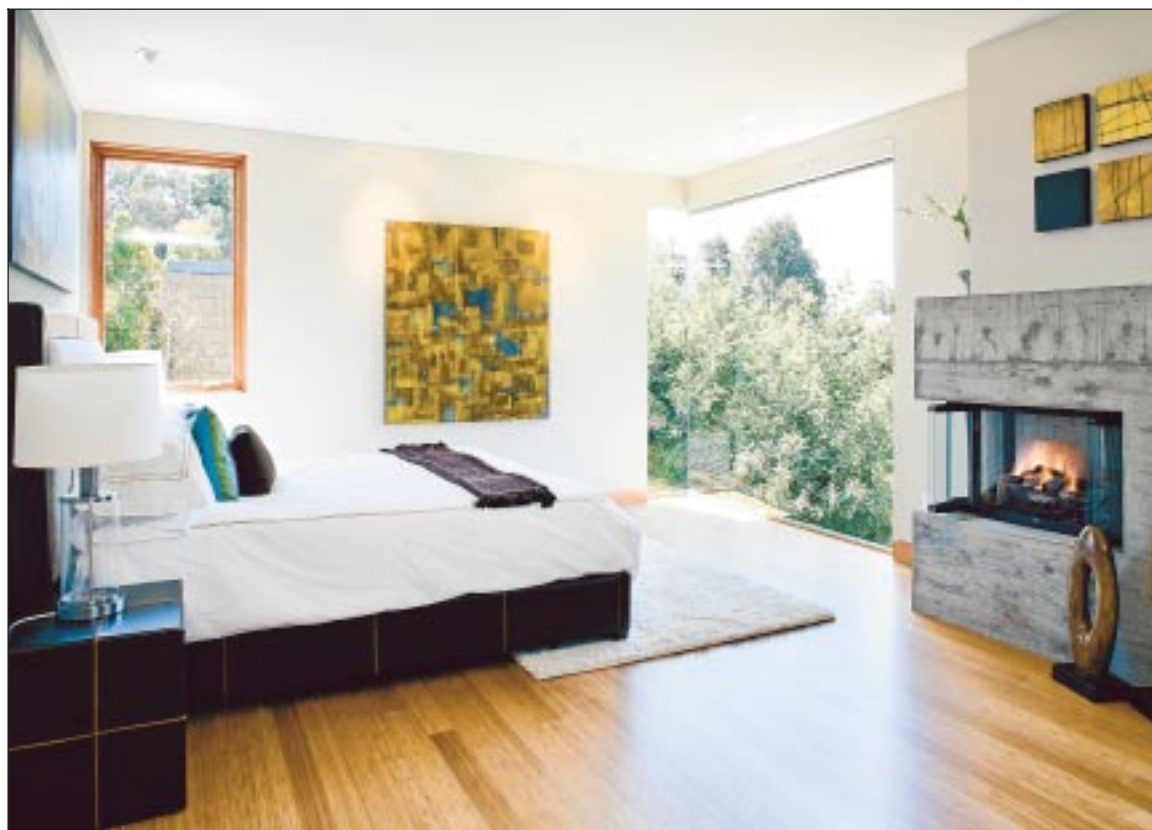
The lower level features a screening room and a wine lounge with a concrete wall that's radiant-chilled and designed to hold 510 bottles.

The swimming pool, spa and backyard are framed by bamboo gardens.

A four-car garage at the front of the property could be expanded inside to create an upstairs loft.

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To submit a candidate for Home of the Week, send high-resolution color photos with caption and credit information on a CD and a detailed description of the house to Lauren Beale, Business, Los Angeles Times, 202 W. 1st St., L.A., CA 90012. Questions may be sent to homeoftheweek@latimes.com.



OUTSIDE IN: Windows and skylights are designed to let the path of the sun influence the feel of the house. Decks, an outdoor living room and a glass wall in the dining room also integrate the outdoors.

Photographs by LEE MANNING



THREE LEVELS: A central circular stairwell connects the home. The rooms at the back of the house look out onto the pool and spa in the yard.



ENTERTAINING: The wine lounge features a chilled concrete wall that can hold 510 bottles. The lower level also has a screening room.

Made for guests

Location: 171 3rd Anita Ave., Los Angeles 90049

Asking price: \$6.85 million

Lot previously sold for: \$1.8 million in June 2005

Size: 5 bedrooms and 7 baths in 6,354 square feet.

Additional features:

Reflecting pond at entrance, four fireplaces, four Viking refrigerators, three Bosch dishwashers, two Viking barbecues, art hanging system in walls, built-in bookcase with angled shelves, bamboo flooring.

Around the neighborhood: In the first quarter, 32 single-family homes were sold in the 90049 ZIP Code at a median price of \$1.65 million, according to MDA DataQuick. That was a 35.6% price drop from the first quarter of 2008. Last week, Realtor.com listed 201 single-family houses for sale in 90049, ranging from \$890,000 to \$65 million.

Open: Today from 2 to 5 p.m.

Listing agent: Randy Forbes, Gibson International, (310) 345-7082.

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Home of the Week

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