

It's called 'House of Rummage'



Large-scale living
Spacious living room was added during remodeling. Mrs. Audrey Werens, seated in chair purchased at rummage sale, listens to her daughter Nancy play the piano.

**Design . . .
...for Living**



California-style exterior
Remodeling project gained rustic look from use of redwood, shake shingles.

By MARY FORTNEY
Among the members of the St. Mark's Episcopal Church Women the home of the Thomas G. Werens at 2825 Grove St., Palo Alto, is laughingly referred to as "The House of Rummage."

It got the name when Mrs. Audrey Werens invited a group of the club members to her home to plan one of St. Mark's occasional rummage sales. (The next sale will be May 2 and 3.)

Comments on the increasing silver antiques on the outdoor table were answered by Mrs. Werens with, "That was from a rummage sale."

The same reply followed admitting remarks about an overstuffed chair in the living room, picture pictures in the dining room and other objects all about the house.

Mrs. Werens, who has served two terms as president of the church women's group, has done more than help organize the St. Mark's rummage sales.

GODD BUYS
She, along with a vast number of other shoppers from all economic levels, realizes that good buys can be made at sales.

For example, the overstuffed chair in the living room was purchased for \$5. New upholstery, in Mrs. Werens' living room, cost less than \$70. The result — a comfortable attractive wicker built chair at a price far below the original cost.

Other good buys have included 12 cases of paint never covered with a 100¢ of color and a rug for \$10 for the kitchen.

Used carpeting also makes an exceptional bargain, Mrs. Werens said. Large living room pieces, frequently with old-fashioned designs of flowers or figures, can be cut down to fit smaller bedrooms, she has carpentered two bedrooms that way, paying about \$30 per room.

The Werens have had a special need for furniture because they've remodeled their home to double its previous floor space.

"We're a large family and large people and the furniture is a large item," Mrs. Werens explained.

Werens remodeled with Mitchell T. Curtis & Co. Inc., financial planning and architectural analysis firm, with offices in the Town and Country Village Shopping Center. It is a \$100,000 job.

Mrs. Werens is a tall 65-year-old. There, there are her children: Peggy, 13; Diane, 12; Nancy, 9 and Jennifer, 4½.

The original house is 2½ years old. Mrs. Werens remembers seeing it as one of only three houses on the block when, as a child, she went horseback riding in what was then open fields.

The Werens bought the house five years ago and lived in it for three years before deciding how they wanted to handle the remodeling.

The final plans were designed by Bill Derringer of Peninsula Valley.

The design emphasized the natural elements of redwood and tile with an unadorned rough-hewn exterior. A one-level, one-story living room was added, and the old living room converted to a dining room, adding to the bedroom and a garage. The garage came out L-shaped because it was designed around a huge willow tree in the front yard.



Horses, horses and more horses
A number of Diane Werens' collection came from St. Mark's rummage sales.



Nothing is wasted
Headboard of bed is made from old dining room door with carved wooden blocks glued on.



Art and objets d'art
Thomas Werens did his oil flower painting with Mrs. Werens bought picture on shelf at rummage sale for \$4.



Bedroom for a boy
Carpeting on the floor cost only \$10 at a rummage sale.



A pre-teen room
Diane Werens, 12, plays the guitar in bedroom furnished partly with furniture from rummage sales, including wicker table and chair and white milk-glass lamp.



New and old combined
Round oak dining table was refinished by the Werens. White tile and walnut cabinets are new, added during recent remodeling.

Tip to them, the Werens had always lived in small tract houses with furniture selected by a 1940s "Old-fashioned" standard down to nothing" after the remodeling, Mrs. Werens explained.

"That's another reason why we bought pre-remodeled furniture from the rummage sales. Even in its hands, we have anything better for a sale price."

Some of the other customers at the rummage sales may not be such careful shoppers.

In fact, the church women are still wondering about a cabinet bought "for \$100" that let mother his name see all down.

They kept the cabinet-but found it about a year after they had decided to put it in the living room. "Who would buy a couch without cushions?"

As a rummage shopper, that's his.

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