

MARTIN BENGTON  
7925 S. CAMPBELL AVE.  
CHICAGO 29, ILL.

# TWO CENTURY OF PROGRESS HOMES

THE STRAN STEEL-IRWIN HOUSES  
CHICAGO -- 1934

## FOREWORD

### FURNITURE

Robert W. Irwin Company  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

With a background of a half century of devoted purpose, the Robert W. Irwin Company ranks today as America's largest producer of fine furniture, — the result of years of appreciative study of the great decorative styles. Irwin productions, comprising the largest and most comprehensive display of fine furniture in America, are shown by the best furniture dealers. Irwin Custom Models are displayed for public inspection in the company's wholesale show-rooms in New York, Chicago, Boston, Detroit, and in the factory show-room at Grand Rapids.

### DECORATION

William R. Moore, A.I.D.  
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. Moore is a co-founder and first president of the American Institute of Decorators, and an Honorary Fellow of the Incorporated Institute of British Decorators. Mr. Moore is the only decorator in the United States to whom this distinction has been accorded. Among his many prominent accomplishments may be mentioned the Public Rooms in The United States Government Building, A Century of Progress; The Lake Shore Drive and Belmont Hotels in Chicago, and the Civic Auditorium in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

### CONSTRUCTION

Stran-Steel Corporation  
Detroit, Michigan

The aim of the Stran-Steel Corporation has been to bring to home construction the qualities of permanence, fire-safety, rigidity and economy of up-keep which have made American skyscraper construction the envy of the world. Stran-Steel has succeeded, and no one who can afford to build can afford to build without the protection to life and investment which this unique construction offers at moderate cost. Ample plant facilities and long experience in the technology and fabrication of steel make Stran-Steel pre-eminent today in the field of modern home construction.

1994/95:7R

VIEW OF LIVING ROOM FROM STAIRWAY



## THE MODERN TOWN HOUSE

To approach our present and future artistic problems with a full appreciation of the value of the past, to fully understand, to utilize and to adapt those things worthy of preservation is the soundest and sanest way of creating the truly beautiful in modern furniture and interiors.

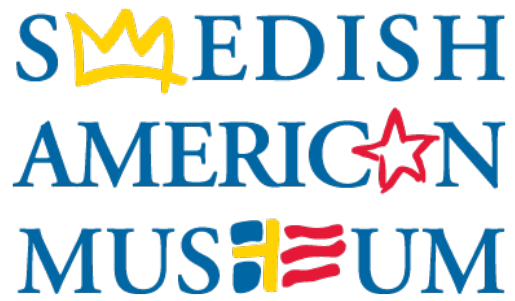
It is with this thought that the Robert W. Irwin Company and Mr. William R. Moore co-operated in presenting The Modern Town House and The Garden Home—examples of traditional design in furniture and interiors, so treated as to have a decidedly new and modern feeling.

All the furniture in both houses are productions of the Robert W. Irwin Company, and are the latest expression of the creative genius of J. Stuart Clingman and Ernest R. Cooper, who head the Irwin designing staff, and who have won international recognition in their field.

The interiors were planned by Mr. William R. Moore, past president of the American Institute of Decorators, and an Honorary Fellow of the Incorporated Institute of British Decorators. Thus, the fortunate combination of the abilities of some of the country's foremost artists in furniture design and interior decoration is responsible for the highly original and artistic result.

The effort of designers and decorators to produce a modern style of furniture and decoration has been so startling in effect, and has departed so broadly from accepted ideas of design as to gain widespread comment and invite considerable criticism. Regardless of its ultimate worth, any effort to produce a style of furniture and interior more expressive of our time and mode of living is admirable and should be encouraged, for not to do so would be to admit that we lack the creative genius in the arts that we have developed to so high a degree in science and mechanics.

However, we most definitely do not agree with those modernists who wish to be so original as to break entirely with the traditional, and who feel that nothing in the past is worthy



This archival record has been partially scanned, including covers and initial pages for each issue. For more information about a particular issue of this publication, please contact the Swedish American Museum Curator.

