The Canadian Champion

Grant and Kath Whatmough

Contemporary farmhouse

with universal qualities

refers to as a Contemporary Farmhouse, a modern house with the same warmth and atmosphere as the old. However, he's adamant that you can't get the quality of life in an old house you can in the "You can build better today without being outrageous," he says, "and you don't have to go bankrupt

> This is the 54th large country place Grant has built and this explains why he didn't go nostalgic doing it. 'You can get a universal quality from contemporary materials," he says. And he has proven his point. His oneof-a-kind home in Nassagaweya has warmth, softness and a sense of humanism simply with the shape and materials used. There is no need for interior decoration. There is no stark feeling even though the house is still only half finished inside with no floor coverings or pictures on the walls.

> The secret is to forget convention and concentrate on the human qualities. In other words, assess the needs of the family and build to complement the particular life-

Family There is no sense of forced effect in the Whatmough house. The family consists of Grant's wife Kath, and children Mark 16, Leslie 12, six-year-old twins Peter and Sarah, and married daughter Ann and her husband Daniel McGoey. Ann and Danny are living in the house temporarily until their own home is built on the property.

Keeping in mind the age and interest differences of the children and the privacy required by the parents, the house is designed to accommodate many different needs. One wing is devoted entirely to adult activities. The entire top floor is the bedroom-den-sitting room suite for Grant and Kath. Below it is the adult guest room, Kath's studio (she's a potter who before her marriage worked at the Design Centre of the National Gallery in Ottawa), Grant's den, (he also sculpts, writes, and designs

ships), and the living room. Between this section of the house and the children's wing are the kitchen, front entrance, and dining room. The family room is near the required square footage it takes for living in. There is comparatively small floor space used, everything is built in. All the casement windows in the children's wing are 24 inches high.

Costs cut There is no trim needed, which cuts down the house costs by using less materials. This allows for upgrading of the materials that are used.

Solid oak, one and a half inches thick and 10 inches wide, is used for window sills. There are no baseboards or door or window casings and as few doors as possible. The frames of stained wood are set right into the plaster.

Grant considers it a house that requires no maintenance whatsoever. All windows are casement of varying heights depending on the room and use. This avoids what Grant describes as "the terrible effect of picture windows.

"You don't need the Don Mills effect or to copy out of Eaton's catalogue, you don't need to be grotesque or queer to be new," Grant believes. In fact he advises not to fit to customary standards at all when building your own

Built to last "In 250 years this house will still be structurally sound,' he predicts. All walls are of plaster on concrete block, the plaster comprised of sand and cement with a rough finish. The sub floor is concrete and stone used in the house came from the Limehouse quarries. There is Welsh quarry tile in the front hallway. The outside will be

The house faces south and to receive south-east maximum sunlight. All heating is forced air with two furnaces, one at each end of the 4,000 square feet. All duct work is monolithic with the cement slab flooring. There is automatic air conditioning from the furnace. The famil room and living room eac have large wood-burning fire-

There are three main bathrooms, one in the children's wing, a guest bathroom on the ground floor, and a "his and hers' in the master suite. A washroom-mudroom is inside the back door.

Primitive Much of the 33 acres has never been plowed but the Whatmoughs are finding it very fertile. Kath feels a primitive-nature to the land and has found a relic believed to be 9,000 years old. Grant is interested in soil reconstruction and says the property has a soil depth of 30

To date they have done most of the landscaping themselves. They've planted 300 pine and spruce and 500 white pine and cedar trees. They've also planted an orchard of 1,000 apple trees and plan to be in production within five or six years. The old barn is now being renovated for eventual apple and equipment storage and small livestock. Kath has a large vegetable garden cordoned off with a wooden

A conservatory for tropical fish and plants occupies a large area on the ground floor of the house and will have a glassed area for viewing from the hallway.

The property is part of 100 acres originally owned by Nassagaweya pioneer



DINING AREA is up a few stairs from the living room and on the same level as the kitchen. There are no doors yet the alcove effect offers privacy while eating.

Alexander Bell who came to the area from Ireland in 1826 Township named The Whatmoughs bought the land in 1969 and moved to the area from Toronto three years ago. They lived in a mobile home until the house was livable.

It took Grant three weeks to design the house and with the exception of the block laying, shingles and plastering, he and Kath have done all the work themselves.

34th in a series on homes of names be used.)

distinction in Halton by

Joyce Beaton

for MPP J. Snow The name of Halton East's MPPs honored with town-MPP has been immortalized ships bearing their names in a tiny, barren township will later receive a scroll "somewhere north of Sault indicating their names were Ste. Marie and Sudbury" chosen in recognition of "a valuable contribution to the A previously unnamed

Changes will be incorporated Snow Township in honor of Jim Snow, local MPP and on new maps to be issued Minister of Government Services. Last week the Ontario Legislature's special allparty committee selected to name 358 unnamed townships reeves have also been imrevealed the names and 55 of mortalized by having townthem are named after MPP's. (The other 61 members were ruled out because their names are duplicates of the townships bearing their existing provincial townships, or are too close in

township has been named

Historic Canadians, Indian chiefs, soldiers killed in the last war and mayors and ships named after them.

development of the region.'

Some of the MPPs say they would like to buy some land in names, but much of the land is crown territory and some is sound or spelling. Five of the in provincial parks. Some of MPPs refused to let their them are uninhabited and inaccessible except by plane.

Fiddlers in August

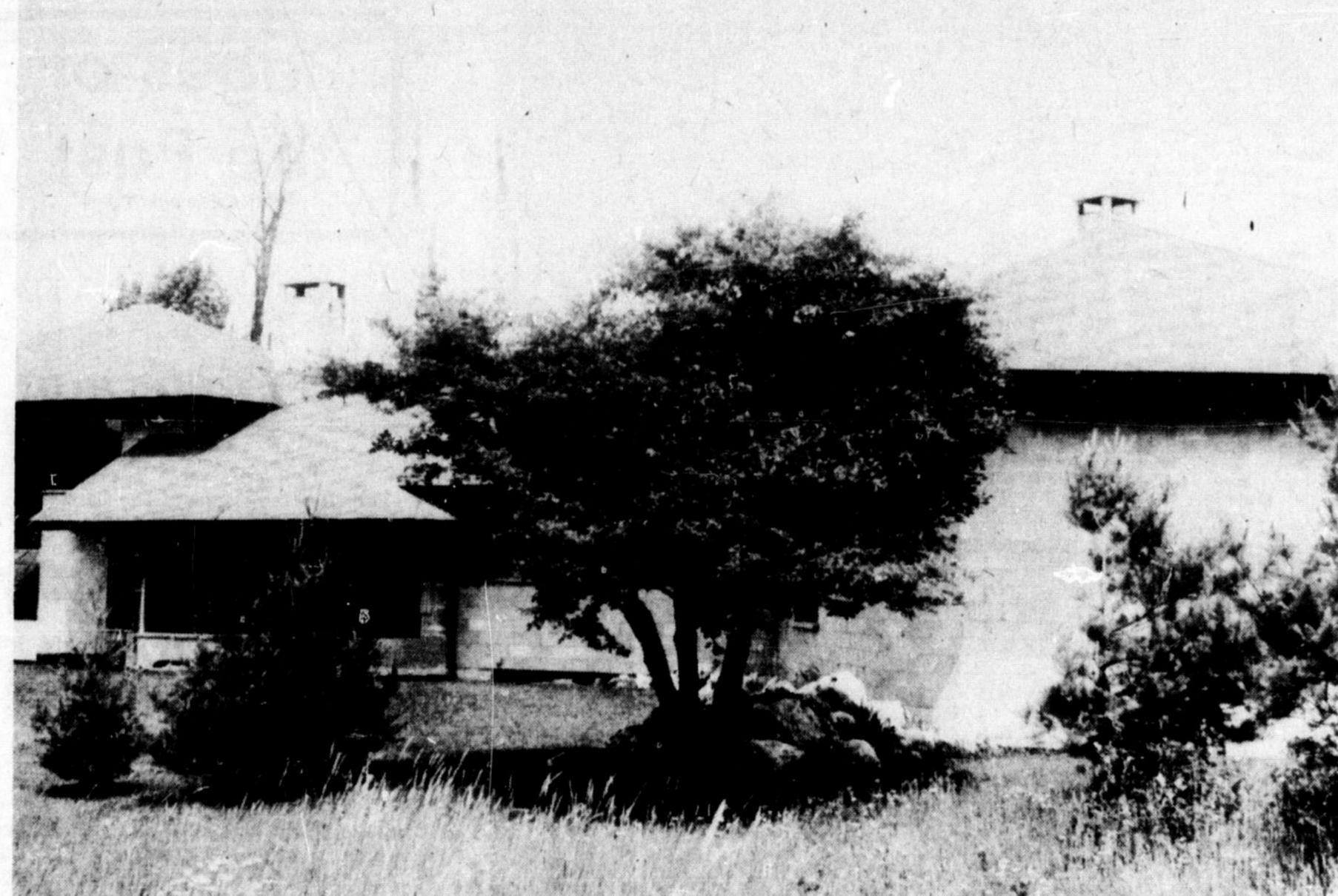
Busy market

Andy Frank isn't even next week or two. Andy excounting the number of pects honey and more shoppers every Saturday tomatoes soon, and corn next morning any more. With the warm weather and more vendors with new produce contest will also be featured coming each week, there's early in August. About 35 just no way to keep track of fiddlers who will be coming to the crowds.

empty will be taken when in the morning.

Farmers' Market "mayor" field crops are ready in the

An old time fiddlers' the area for the annual Most of the stalls are filled contest in Shelburne are now, and the few that are still expected to visit the market

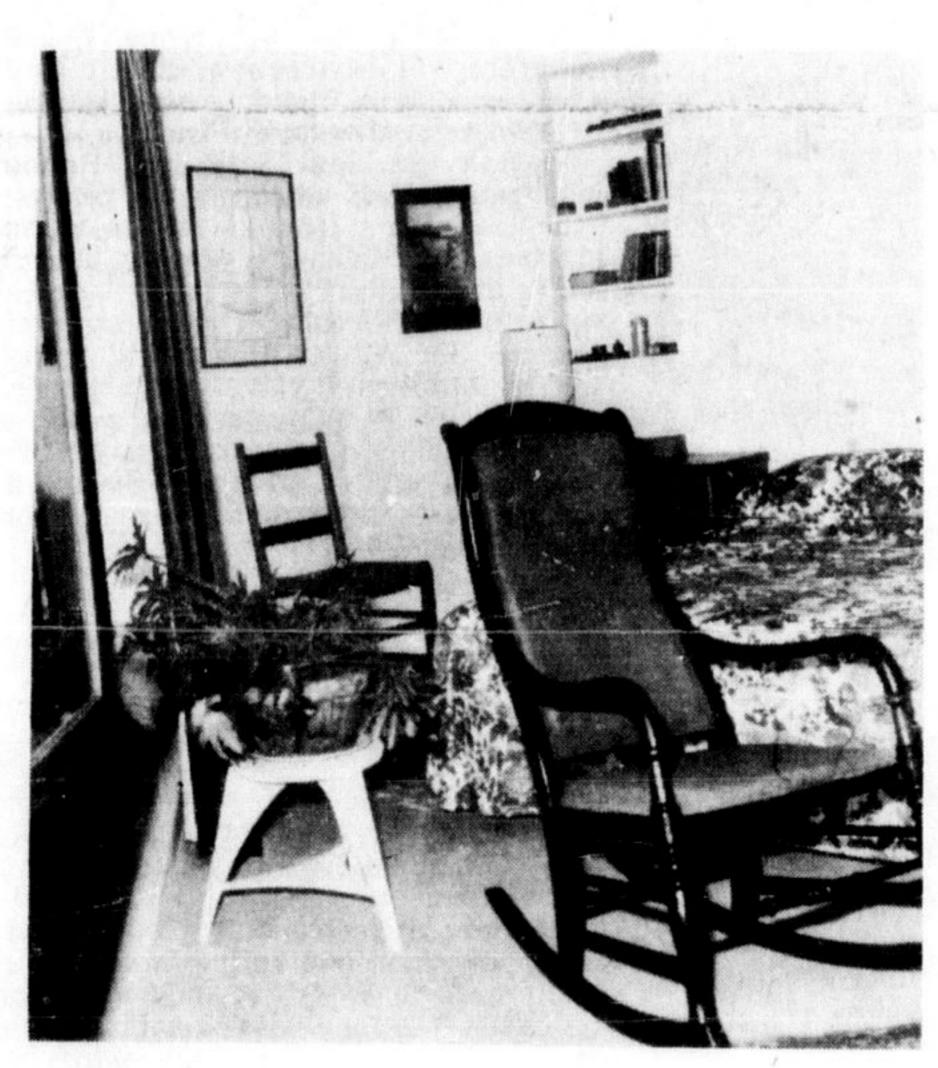


CONTEMPORARY FARMHOUSE of Grant and family room. Although Grant, an architect, has Kath Whatmough has one wing, far left, for adult done 250 conversions of old houses he prefers the activities and the other, far right, for the children. In between are the kitchen, dining room and

modern house.



floor and occupies the entire width of the room. Peter and Sarah sit amid the plants intended for ANTIQUE TABLE came from France in 1650 and was in the Whatmough family farmhouse on



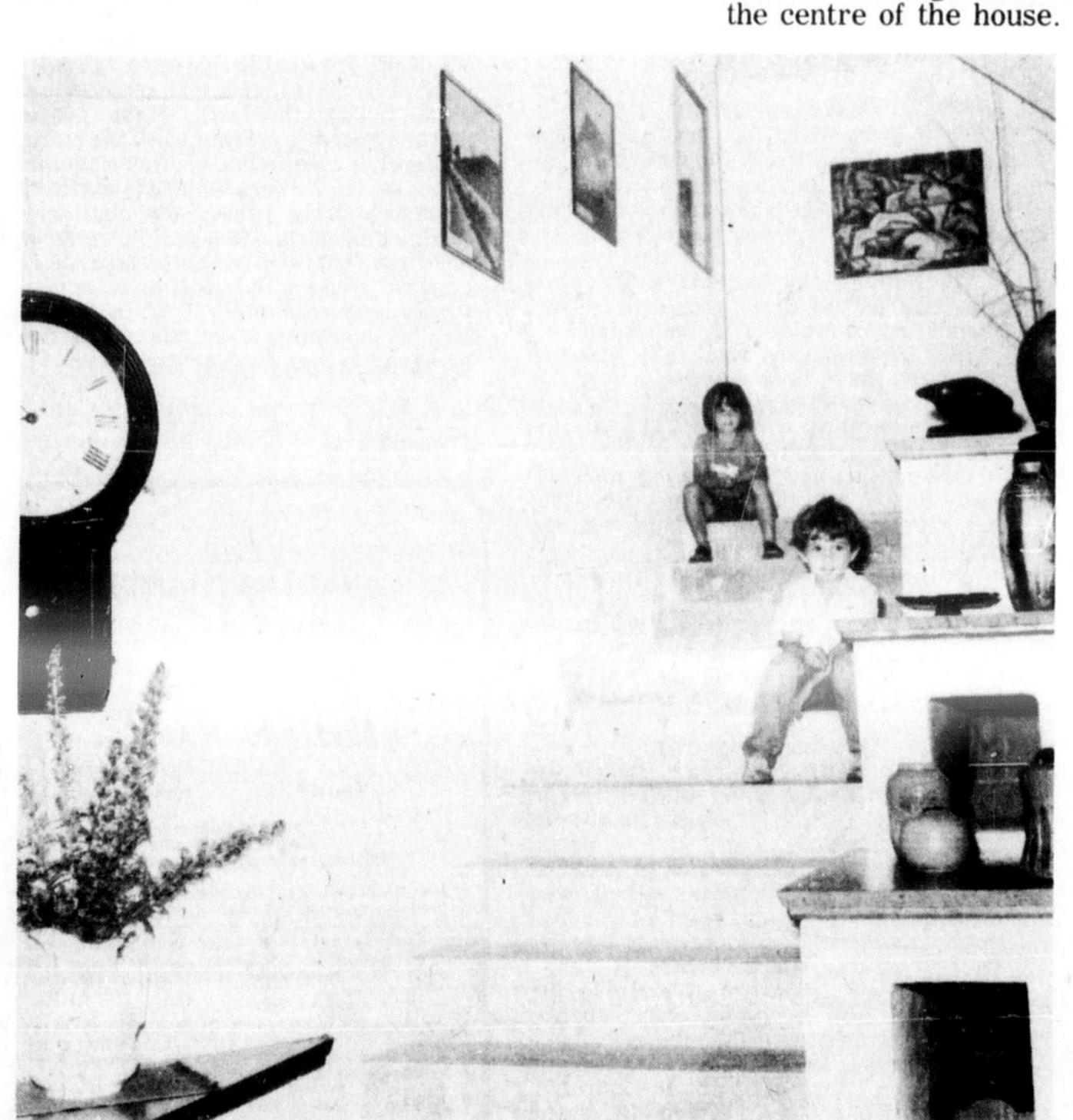
the conservatory.

MASTER BEDROOM is just part of the adult suite. The casement windows are 18 inches from the floor. There are his and hers bathrooms and a den on this level.



Charles St. in Toronto for many years.

FRONT ENTRANCE is spacious with Welsh quarry tile on the floor and steps down to the living room. To the right is the adult wing and to the left,



TO ADULT WING the cement stairway leads directly from the spacious entrance hall. Twins Peter and Sarah sit in the "off limits area". The decor of the house is provided by paintings, photographs, pottery and sculpture.



SPACIOUS FEELING of Whatmough house is epitomized in the entrance hall. The doorway has wide transom and sidelights and the wide stairway leads down to the living room. The sculpture is one of Grant's.



GRANT AND KATH have done all the work in the house themselves with the exception of the block laying, shingles and plastering. They are shown in the ground floor living room. Behind Grant is his den.