

HOMES & RENTALS

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THERE'S A LITTLE BIT OF L.A. IN L.O.

Contemporary designs bring a bit of California to the great Northwest

By **CONNIE POTTER**
SPECIAL WRITER

Dick Baty was smitten from the start. "We walked into this house, and within a few minutes I was bedazzled by this place," said Baty, a builder and home designer. "We realized we had stumbled upon an extraordinary, one-of-a-kind work of architecture."

The home that captured his imagination was designed by Portland architect Robert Harvey Oshatz, who is well-known for his contemporary designs. Built in 1975, it is tucked onto a 1.7-acre wooded lot in Lake Oswego. The design incorporates floor-to-ceiling windows and wood and stone, reflecting Frank Lloyd Wright's influence (Oshatz worked for Wright's son in the late '60s).

While the Oregon home has a

sophistication and star quality more common in the hills of Los Angeles, it doesn't have an L.A.-like price. At \$1,749,950, it's roughly half what the same home might sell for in high-end L.A. neighborhoods, said Kathryn Rosendahl, the listing agent with Windermere Cronin & Caplan Realty Group.

Such contemporary architecture is a departure from the ordinary in Lake Oswego, where traditional styles are more common. But ultra-modern architecture has a following in the Northwest. Fans of it are drawn to the clean lines, dramatic entrances, loft-like spaces and large windows that seem to bring the outdoors in.

"That's all they want to see," said Dana Barron, a broker with Windermere Cronin & Caplan. "And there are very, very few available."

Modern properties are so sought after that Dwight Schwab's listing for a mid-century modernist home is generating calls from California,

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Portland architect Robert Harvey Oshatz designed this modern house, tucked away in the woods of Lake Oswego, which lists for \$1,749,950.



This house, above, in the Skylands area of Lake Oswego has attracted interest from prospective buyers as far away as Texas, said listing agent Dwight Schwab, a broker with The Hasson Company. A mahogany door, left, welcomes visitors to the home, which is listed for \$1,548,500.

Large Mahogany door by: **Versatile Sash**

