
The simple home


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the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased from 10.5 million to 13.5 million, and the number of people aged 75 and over has increased from 4.5 million to 6.5 million (Office for National Statistics 2000).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the needs of older people, and the UK Government has set out a strategy for the 21st century in the White Paper on *Ageing Better: Our Future as a Nation* (Department of Health 2000). This White Paper sets out a vision of a society in which older people are able to live well, and to contribute to society. It also sets out a number of key objectives for the government, including: to improve the health and well-being of older people; to support older people to live independently; to ensure that older people are able to participate in society; and to ensure that older people are able to live in their own homes.

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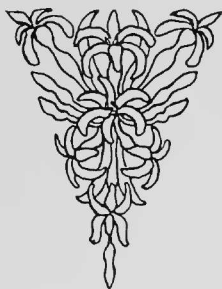


SHINGLED HOME ADORNED WITH VINES.

THE SIMPLE HOME

BY

CHARLES KEELER



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NA
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DEDICATED
TO MY FRIEND AND COUNSELOR
BERNARD R. MAYBECK

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PREFACE

ALL the arts are modes of expressing the One Ideal ; but the ideal must be rooted in the soil of the real, the practical, the utilitarian. Thus it happens that architecture, the most utilitarian of the arts, underlies all other expressions of the ideal ; and of all architecture, the designing of the home brings the artist into closest touch with the life of man.

A movement toward a simpler, a truer, a more vital art expression, is now taking place in California. It is a movement which involves painters and poets, composers and sculptors, and only lacks co-ordination to give it a significant influence upon modern life. One of the first steps in this movement, it seems to me, should be to introduce more widely the thought of the simple home—to emphasize the gospel of the simple life, to scatter broadcast the faith in simple beauty, to make prevalent the conviction that we must *live* art before we can create it.

The following brief essays on “The Simple Home” are written from the standpoint of a layman in architecture, and are mainly intended to present, as graphically and suggestively as such slight treatment enables, certain types of the simple home which may be infused with an art spirit. From such homes, I fondly believe, will come not only the artists of the future, but the public, whose faith and support are essential to the permanence of art life in a community.— C. K.

