

A TVA HOUSE OF SIMPLE LINES

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The objective of the Tennessee Valley Authority's housing development at Norris, Tennessee, is to provide economical and livable houses based upon long-time usefulness -- all, of course, governed by the principle of building a town that will best serve the needs of the people who live in it, both for today and in the future.

The arrangement of this house demonstrates the fact that simplicity and restraint not only keep building costs low, but also contribute to the attractiveness and utility of a house. The design shown here is known as TVA house No. 21, and it contains 11,520 cubic feet of space, including the porch.

The wall construction is of common brick in slightly varied shades of red, laid with fairly rough joints. The roof is of slate having irregular edges to add texture to the surface, or of hand hewn shingles. The hooded doorway, together with the railed stoop or terrace, forms a usable entrance feature. The wide porch at the end is contained under the main roof, thus simplifying construction as well as adding to the apparent length of the house.

In most of the houses at Norris, dining space is provided in the kitchens. In this house, however, one end of the living

room is given over to this purpose. Here the kitchen itself is not entirely closed off from the living room, but forms an alcove opening directly into that end of the room reserved for dining. At one side of the living room is a wood-burning fireplace, and near the front door is a convenient closet for coats.

The kitchen of this house is very compact without being crowded. There is ample work-space, and the kitchen is fully equipped to save both time and energy. There is a large built-in kitchen cabinet with generous working surfaces, and shelf space for dishes, utensils and packaged foods. In one corner of the room is a pantry for storing more bulky articles.

The range, the refrigerator and the hot water heater are of the electric type, as are those of all the houses of Norris. Electricity is also used for heating the rooms throughout the house, thus eliminating the need of a basement for a heating plant and fuel storage.

Unlike the majority of the houses at Norris, design No. 21 does not provide for a separate laundry. Instead, in this house a sink of the combination type is employed. One end of the sink contains the laundry tub, and close beside it space is reserved for the electric washing machine.

The bathroom is accessible from either the bedroom or the kitchen and contains a shower instead of a tub. The location of the linen closet in the bathroom provides a practical and unusually convenient location, serving also as a towel and supply closet.

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The bedroom contains two closets; one of them with open shelves for hats, shoes and similar articles.

The location of the long, screened porch is such that one end may serve for dining purposes, while the other end may be used as a sleeping porch. There is considerable storage space in the attic which is made accessible from the porch by means of a scuttle and ladder stair.

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