



Pacific Rim Style Estate



The majority of the estate was built during the 1970's, with some additional building done in the 1980's. Its original owner and builder was Joseph McKeown, a local sailor who drew inspiration from his time spent living and working as a dentist in Samoa. He chose the Polynesian architecture as a universal form embraced by multiple cultures for high wind load rating, sturdy yet flexible foundation, and ideal design for indoor/outdoor living. The form is called Fare in Tahiti, Bure in Fiji, and Palapa in Mexico, and can be installed in a wide range of locations with minimal disturbance to the earth below since it requires no grading walls.

Living in Harmony

Located in the headlands of the Branciforte basin, Happy Valley is one of the prime spots in Santa Cruz County: Here, convenient yet removed from both the commute corridor of Route 17 and from the madding 4crowd of Downtown Santa Cruz, folks enjoy life amidst the natural beauty of a quiet, sunny, valley setting. When you come here, you don't pass through: You stay, because there is no through traffic. Driving up to 777 Happy Valley Road, you encounter a parapet wall that shrouds the property behind it in mystery that unfolds dramatically as you park and walk through the entry gate. The land was the site of an old apple orchard back in the early 1900s, most likely because of its ideal drainage and exposure to the sun. Rising up from its southeast-facing slopes is a series of buildings evocative of the timeless architecture of the Pacific Rim connected by a system of footpaths and stairs that maintains a close interaction with the surrounding forest and landscape.

777 Happy Valley \$1,295,000



The Main House

By far, the most impressive of the structures is the 2,665 SF main house, an original design by noted area architect Chris Bakke. Built on 16 massive piers, it spans two stories and exudes rugged elegance in perfect harmony with its surrounding forest and gardens, with a central deck that invites you outdoors to experience the view. The home is finished out in vertical grain fir and old growth redwood, rising up in grand scale to rough hewn ceiling beams that culminate at a central skylight of triple laminate safety glass with shade cloth to keep the summer sun at bay. Natural light streams down to illuminate hand-crafted redwood doors, paneling and ornamentation to create a living work of art that delights the eye with its various wood tones and walls of glass. The bedrooms include a high loft that overlooks both the view and the main living room, plus a grand master suite that showcases a large soaking tub in charming retro décor.





The Guest House

Some distance downhill, a 1,114 SF guest house enjoys its own private corner of the property with sundecks and an interior of dimensional beams that lead up to an even longer belvedere tower than that of the boathouse, maintaining the somewhat nautical flare that was added to the classic Polynesian lines of the structures by the builder. A relaxed floor plan with an open kitchen lends itself well to independent living amidst the surrounding natural setting.

Native Landscaping

Today, its 3 acres are a study in native landscaping in harmony with a wide variety of cactus and succulents carefully collected and propagated through the years, with an emphasis on low maintenance and draught resistance. Rising up from its southeast-facing slopes is a series of buildings evocative of the timeless architecture of the Pacific Rim connected by a system of footpaths and stairs that maintains a close interaction with the surrounding forest and landscape.



Shop Complex

Through the years, no less than 5 boats have been built here, the biggest one being the Shanachie, a 50 foot cold-molded cutter finished in 1982. The shop is also provided with an illuminated stainless steel washout room originally made for cleaning silk screens that would be well-suited for metal/woodshop, photography or art projects as well.

Possibilities abound here for any number of large scale uses by an artist, musician, movie studio, sculptor, boat or airplanebuilder, just to name a few of the creative forces that could thrive here.



Office

The back of the main bay opens up to the site of what once served as professional offices with 5 work-stations and multiple data and phone connections.

Directly adjoining the driveway is a 1,680 SF boathouse built on a design by Brett Hancock. It is a leviathan structure, accessed by tall double doors. Its roof trusses span over 22 feet, and include a central beam structurally rated for block and tackle. High above, a belvedere tower provides optimal light and ventilation, and the shop has access to 200 Amps of power, suitable for heavy machinery.

Info & Details

AREAS	LIVING	DECK
MAIN HOUSE 3 Br/3 Ba + Office	2665 SF	2246SF
GUEST HOUSE 1 Br/1 Ba	800 SF	1000SF
STUDIO Kitchen, Living & Br Area/1 Ba	360 SF	228SF
SHOP & OFFICE 1/2 Ba	1680 SF	390SF

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Offered At \$1,295,000



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