

The Wickland Home

The house was designed by San Francisco, award-winning architect Joseph Esherick and built by Norman Mayfield of Tahoe City in 1948 for Katherine Metcalf...she called the estate *Wahtoque*.

According to the architect, Mrs. Metcalf wanted a simple barn-like structure with an open, two story living room and high ceilings in the bedrooms. She didn't want the living room and dining room separated and she wanted to enter the front door and walk through a hallway directly to the lake side of the home. It was important that the structure achieve a careful fit with the landscape, integrating spaces within the house with both the immediate environment and the grand distant views.



Wahtoque, early 1950's.



Janet and Roy Wickland purchased the property from Mrs. Metcalf's three granddaughters in August 2005. The house was in need of repair, and the Wicklands spent much of 2006 dedicated to this endeavor. The only room that was changed was the kitchen. Originally it was made up of two closed spaces...a butler's pantry and a cooking kitchen. The space was opened to create one large kitchen that hopefully would have been to Mr. Esherick's liking. The clear ponderosa pine interior siding was sanded and cleaned and all the bathrooms were restored to their original look. All the existing bathroom fixtures, hardware and lights were removed and rebuilt in-keeping with the 1940s look. The worn and water damaged linoleum was replaced with new linoleum of the same materials. All the interior and exterior doors and hardware are original. The interior was artfully decorated by the owners, with the assistance of Shirley Wagner Fine Design, of Kamuela, Hawaii. The house was built as a "summer residence" and it remains so today as the house is not insulated for winter use.

The house has 6 bedrooms and 5 ½ baths as shown on the original plans. The Wicklands enjoy views east to the Lake, and west to Rubicon Peak. Some of the special construction features include open high ceilings, use of large beams, Rumford fireplace, cedar log posts, sliding exterior shutters on tracks for winter protection and more! Inside, the home showcases several pieces of original art work, including several pieces by Jack Johansson. The original ten-foot sofa from the Huntington/Metcalf families of San Francisco remains in the home.

Outside, items of interest include the guest/boat house, tennis courts and special garden features. With the exception of the lawns, much of the exterior grounds remain in their natural state.

