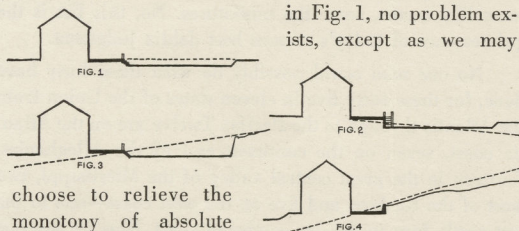


*Designing the connecting link
between your house and garden*

Terraces

ARCHITECTURALLY, the terrace is the connecting link between the house and its environment. It may be thought of as belonging equally to the house and to the garden. And in planning the terrace, both of these factors must be taken equally into account.

Consider first the site of the terrace in relation to the landscape. Is the ground in front of it approximately level; does it slope downward; or does it rise more or less steeply from the house site? If it is level, as shown in Fig. 1, no problem exists, except as we may



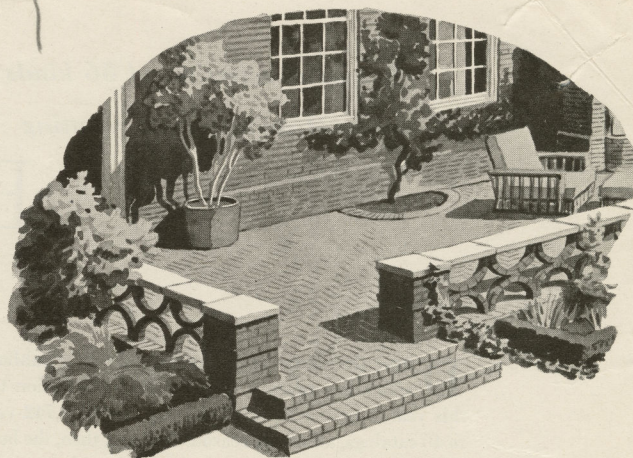
choose to relieve the monotony of absolute flatness, lowering, by two or three feet, the level of the lawn or garden immediately in front of the terrace.

If the ground slopes downward, as in Fig. 2, the terrace will be supported on an earth fill kept in place by a retaining wall. If the nature of the slope permits, a little grading may create a desirable level area below and in front of the terrace.

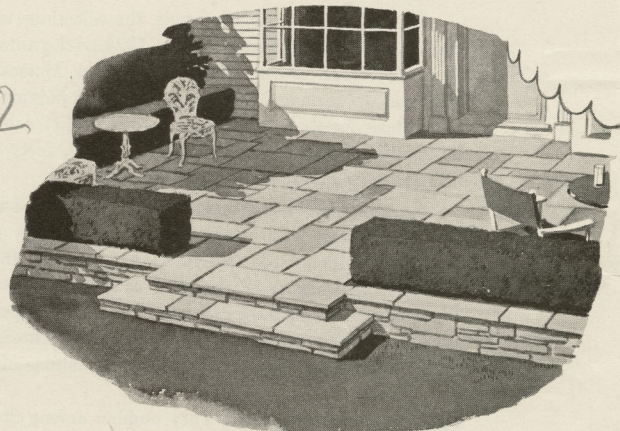
When orientation, or other considerations, dictate that the terrace be placed facing the rising slope of a hill, as in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, a number of interesting solutions may be worked out. If the slope is not very steep, it may be feasible to grade upwards in a series of two or three terraced lawns or gardens; or it may be better to attempt only a single level area beyond the terrace, with a retaining wall against the cut in the hill. If the hill is too steep, this retaining wall may be brought to the very edge of the terrace, as in Fig. 4, with interesting opportunities for planting on the slope of the hill.

In every case, remember that the terrace may be a valuable adjunct to the dignity and appearance of the house; and also that the aspect, looking outward from the terrace, should be given some focal point (or points) of interest—especially if a spectacular view is lacking. This focal point need be nothing more than a bench, trellis or other garden ornament.

The materials of which the terrace may be built are several, as also are the ways in which they may be applied. There is no basic difference between a terrace built simultaneously with the house and a terrace added to an existing house. As shown in Fig. 5, the terrace is not connected rigidly to the house but is rather a separate unit, the joint between the two being usually filled with a waterproof mastic. This (Continued on page 72)



Brick and flagging comprise this terrace, the flagging playing a comparatively minor rôle as a top for the interesting type of pierced brick wall. The steps are placed at the corner in the design shown here

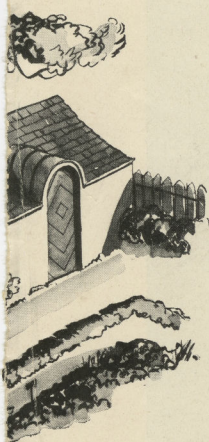


Flagstone and hedge. Rectangular stones in random pattern pave this terrace, the edge of which is marked with a neat low hedge. Designs on this page are for comparatively level sites with shallow steps



Grass joints in stone require no upkeep and make a terrace paving in perfect harmony with a Pennsylvania type stone house. The interesting central step is composed of a grindstone rescued from an old mill

Type 3 seems best.



DONE IN STONE. For a niche among rocks or ledges the design above has particular fitness. Natural stones and a few slabs serve for materials and are adaptable to an infinite number of variations. Here the flue must be more than twice as large as normal to compensate for a very short chimney



SITE FOR A PICNIC. One of the major disfigurements of the best of picnic grounds is the usual messy fireplace arrangement. At the left is suggested a permanent design for a hearth, with a low chimney, a raised fire ledge for convenience, and a flue three times normal size. This should be placed to face into prevailing winds

BACK YARD BARBECUES. Of brick and cement, with hood and chimney of painted sheet metal, the corner fireplace at the right, with its revolving spit, tells its own story. As in all the other suggestions, great variety of pattern and placing is possible. And in addition a purely decorative end is added to the more obvious practical one achieved

