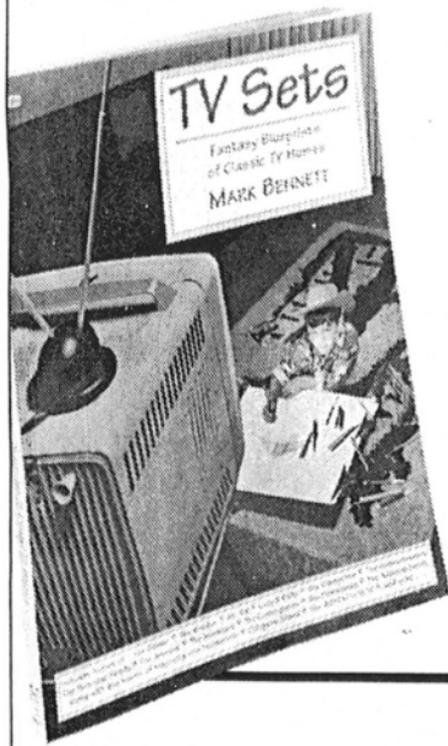


Currents

Mitchell Owens

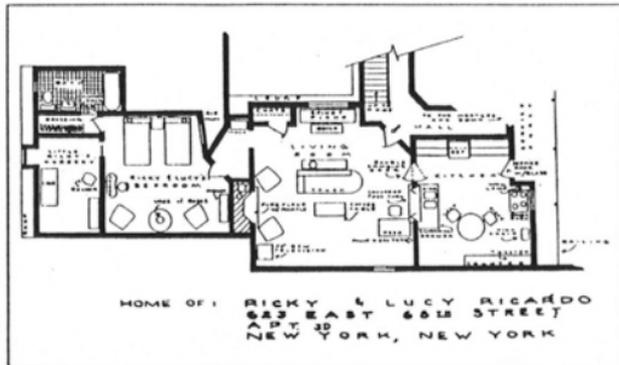


Visiting Mr. Ed, Beaver and Lucy

SOME children dreamed of being Beaver Cleaver's friend. Mark Bennett just wanted to live in his house. He memorized the homes in his favorite television series and even made sketches and lists of the family's possessions.

"I thought if I could write down all that stuff, it would become mine," Mr. Bennett, 40, said. Now a Beverly Hills letter carrier, he draws detailed blueprints of sitcom homes.

Forty of his works appear in "TV Sets: Fantasy Blueprints of Classic TV Homes" (TV Books, \$19.95). His work will be the subject of a show opening in May at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington. The blueprints conjure up what he calls "a utopian suburb, TV Land Estates." They include the Ricardos' flat at 623 East 68th Street (above right), which, in the real world, would put it in the East River; the high-rise apartment of "Family Affair"; the Flintstones' piece of Bedrock, and even the elegant ranch house from "Mr. Ed." "That one was so glamorous," Mr. Bennett



said. "But, after all, Wilbur Post was an architect."

As for those missing landmarks — like the row house in "The Farmer's Daughter" or Diahann Carroll's apartment in "Julia" — Mr. Bennett apologized. "I couldn't watch everything," he said.

His plans, each 24 by 36 inches and on sale for \$3,000 each, are at the Bronwyn Keenan Gallery, 494 Broadway (Broome Street); (212) 431-5083. More plans, as well as lithographs for \$300 to \$500, are at the Mark Moore Gallery, Santa Monica, Calif.; (310) 453-3031.