



HOMES & GARDENS



It might not be Lake Tahoe, California, but this South Yorkshire view still packs a punch



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Planning officials liked the angular exterior and masonry-and-white-rendered style as it echoed some of Mexborough's oldest buildings

Emma and Terry Huggett in their ultra-modern Mexborough home

California dreaming

Terry and Emma Huggett have brought American west coast style to South Yorkshire. **Tony Greenway** pops in to find out more

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JEREMY PHILLIPS

Terry and Emma Huggett like space and light. Their previous home, although traditional-looking from the outside, had an all-white, ultra-modern interior. So when they started planning a new self-build project three years ago, it was perhaps inevitable that they would design a contemporary, open-plan property. The finished results, however, have surpassed even their high expectations.

'For the last nine years we've been to California for our holidays,' says Terry. 'I suppose we've borrowed design ideas from some of the architecture we've seen there because we love the Californian lifestyle and look.'

Terry has a head start on most self-builders: he's a builder by trade with his own Yorkshire-based

property developing firm, Terry Huggett Developments, founded 40 years ago by his father. 'It's in the genes,' he says.

The house Terry and Emma have created is a strikingly beautiful angular building with white walls, large windows, a standing seam zinc roof and cedar wood eaves situated on a hillside overlooking the South Yorkshire town of Mexborough, an affordable housing and regeneration area.

'When our son Bailey was born four years ago we decided we needed more room and a nicer house,' says Terry. 'A plot became available just down the road for £95,000 with outline planning permission for a single dwelling and a garage, and it was difficult to turn the opportunity down. When I first saw it, I thought it was idyllic with a few apple trees and ponies grazing on it.'

