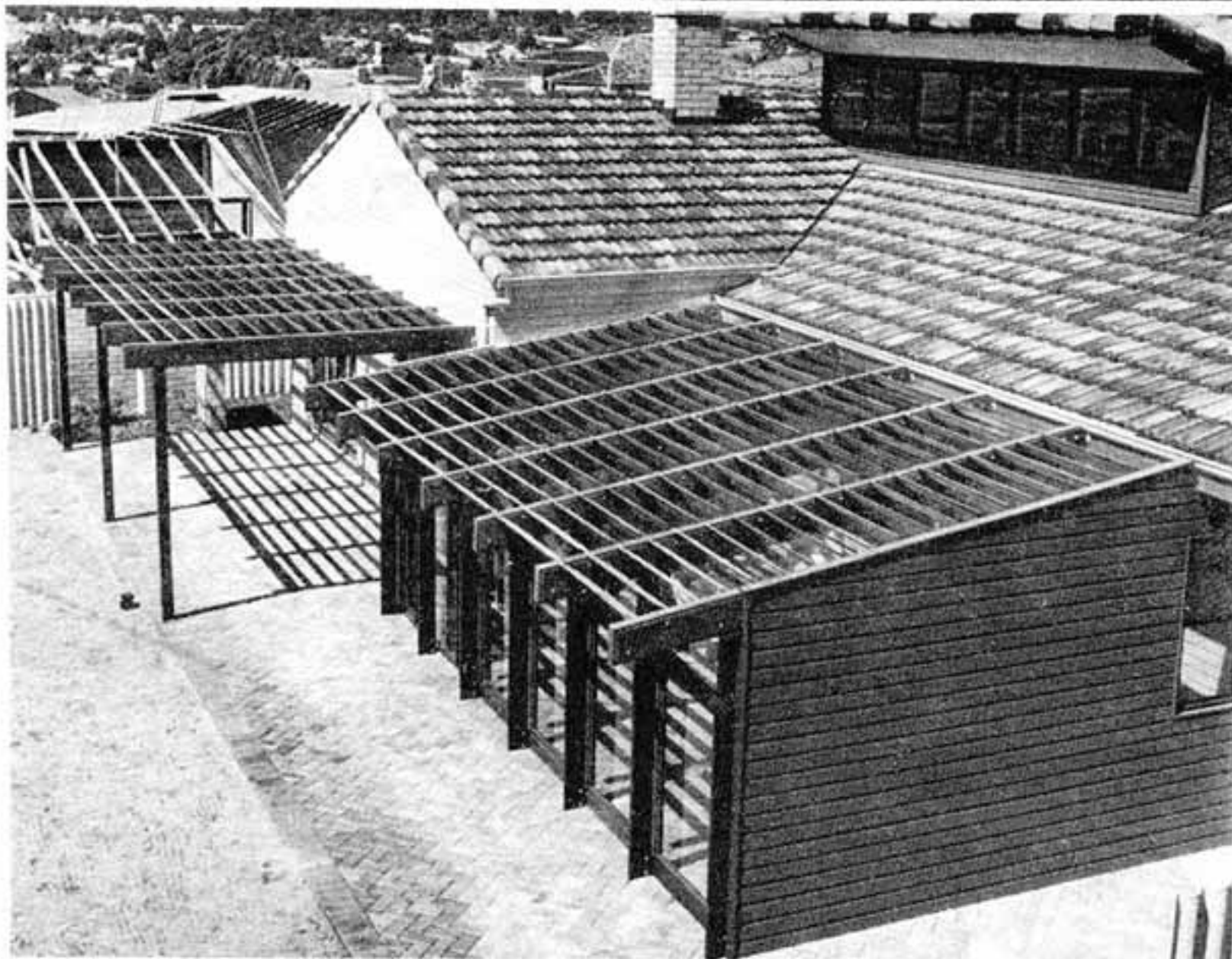


REAL ESTATE



**Add a
room
and
save**

Solar housing

The new concept has many appealing features.

A NEW concept in solar energy use in housing has been pioneered in WA.

It takes the form of a pergola and a garden games room that can be built onto existing houses or incorporated in the construction of new houses.

It has been developed by solar and energy use design consultants Tectoprojects to be available in kit form so that it can be installed by the home handyman.

The architect-director of Tectoprojects, Mr Garry Baverstock, said the pergola was designed to admit 70 to 80 per cent of winter sun when the sun was at a low angle in the sky, and to cut out 75 per cent of rays when the sun was at a high angle in the summer.

The sloping beams of the sun-controlled garden games room under which a glass house could be attached, permitted maximum entry of winter sun and minimum entry of summer sun.

The room could be used as a sun room, games room or greenhouse in a series of sizes from three metres square up to six metres by four metres.

It could be installed by a handyman, preferably with the help of a carpenter.

The construction was of fairly simple column-type with one type of moulding, and standard sheets of toughened safety glass were employed.

Timber was the predominant construction material and the beams, columns and mouldings were of relatively short lengths. The blades were cut from large lengths into short sections.

Timber, mostly jarrah, was chosen because of its aesthetic value and

marketability. The beams and columns were of joinery-quality hardwood and the blades of durable softwood.

The side walls were of clear finish jarrah weatherboard, and it was preferable to have them on the east and west sides of the greenhouse.

Mr Baverstock said the main purpose of the concept was to reduce winter heating bills.

Designs had been formulated to apply the concept to a variety of climates throughout Australia.

Mr Baverstock said that the Forest Products Association had given him financial support in return for progress reports on progress and development.