

LOW ENERGY BUILDINGS IN AUSTRALIA
 by GARRY BAVERSTOCK and SAM PAOLINO. Published by GRAPHICS SYSTEMS, 32 Shakespeare St, Mount Hawthorn, West Aust. 300 pp. \$45.00, including postage.

Summarising their aims in producing this book, the authors have stated that they set out to —

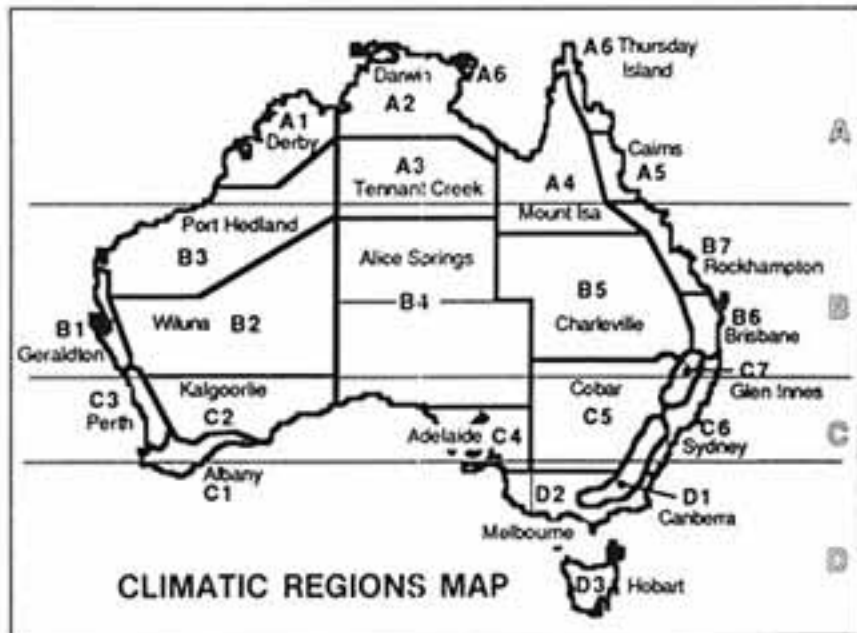
- provide relevant design data for the architect, solar home designer and building professional;
- provide information which would result in achieving a thermally optimised home for both summer and winter;
- present the most relevant data relating to a particular region and building orientation on one sheet, creating a quick reference system;
- assist the designer in justify-

ing the design approach to an unreceptive or uneducated client.

The achievement of these aims is shown in the complete coverage of mainland Australia and Tasmania by means of dividing the country into latitudes and the latitudes into zones. These zones, or regions, are defined on the basis of broad areas of macroclimates relating to temperature, radiation, rainfall and humidity, classified broadly within each State border.

Comprehensive data for 23 zones are therefore given in tables and diagrams in 'user friendly' fashion, reduced to "simple statements answering basic questions that a designer would ask".

The questions the designer needs to be able to answer are said to be: Is it worth building a solar house? How far should one go for each climatic region? What happens if a house cannot face directly North? How much glass is needed on the north, south, east and west sides? How much insulation is re-



quired? How is the 'warmth' or 'coolness' distributed through the house? What viable auxiliary systems can be used and what size equipment is needed?

The volume, which can be treated as a reliable manual, answers the questions directly or refers to them in appropriate sections.

Regarding the authors:

Garry Baverstock, ARAIA, MISES, is a practising architect and founder of TEC-TOPROJECTS Solar Energy

Use Design Consultancy, which specialises in Low Energy Building Design.

Sam Paolino, ARAIA, RIBA, is an architect with many years of experience in Australia and overseas, specialising in researching and applying new technologies to building design. In 1979 he published the book *Living with Climate*, a homebuyers' guide on how to relate project homes to the local climate. ■