



# Designed for the Climate...

## Solar home wins award

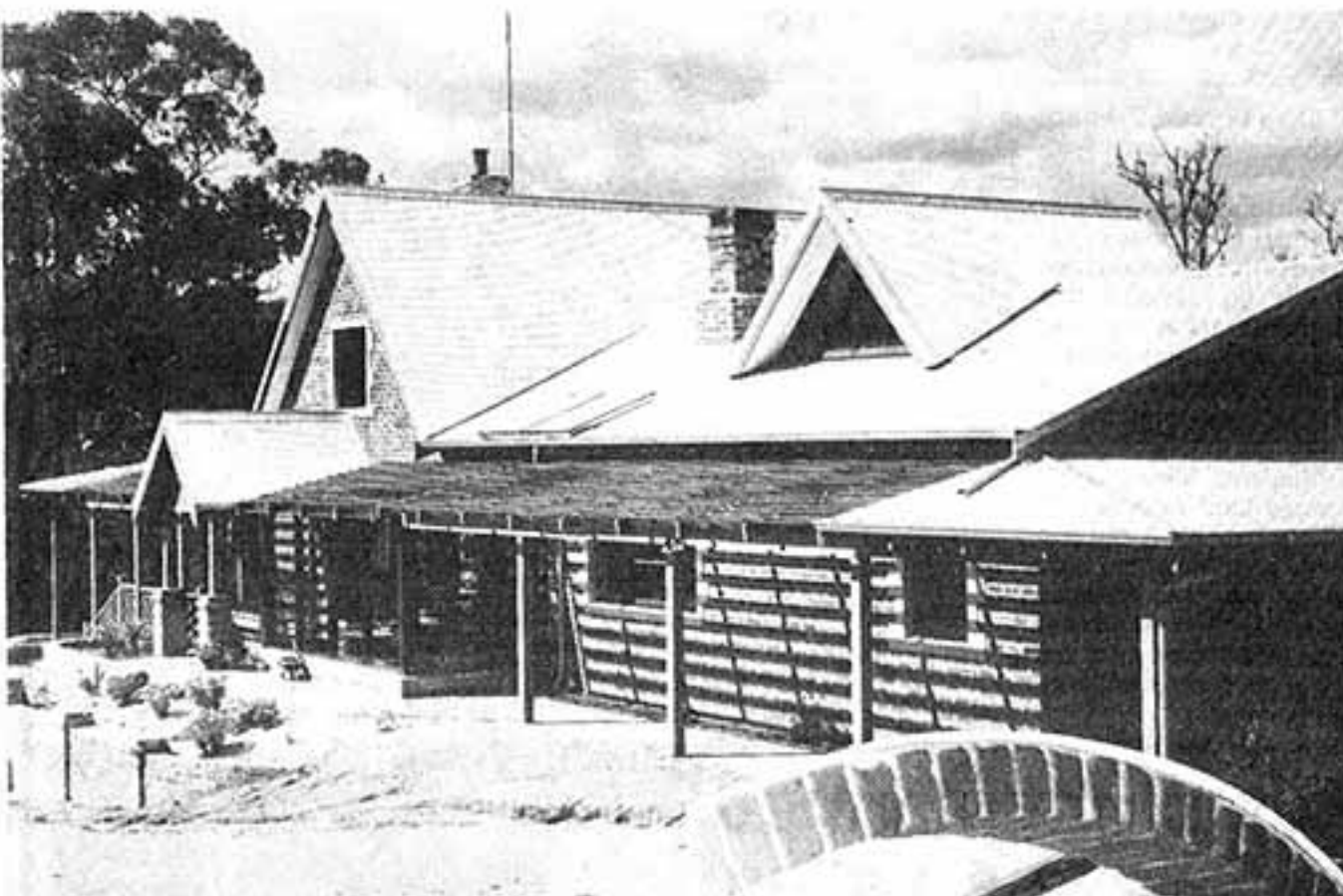
When people say a house is "designed for Hills living" they usually mean that it is set well on a treed block, that it has open fires for winter and big verandahs for summer.

Those qualities pale by comparison with the colonial home in Glen Forrest which won the Design for Climate award for Mundaring builder Ross Lord of Hills Building Consultants and architect Gary Baverstock.

The house was built to the formula in Gary's publication, the 'Low Energy Building Book' for an owner who had studied the qualities of solar design and wanted solar virtues combined with the solid comfort of a colonial-style home.

Ross and Gary made a natural partnership for the project. Gary's firm has won five out of six H. I. A. Design for Climate awards and Ross's firm is the Hills branch of Solar Design Centre.

As a good foundation for the project the house was placed on the block to take maximum advantage of the glass areas of the home which use natural forces to keep it cool in



summer and warm in winter.

The house has a timeless colonial look, re-inforced by use of recycled bricks, corrugated metal roof and dormer windows. Climatic design plays an important part in these materials; the roof maximises heat reflection, the walls are insulated and the dormer windows catch both light and breezes.

A solarium on the north side of the house acts as a heat trap for the living areas and is shaded in summer by an eclipse pergola which has specially angled louvres to let in the maximum amount of winter warmth and exclude summer sun.

The colonial character of the house is reflected in the interior decor and the design, which includes a master dressing room and a big pantry for the kitchen area.

The house design incorporates a spacious loft, used as a studio area by the owners. Cedar planking is used in the ceiling of this area and in other rooms in the house to great effect.

Naturally the house has solar water heating, boosted by the kitchen slow combustion stove.

The Glen Forrest home is a tribute to modern design and classic Hills building expertise.

Unfortunately it is not open for inspection.



*These pictures show the qualities of the magnificent award-winning Glen Forrest Home. The eclipse pergola (top) across the north side of the house allows winter sun into the house. Centre: the delightful solarium. Above: Warm bricks and cedar planking are features of the kitchen (left) and the 'loft' is created mezzanine-style (right).*

