

## New HOMES

Enhanced  
by the sun

**B**UILDING a comfortable and practical residence on a 280sq m block with a frontage of little more than 8m is not easy.

But to make it an imaginative, passive solar concept in which you virtually live on the whole of the site calls for considerable skill.

This has been achieved with a two-storey concept in Swanbourne, harmonising with the area through its use of Moore River limestone blocks and a steeply-pitched, birch-grey corrugated roof.

Generous living spaces with northern aspects on both levels not only maximise the passive solar benefits for year-round comfort, but integrate classical courts.

The main living space downstairs relates to a full-width, flagstone-paved court to the back boundary, where a pergola has louvres angled for maximum sun penetration in winter and to exclude it in summer.

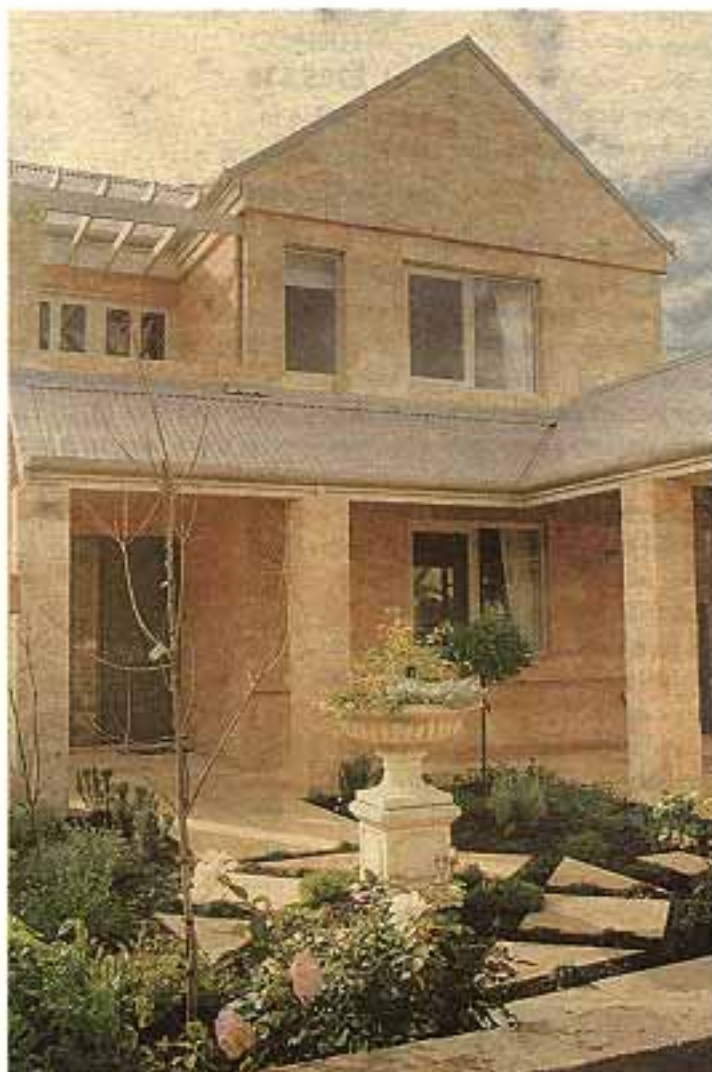
The second court downstairs is to the west, screened by lattice panels and the pergola, and designed to catch cool summer breezes and cross-ventilate the home. The pergola protects a picture window which brightens the stairwell.

Upstairs it is a virtual duplication of downstairs spaces but with balconies front and back.

Architect Garry Baverstock, of Baverstock Murphy and Associates, was given the task of recreating the passive solar qualities of a home he had designed for the owners at Dunsborough.

The handling of spaces and the choice of materials has contributed to a bright and tranquil environment.

The house is fully insulated with double ceiling



protection and polystyrene blocks in the walls.

The ground-floor living area consists of the lounge on one side, the meals area for all occasions in the middle and a flexible kitchen area on the other side.

An island bench cupboard can be shifted to adjust the work area.

There is also a roll-top appliance unit as well as wall cabinets and shelving and a pantry.

There are bedroom suites on both levels, the one downstairs with a 5m x 3m bedroom, a walk-in robe and a bathroom complete with a spa, shower and wide vanity cupboard.

The dual access to this bathroom means it can double as a downstairs powder room.

Frank Platell

about this house

**Custom Built**  
Baverstock Murphy  
and Associates  
9474 2770

SWANBOURNE  
Passive solar design  
Two bedrooms  
Two bathrooms