March's profile of a well-designed living space

Take a slide show tour of the home and hear homeowner/architect Tina Govan talk about it at www.newsobserver.com, search ‘Home.’

Today’s living space is owned by Georgia Beato, a professor at the School of Architecture at NC State University. Beato, the author of the text, is collaborating with the school’s College of Design, now possibilities in constructing a living space that’s well thought-out and built with the homeowner’s living patterns and preferences in mind.

Beato and homeowner/architect Tina Govan and Mark Goodall started their married life in a modern 1,300-square-foot bungalow in Raleigh’s Oxford neighborhood.

“We had served in the Peace Corps and worked in Japan, so we were used to living in small places,” Govan reflects.

They decided to keep the house but “buy two more and dig it to add on — a living room, dining room, offices and spaces for laundry, bathing, sleeping and storage.” The only place to expand the house, though, was into the back yard of their 30 by 130 foot city lot. It would be a tight fit, but the idea appealed to the family because they were committed to being ecologically responsible. Reusing the existing house and keeping it small appealed to them.

After identifying some main goals — creating a feeling of spaciousness and honoring the integrity of the original bungalow and the memory of the family’s much loved and used backyard patio — Govan decided on a minimalist renovation in the existing house and an addition of only 555 square feet. The family ended up selecting a removable interior patio that became the new “heart” of the house.

In her design, Govan relied on many ideas she had admired while working in Japan. She incorporated them while maintaining some new. One of those ideas turned out to be a backyard addition, a second small part to save the planet. PAGE 2E

THE NEWS & OBSERVER
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Extra daylight: Go to www.ncsu.edu/jcraulstonarboretum/ or call 513-7005.

McMansions go miniature

Kids’ playhouses become more elaborate and luxurious

By Missy Baxter

A new addition to playgrounds: And a doubled-up! Those are two of the top scenarios that Raleigh dad Shawn Szewczyk employed when he and his 4-year-old daughter, MaKayla, decided to send in an entry for the Great N&O Birdhouse Contest at JC Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh.

Szewczyk said, “She painted the inside and exterior of it. We went down to that part of the yard to see how the birdhouse entries fared in the Great N&O Birdhouse Contest at JC Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh. The creativity is always a treat.

Once you’ve finished scoping out the houses, catch a tour of the arboretum this weekend — tours of the JCRA highlighting plants that attract birds.

Noon-5 p.m.

10 a.m.

ENTRIES MAY BE PICKED UP BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 5 P.M.

Entries on display.

Winners will be announced.

Entries are to be turned in.

Entries may be picked up.

Entries may be turned in.

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The architect’s aim

“I’d like people to know that they do not need to buy a big house in the outskirts of town to fulfill their dreams. A dream home could be smaller and close to in-town neighbors. Existingフリーのhousing spaces suited to easy modern living are possible in existing bungalows and one-family units, if you approach them freshly. Recycling what we have already built is more sustainable than carving into a meadow.”

Tina Govan

4E, SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2007