Defined Design THAT House

By Alex Nates-Perez



Austin Maynard Architects (AMA) cre-

ated **THAT House** to provide Australians with what they want—space and privacy—without the environmental burden of the country's ever-popular mansion-sized homes. THAT House isn't small by any means, but at 2,744 square feet, it's still about half the size of those that surround it, designed for its residents to be "alone, together." The modest sized home feels abundant in space thanks to its adaptable walls, which allow the homeowners to section off parts of rooms for more privacy or open them up for a different configuration. The home isn't short of green designs, either, as the facades were built to maximize solar gain, solar panels have been installed on the roof, passive ventilation reduces mechanical heating and cooling, and rainwater is captured and reused to flush toilets and water the garden. AMA describes the house as defiant in a neighborhood of poorly planned, large houses, however the sustainable aspects of the house are not limited to size. These green innovations help counter balance the effects of urban sprawl in Australia, while boasting a beautiful design, too. gb&d

Passive Ventilation /pas-iv ven-tə- lā-shən/ (noun) When convective airflows are used that result from the tendency of warm air to rise and cool air to sink to maintain climate. Knowing that warm air rises making cool air sink, THAT House uses warm air created by large, north facing windows to circulate air from the top of the house to the bottom. Strategically placed plants provide shade for the house, too-cooling air and promoting further circulation.

10105: IESS KELLY

Food Belt /ˈfüdˈbelt/ (noun)

An area of fertile land and abundant resources in Australia. Until recently, most people lived within the Food Belt of Australia. However, contractors are now building in more arid places. This puts a huge strain on communities because the energy required to move water and other resources to more rural homes is so great. THAT House removes the need to move away from the Food Belt by exemplifying how elegant and spacious a smaller house can be.





IN CONVERSATION with Samuel Carter

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enabled people to do, even if it was only over the course of a few three-day sprints, was to step out of their comfort zones and think big about what was possible.

gb&d: What are some of the most important projects on the ground?

Carter: I think there are two really key test cases that are going on right now with respect to climate adaptation where entire communities are having to relocate. One is the native communities in coastal Alaska, where their land is literally eroding away as a result of rising sea levels and melting permafrost. The other is in Louisiana, where the Isle de Jean Charles is in a similar situation. We are in a bit of a new paradigm. This is a moment where we as a society have to reorient ourselves to the future in some very tangible ways.

gb&d: What are the first steps for these communities to relocate and start building new and different infrastructure?

Carter: The communities going through this transformative process have some initial hurdles to face because our policy environment is not necessarily set up to deal with the<mark>se kinds of challenges. There</mark> are folks in th<mark>e federal government who</mark> are trying to navigate this maze of policies, which is actually the ground-breaking work that is going to make it easier to make these adjustments moving forward. It is completely expected that there would be these kinds o<mark>f challenges. The question is</mark> how do we o<mark>rganize ourselves to realign</mark> policies with the realities that we now face? I think it's imp<mark>ortant that there is a vision</mark> for how thing<mark>s need to go, and a lot of the</mark> work that The Rockefeller Foundation does is to try to art<mark>iculate that vision, and express</mark> in actionable ways what is possible.

PART 3 RESILIENCE V2

gb&d: What's next for you now that the National Disaster Resilience Competition has wrapped up?

Carter: Now the Foundation is pivoting and wondering, where else can the Resilience Academy be useful? So our work moving forward is to think about where, globally, we could use the Resilience Academy format to help communities make transformative leaps in their thinking around

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Topographical Boundary /tuh-pog-ruh-fi-kəl baun-d(ə-)rē/ (noun)

Clearly marked boundaries on a map. Due to Australia's stable economy, aspirational culture, and relatively flat topography, Australians have spread their urban centers across topographical boundaries, moving so they can build bigger, more private houses. The space they need to do this is outside most settled areas and requires a lot of energy to reach. THAT house provides an alternative to crossing boundaries to build a house with privacy and space by maximizing space usage through brilliant design.

