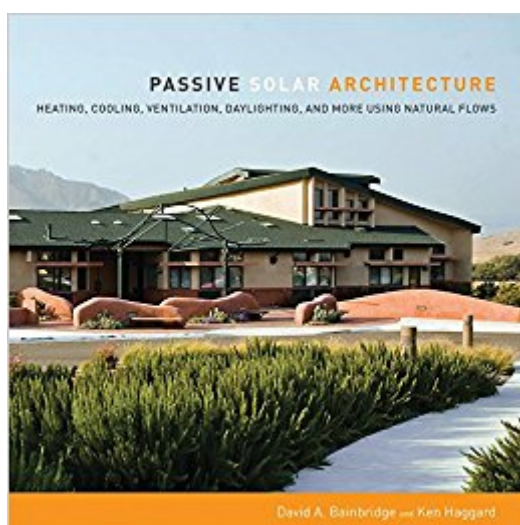


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# Passive Solar Architecture: Heating, Cooling, Ventilation, Daylighting And More Using Natural Flows



## Synopsis

New buildings can be designed to be solar oriented, naturally heated and cooled, naturally lit and ventilated, and made with renewable, sustainable materials—no matter the location or climate. In this comprehensive overview of passive solar design, two of America's solar pioneers give homeowners, architects, designers, and builders the keys to successfully harnessing the sun and maximizing climate resources for heating, cooling, ventilation, and daylighting.

Bainbridge and Haggard draw upon examples from their own experiences, as well as those of others, of more than three decades to offer both overarching principles as well as the details and formulas needed to successfully design a more comfortable, healthy, and secure place in which to live, laugh, dance, and be comfortable. Even if the power goes off. *Passive Solar Architecture* also discusses “greener” and more-sustainable building materials and how to use them, and explores the historical roots of green design that have made possible buildings that produce more energy and other resources than they use.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is a major work. It uniquely emphasizes the interplay between passive solar building and the other elements of sustainable design, and relates real-world examples of building design to broader issues of sustainability. *Passive Solar Architecture* is a welcome addition to any bookshelf on green architecture and sustainability.--Margot McDonald, professor of architecture, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, and past-president, American Solar Energy Society

"Passive Solar Architecture is a comprehensive technical guide to building comfortable, vibrant, efficient homes and commercial buildings. Whether you are in the market for technical tips to maximize a microclimate or a systems-thinking approach to building design, this book is an ideal read for architects, building engineers, homebuilders and green building enthusiasts alike."--Jen Boynton, Editor in Chief, TriplePundit.com "If you read just one book on sustainable building, choose Passive Solar Architecture. In this single-volume handbook, authors David A. Bainbridge and Ken Haggard use warmth and wit to give readers a thorough understanding of passive heating and cooling. In an overheated world, where buildings gobble up the biggest share of energy, this book should be required reading for contractors, architects, homeowners and anyone who cares about housing."--Nicolette Toussaint, architectural designer, and founder, comfortandjoydesign.com "This splendid book is essential reading for anyone planning to build a sustainable, energy-efficient solar home. No one knows this important topic better than veteran solar architects David Bainbridge and Ken Haggard."--Cheryl Long, Editor in Chief, Mother Earth News "The design and construction profession has needed Passive Solar Architecture for a long time. David Bainbridge and Ken Haggard share their knowledge, gleaned from more than three decades, of cutting-edge work with low-energy, passive-solar, and natural building practices. This is a must-have resource for designers wanting to incorporate passive features in their buildings."--Alex Wilson, Founder, BuildingGreen, Inc., Executive Editor, Environmental Building News "This book is a treasure! Drawn from the coauthors' and contributors' decades of successful experience, Passive Solar Architecture is both inspiringly broad in scope and delightfully detailed. City and neighborhood planning is intermixed with many small gems-such as a metal water wall detail to capture winter sun-and examples in climates from around the world. This is a welcome and unique resource for my university seminars in passive heating and cooling."--John S. Reynolds, FAIA, Professor of Architecture Emeritus, University of Oregon, and Honorary Past Chair, American Solar Energy Society "Passive solar home design has significant benefits over traditional home design--especially in disaster situations. In the face of an alarming increase in intensity and frequency of natural disasters, this richly illustrated and accessible book should be a must-read for all homebuilders and community planners."--Yasmeen Hossain, former Senior Solar Analyst with the Solar Electric Power Association

David A. Bainbridge first worked on community design, passive solar heating and cooling, building codes, and solar rights at the innovative design firm Living Systems. He described his first water-wall solar home and the Village Homes solar subdivision in Solar House Designs in 1978.

Founder of the Passive Solar Institute, and recipient of the ASES Passive Pioneer Award in 2004, Bainbridge consults on a wide range of residential and commercial projects and has completed several solar projects on his own homes, as well as co-authoring *The Straw Bale House* (with Athena Swentzell Steen and Bill Steen), and *Passive Solar Architecture* (with Ken Haggard). He is currently Associate Professor of Sustainable Management at the Marshall Goldsmith School of Management. He lives in San Diego, California. Ken Haggard, formerly an architecture professor at California Polytechnic, is an architect and principal in the San Luis Sustainability Group. Since the late sixties, Haggard has designed more than 200 solar buildings, from homes to large commercial and institutional buildings as well as the first permitted straw bale building in California. An active member of the American and International Solar Energy Societies, he received the Passive Pioneer Award from ASES in 1999 and was made a fellow of ASES in 2000. His office and home in Santa Margarita, California are passive solar, off grid, and straw bale.

I was hoping it would be a great resource to find products to help build my new home. However it has pictures of pigs and other comical animals, with quotes like "Use dual pane glass, it will save energy". I really got bored reading this book. It did not offer any "New" ideas to me. Suggestions like "Install more insulation, and you will save energy". Yawn.

We're currently researching ways to build a low-maintenance, low-energy home and this book is the bible, packed with information. And I've only had time to skim through it so far. All I need now the time to delve into it. Will certainly use many of the tips and designs explored and explained. A bit pricey, but we have no doubt it will serve us well.

I am trying to educate myself on the construction of net-zero homes so that I might eventually live off the grid. My motivations are entirely selfish monetary ones. The fact that they happen to coincide with socio-politically-correct green movement are of little consequence to me as a consumer. I was encouraged by the 5-star average review of this book, but after reading through it I realized that the title and description of this book are totally misleading. A more appropriate title would be, "Eco-conscious Living: A Diatribe in Sustainability". There are several great ideas and concepts for sustainable, low-waste practices, but very very little information on passive solar design concerns beyond lighting and the "advantage" of heating/cooling. Nearly zero information on implementation. The author appears to be trying to sell the concept of sustainable living. This reader is already sold on it, so the message was completely wasted on me.

Most recent tome on the topic of passive solar. Promotes straw bale overmuch. A good overview of the latest thinking on this subject and latest technology. Admits software is still woefully unable to model passive solar.

This expensive book, \$85 is worth it. Thoughtful, persistent, unrelenting, the authors take their time with their message - to rethink everything we do and change our ways. Reductionist thinking versus what we need, whole system thinking. They return to this again and again. Yet the book was not chosen to be a polemic, the facts demanding their viewpoint build up as the pages pass and so sparks must occur as the voltage mounts. There are even more developments they could have included supporting them. The book is never desperate, it draws its strength from its thoughtfulness, richness and the relentless message - change or else. There are aspects of passive design they don't go into. The book is more for architects and home builders than for engineers but such engineering books can follow. How can architects disregard the points of the compass? Bainbridge and Haggard notice this strange, modern convenient and perverse ignorance and bring it up several times. You and I read the menu with prices but Bainbridge and Haggard flash another energy menu for us to see as if btu's and kWhrs are the real prices not dollars yet this is wrong. We must work to have subsidies removed so prices reveal everything. How can Bainbridge and Haggard imagine that little energy goes into a straw bale when our sun has radiated uncounted terawatt hours in growing each one. Cheap yes, lots of energy, also yes. Why are there pages and pages on photovoltaic? Photovoltaics have received too much attention and passive solar too little. Why drop what others ignore to repeat what is already discussed too often. Finally we will see the battle of our time the organic against the electronic! There are good pages on water, sewage and building materials, you can learn lessons such as after straightening rusty nails polish them in a cement mixer. The advice about difficulty salvaging plastic foam insulation as well as other material is interesting especially to those of us already fatally surrounded by plastic. The books attention to the forgotten, Peter van Dresser of New Mexico and Jon Hammond and living Systems of California was very welcome. In passive solar many of us were excited to be the first to do this and that. Without Bainbridge and Haggard to maintain interest we could also be the last as the reductionist architects replace us and promote more electricity and gasoline. The essays of Fish and Levine didn't add much for me. It is already a long book why are they there? I think Bainbridge and Haggard too easily dismiss nuclear power, after all the A bomb and H bomb are mans most spectacular and influential accomplishments. We can hardly dismiss them. Let us bet that today's and tomorrow's engineers

can make nuclear power safe if not cheap.

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