

Solarium savings

EVERYONE LOVES the openness and freedom offered by the great outdoors. It is possible, though, to enjoy it without ever stepping outside by adding a solarium or sunroom to your home.

Two homes in Homearama '87 have just such additions for visitors to see first-hand the beauty and advantages of the "suncatchers."

Solariums not only add to the beauty and spaciousness, they also can serve as a source of energy for home heating.

The "greenhouse effect," storing the sun's energy and radiating it within an enclosed area, is the underlying idea behind the solarium.

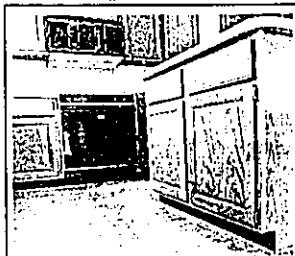
RAYs FROM THE sun enter the room through large glass windows and energy is collected in the masonry bricks or dark tile lining the floor and perhaps part of the walls. The tiles then radiate the warmth trapped within the room.

The warm air can be circulated through the house during the cool months of the year through the use of fans and ventilation to reduce fuel costs.

In cooler parts of the country, a solar room can keep a whole house warm throughout the day and into the evening if it's constructed correctly.

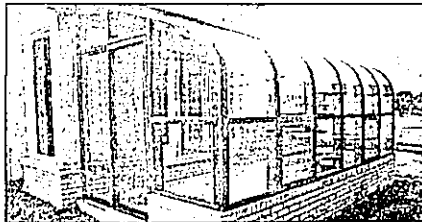
Many solariums serve as family rooms, patios or even enclose hot tubs.

And, of course, you could always follow tradition and use it strictly as an area for raising flowers and plants.



Polished beauty

An unusual feature in the Newport house by Curtis Building Co. is the hardwood flooring in the kitchen. Yes, you read that right. It blends beautifully with the oak cabinets and the country look that dominates the rest of the house.



Two homes in Homearama '87 have solariums — or green houses. One is the four-bedroom Dorchester house by Biltmore Properties. The second is the five-bedroom Grandville by Leo Soave Building Co.

Credits

The Homearama '87 supplement to the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers was coordinated by Marie McGee, special sections editor. Advertising coordinators were Roy Meadows and Scott Miller. The cover was done by Glenna Merillat, creative services director. Photos were taken by staff photographer Bill Bresler.

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