

# small footprint, big dance



## PROJECT

**River Road Mini-Home**  
River Road, Eugene

**Owner**  
Julie Hulme and Rob Handy

**Architect**  
Nir Pearlson Architect, Inc.:  
Nir Pearlson, Rachel Auerbach

**Structural Engineer**  
Pioneer Engineering

**General Contractor**  
Six Degrees Construction

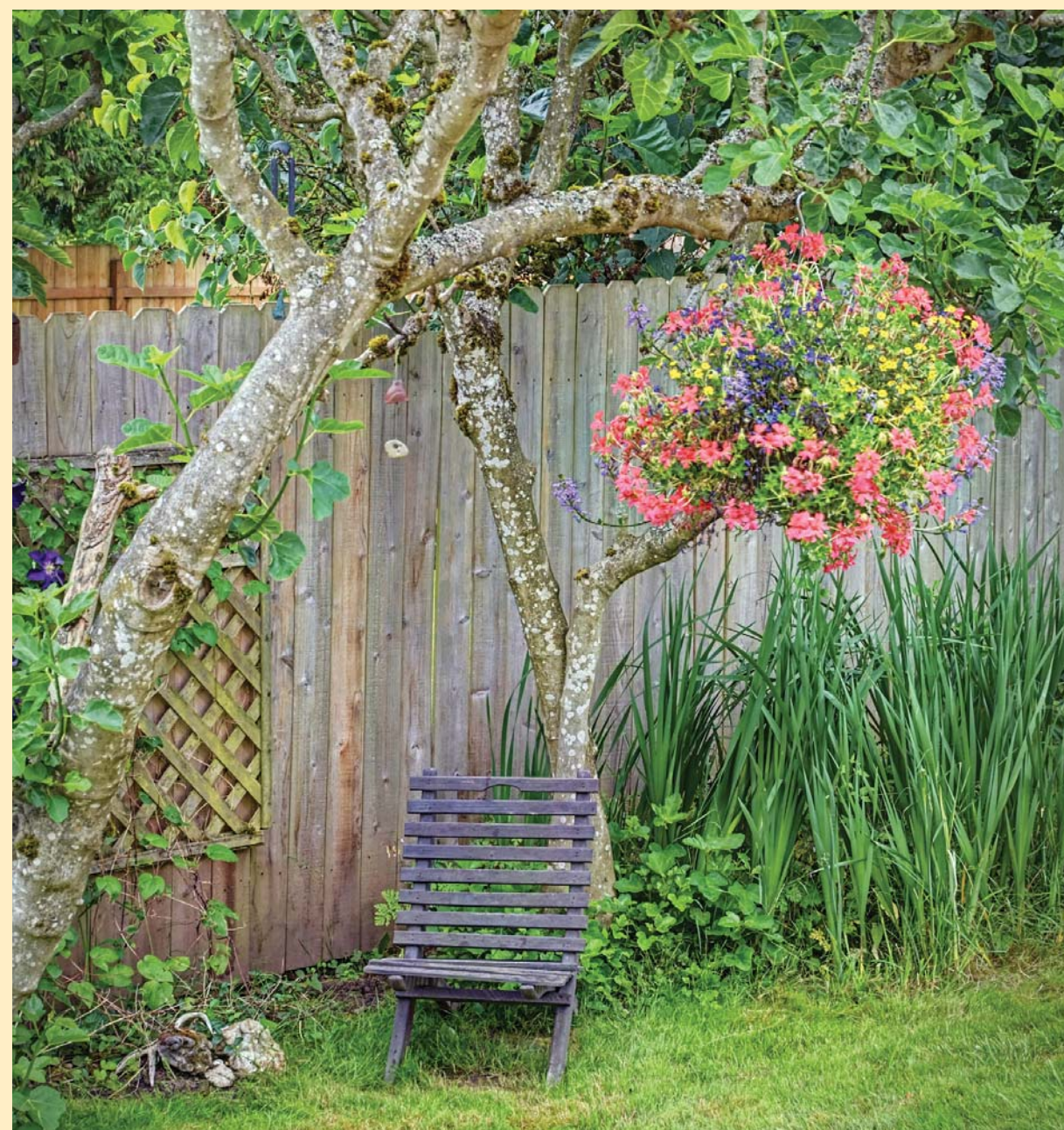
**Solar Design / Build**  
Solar Assist

## CHALLENGE

- Design a sustainable Mini-Home.
- Combine expansive, connected spaces with cozy nooks.
- Weave the interiors into the surrounding garden to celebrate the cycle of seasons.

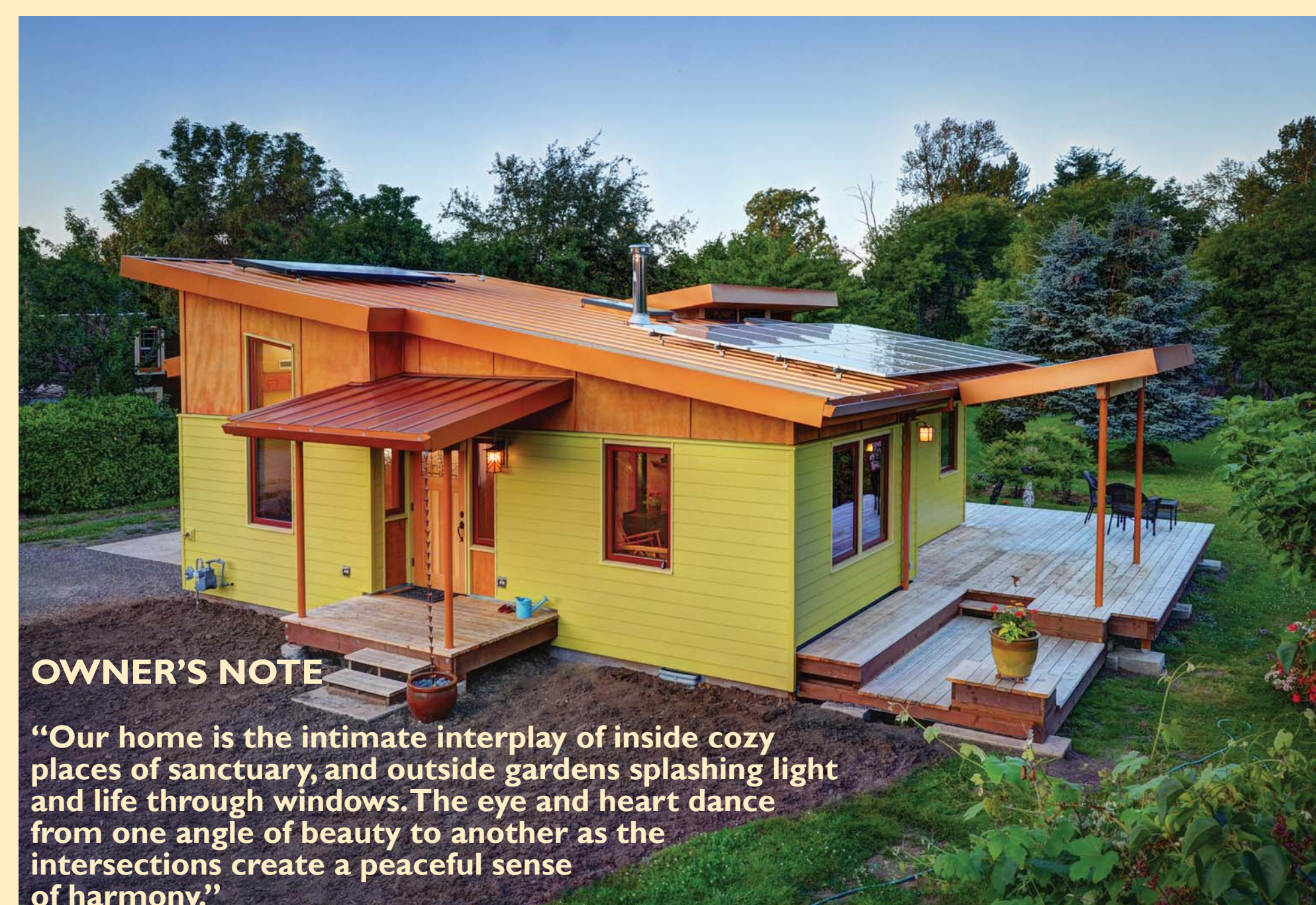
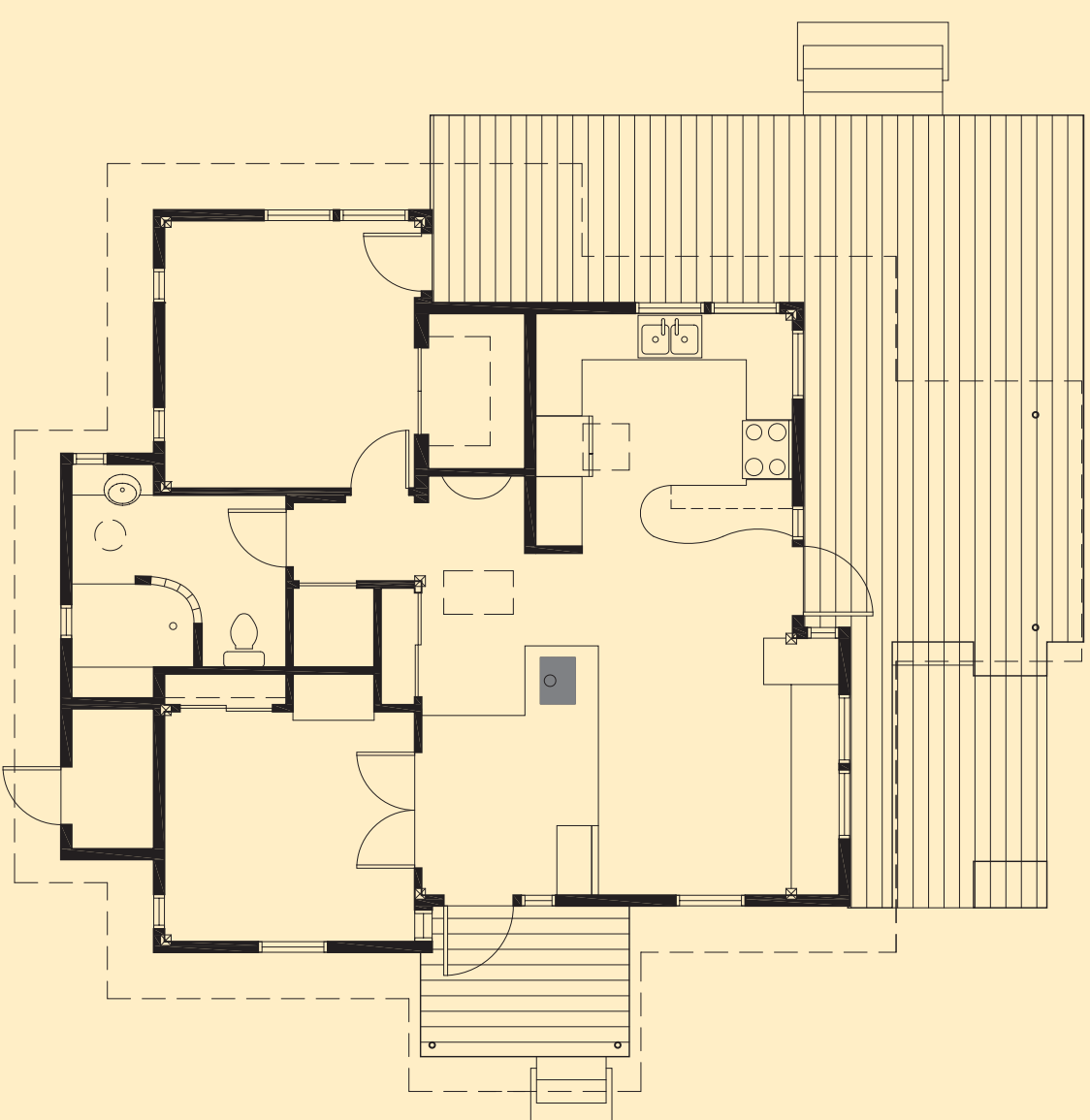
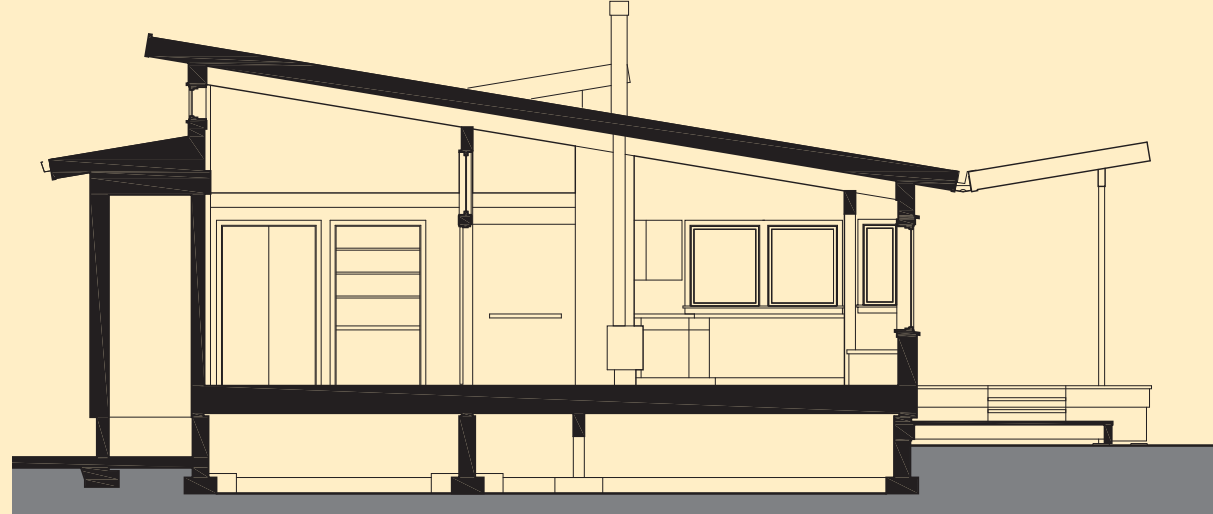
## CONCEPTS

- Transition between the front porch and the interiors via a slate-tiled entryway.
- Combine and overlap living, dining, and cooking areas within an open central space.
- Expand the great room into the study/guest room and onto the partly-sheltered deck overlooking the garden.
- Anchor the great room with the centrally located wood stove.
- Delineate the passage into the private realm, a master bedroom and a light-filled bathroom, with a peaceful altar.
- Expose the hybrid timber-frame structure and the trimwork to frame the naturally-dyed earthen plaster walls and the serene garden vistas.



## SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES

- **Footprint**  
The 800 SF home includes a bonus loft for meditation and storage.
- **Envelope**  
Double-insulated walls and roof far exceed code minimums.
- **Daylighting**  
Windows, doors, transoms, clerestories, and skylights provide abundant daylight.
- **Energy Conservation**  
A super-efficient mini-split heat pump combines with a heat recovery ventilator (HRV) to heat and ventilate the home.
- **Energy Harvest**  
The south-facing roof carries a solar photovoltaic (PV) array and a solar hot water collector.
- **Water Reclamation**  
The pre-plumbed future graywater system and rainwater cisterns will supply water to the landscape.



## OWNER'S NOTE

"Our home is the intimate interplay of inside cozy places of sanctuary, and outside gardens splashing light and life through windows. The eye and heart dance from one angle of beauty to another as the intersections create a peaceful sense of harmony."

PHOTOS: MIKE DEAN; NIR PEARLSON