

AUGUST 2008



## THE BOOTSMA RESIDENCE

### THE ENVIRONMENTALLY INTEGRATED HOME: A TRANSLATION

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#### SOLARES INTERNS DEPART

WE OFFER HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR STUDENT INTERNS, ANDREA HUNNIFORD AND DAN MALKA FOR THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION THEY MADE AS PART OF THE SOLARES TEAM OVER THE PAST 8 MONTHS.

DAN AND ANDREA WILL BE CONTINUING THEIR ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES THIS SEPTEMBER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO, CAMPUS IN ROME, ITALY. THIS UNIQUE EXPERIENCE OFFERS ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS A VASTLY DISTINCT PERSPECTIVE ON THE ROLE OF ARCHITECTURE IN THE BROADER HISTORICAL AND URBAN CONTEXT.

THROUGH INSTRUCTION BY ITALIAN PROFESSORS, EXTENSIVE TRAVEL AND RESEARCH, GRADUATES FROM THE PROGRAM GAIN A DEEPER COMPREHENSION OF HISTORY, CULTURE AND ARCHITECTURE.

WE WISH ANDREA AND DAN THE BEST OF LUCK AND A BUON VIAGGIO!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE ROME PROGRAM PLEASE VISIT:  
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*"We desire to live in a more harmonious way with nature".*

Peter and Jessica Bootsma expressed this to us in June 2006, after purchasing a two acre property in Grafton Ontario. At the time we were wrapping up construction on The Lolley Residence and invited them for a tour and discussion of green building principles. When we met Peter and Jessica we were struck with how similar their vision was to James and Brenda's. They too were looking for someone to help them design their dream home: a place tailored to their lifestyle and designed to reduce environmental impact.

The aesthetic of the home was informed by Jessica's passion for the Arts and Crafts style. First gaining popularity in North America at the turn of the century, Arts and Crafts houses create strong connections to the natural environment, a principal which is harmonious with the Environmentally Integrated Home. While The Bootsma Residence differs in appearance from The Lolley Residence, it is grounded in the same methodology.

For Peter and Jessica, it was important that the house be welcoming. The driveway on the north side of the house winds through trees and gardens to the front door, protected by a reclaimed timber-frame canopy. Although the Bootsma Residence is only 1950sf, the organized layout uses space effectively and creates rooms that look and feel spacious. The Great Room, with a twelve foot tall cathedral ceiling and Arts and Crafts styled central fireplace gives the home a feeling of grandeur. The second floor master suite has views of the forest to the north and Lake Ontario to the south.

The home is built of Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs): thick foam sheets sandwiched between wood sheathing. SIPs provide continuous insulation through the core while maintaining an air-tight building envelope. The fiber cement siding and high performance double-glazed fiberglass windows add to the durability and efficiency of the building.

Our collaboration with Jessica and Peter was one of the highlights of the project. Jessica's passion propelled the work forward and her creative sensibilities informed much of the design. Jessica acted as the general contractor and Peter was hands-on during the entire construction process. Their enthusiasm and resourcefulness was inspiring. Helping Jessica and Peter create the home of their dreams was a truly rewarding experience.

*"Thank you both for helping us make our dreams come true."*

**-Jessica and Peter Bootsma, 17 March 2008**

