

Solar energy tests stepped up — National Research Council challenges Canadian weather conditions



This Campeau Corporation design at the Ile Brizzard development in Laval, Quebec features an air-rock solar energy system.

In an effort to find alternatives to increasingly expensive gas and oil, the National Research Council has expanded its program of solar demonstrations.

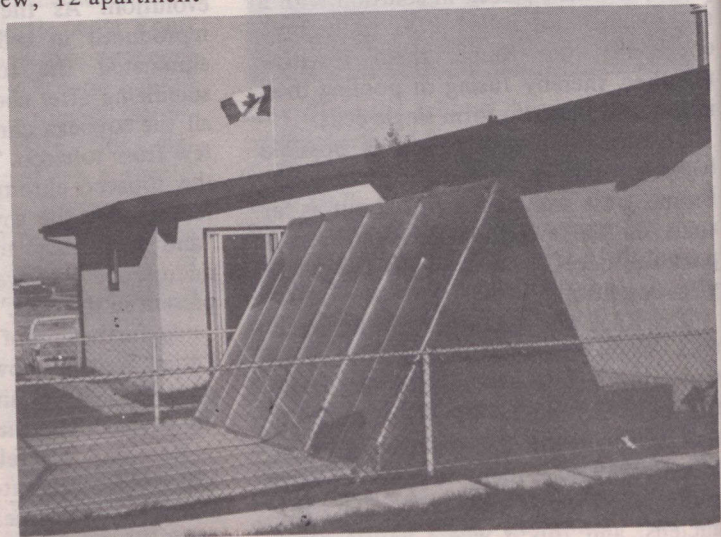
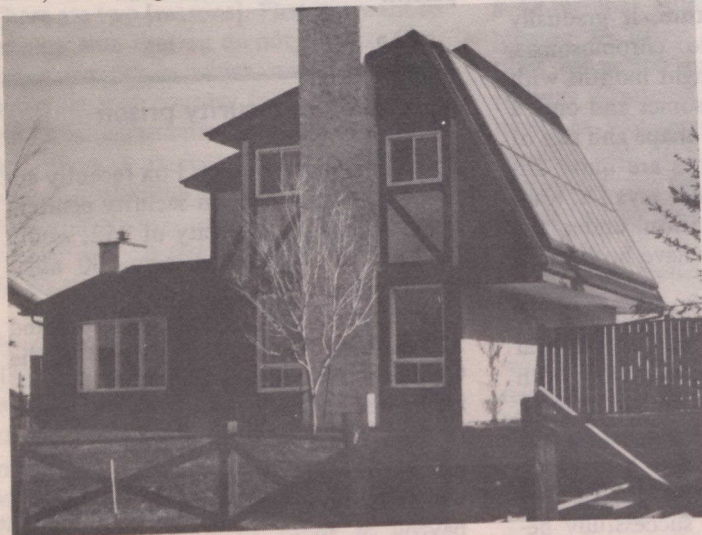
During the past year, NRC provided financial support to 14 detached single-family dwellings, each an example of some form of solar heating, from Prince Edward Island to Vancouver Island. New contracts, worth a total of over \$1 million, are being concluded with 16 Can-

adian firms for the installation of solar energy systems in multiple-unit dwellings, including buildings in Fredericton (New Brunswick), Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver.

Several types of solar application will be tested. A solar central heating system (assisted by a heat pump) will be installed in a 19-unit row house in Ottawa, and in Fredericton, a solar central heating system will be put into a new, 12-apartment

building in which an individual heat pump will be used for each unit. Examples of passive air systems are planned for multiple-unit dwellings in Montreal, Calgary and Vancouver. Three demonstrations of solar service-water heating in row houses or low-rise apartments will be made in Montreal.

Studies conducted under NRC contracts at the University of Waterloo have shown that, of several building types ex-



These two model homes show different adaptations to solar energy heating: (left) the traditional house and (right) the bungalow.