

**Allotments: Extremely valuable – grossly underestimated – shockingly unknown**

In the previous article you could get better acquainted with the numerous, often innovative contributions of the allotment gardeners and the allotments to men, society, nature and the environment.

As appendix you find one last contribution concerning the subject: Innovative constructions.

Great thanks to Chris Zijdeveld, former Office president, who has realised this presentation with great enthusiasm.

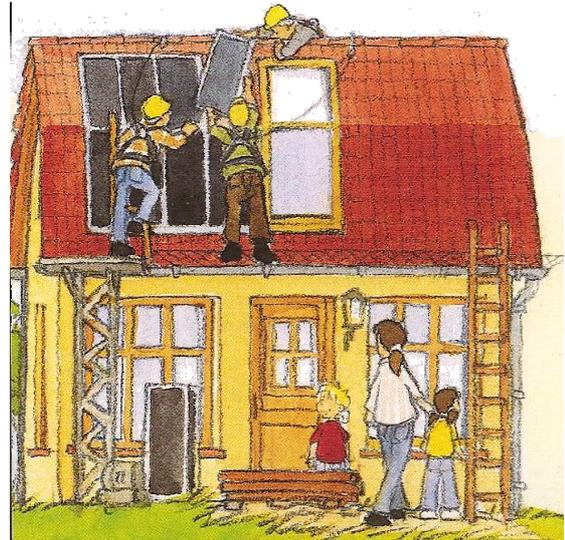
We hope that all these articles have contributed to help you to better appreciate the allotment' value and that you are now pleased when an allotment site exists close to your home.

Allotments are a colourful world for all!  
They offer solutions for people's new envies!



extremely valuable - grossly underestimated - shockingly unknown

## INNOVATIVE SHELTER:



Laws and rules for allotments are very different in the affiliated countries. In some countries small houses on allotments are usual. In other countries only a small tool shed is allowed. Allotment gardeners have been very creative and innovative with their buildings.



extremely valuable - grossly underestimated - shockingly unknown



A surprise in Poland where a small house on an allotment was built totally in accordance with the rules for passive solar building.



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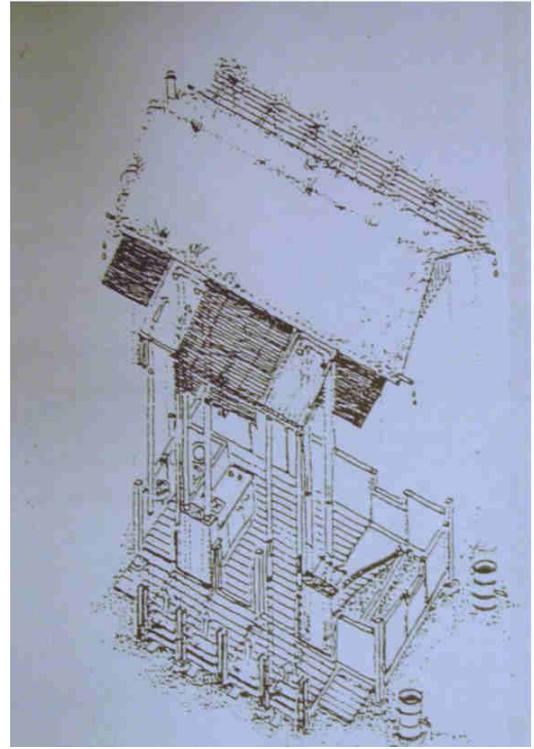
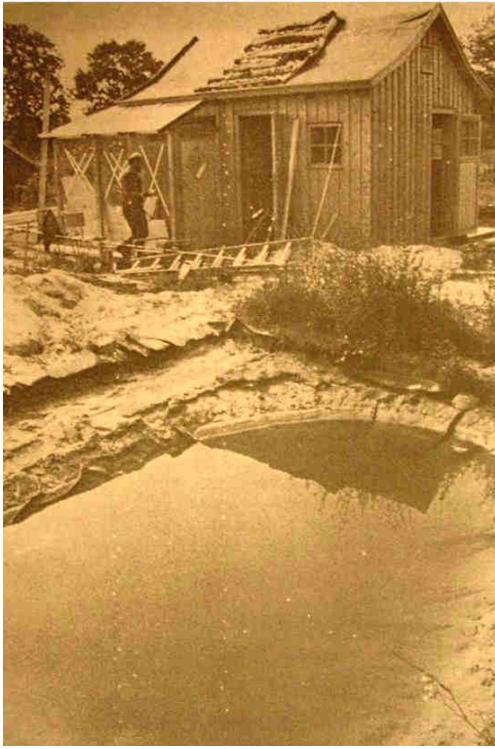


In Regensburg (Germany) an allotment was built in accordance with sustainable principles – and of course the houses were passive solar in a special way.





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In Berlin (Germany) as well a sustainable building of allotment houses was pioneered .



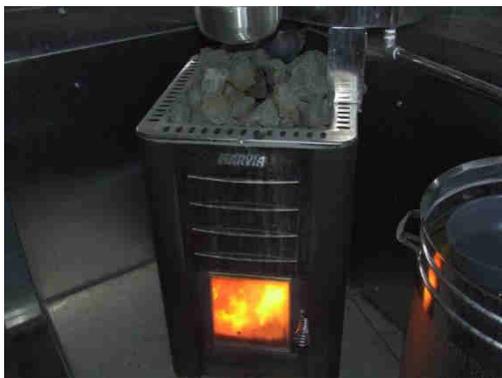
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In Häameetlinna - Finland the ground surface was effectively used in adding a small sleeping room on top and again passive solar principles were used.



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A striking example about cultural differences and creativity – in a little forest between the allotment and a lake in Finland nearly all gardeners had their own little sauna building.



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In many towns in the Netherlands allotment gardeners are allowed to sleep in their little house – but only during summer. In some towns it even is allowed to have one or two gardeners living there in winter if they prevent burglary and vandalising. Allotment organisations prohibit to do that for more than one year in a row preventing so permanent living on the allotment.



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In Vienna a creative solution was found for a special housing shortage. If an allotment couple had been active gardeners for many years they could get a permanent permit to live in their allotment house if they left a house in the category that had a shortage.



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Solar collectors provide ventilation and prevent humidity in many Scandinavian allotment houses – an example from Stockholm – Sweden.



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Allotment gardeners have been forerunners in the use of solar electricity.



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Within the rules allotment gardeners in Dijon (France) could build a shed – painted with environmentally friendly paint and collecting rainwater.