

In one of the fastest growing cities in North America, the idea of building homes in under-utilized downtown alleys is rapidly gaining ground. Toronto has an estimated 2,400 public laneways that could be converted into homes just a stone's throw away from where people work or study. With this in mind, the University of Toronto saw the opportunity for a pilot project to animate a quiet alley near Robarts Library.

Three homes have been designed to be net-zero energy and net-zero carbon, using 'Passive House' principles and using super-insulated, prefabricated wall panels, triple-glazed windows and foundation insulation systems with on-site renewable energy generation. They each have brightly lit interiors, open-concept kitchen-living rooms, bike storage and a shared backyard.





## **DETAILS**

## **LOCATION**

Glen Morris, between Spadina and Huron

#### TEAM

University of Toronto; Baird Sampson Neuert Architects; Index Construction

### PROJECT TYPE

New Development

## SIZE

Three homes between 800-1,600 square feet

### **FEATURES**

Designed to be net-zero energy and net-zero carbon, using 'Passive House' principles and utilizing superinsulated prefabricated wall panels, triple-glazed windows, and foundation insulation systems, with on-site renewable energy generation.

# **CONSTRUCTION START**

March 2019

### **CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION**

November 2020