

# MICRO COTTAGES.

Micro Cottages are small single-family homes with living/dining areas, bedrooms, bathrooms and kitchens plus a large usable porch serving as outside living space. Micro Cottages and their residents do best when they constitute a village of six to twelve homes clustered around a community open space.



Micro cottages are not “tiny houses”, mobile homes or accessory dwelling units. They have many of the same characteristics, but micro cottages are permanent, stick/block built, stand-alone dwellings with the ability to be sustainable for many years. When constructed with green construction methods, materials and fixtures, the micro cottages provide a durable and sustainable living environment.

Two examples are cited below. A new one, Micro Cottages on Vaughan, in Clarkston GA developed by The MicroLife Institute and an older village in Orlando built in 1948. Both have dwellings of about 500 square feet clustered around a central space served by common parking and trash collection areas. Landscaping and architecture provide visual and functional benefits.

The Vision for a Micro Cottage Village is to be a sustainable community with like-minded people interested in a small and simple living environment close to urban amenities and public transportation. A sense and reality of “community” is the foundational spirit of the Village.

Maintenance over time is always a concern. Common area maintenance is important as is long-term thinking about renewal and replacement of infrastructure and structural aspects of the homes and the community. The management arrangement relies on residents to govern themselves with contractors handling the regular and periodic physical work as required.

Development of a Micro Cottage Village requires at least one-half acre of developable land for eight units as experienced by MicroLife in Georgia. Green construction methods, materials and fixtures require higher upfront costs in order to reduce long-term expenses. Solar panels and other conservation equipment and methods not only help reduce operating costs but also provide water and electricity during emergency situations. Financing, regulations, public attitudes are changing to encourage the development of Micro Cottages and their Villages.

FROM...



Micro Cottages on Vaughan.



LINK: <https://www.microlifeinstitute.org/>



Georgia's First Tiny Home Village Now Open, and Sold Out

Eight single-family houses on a half-acre of land.

July 25, 2021, 5:00 AM PDT

By [James Brasuell](#) @CasualBrasuell

LINK: <https://www.planetizen.com/>

WHO WE ARE

LINK: <https://www.microlifeinstitute.org/>

The **MicroLife Institute** is a 501(c)3 non profit based in Atlanta GA. We embrace the ideals of “Less Is more” and advocate for better zoning policy to allow for housing to be built for the good of connecting community. We educate, advocate, focus on research and pilot projects that demonstrate this philosophy to create change across the world. The **MicroLife Institute** is a hub that connects individuals, policy makers, and professionals to rethink how we utilize space inside the walls of a structure and beyond while building community and social conscience. This institute focuses on others and helping them see how less space could mean more life.

Cottages on Vaughan Drone

Nov 9, 2021 [8:24]

LINK: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ng6k76\\_85V00](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ng6k76_85V00)

DeKalb County Cottage Ordinance Discussion -

Jan 27, 2022 [59:09]

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SMHYfzV4D8I>

## VISION & MISSION

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**VISION:**

Improving the world through micro living.

**MISSION:**

MicroLife Institute is dedicated to promoting a better quality of life utilizing micro living principles through education, advocacy, research and demonstrations.



## MICRO HOUSE RESOURCES

The resources found in this section [[LINK: https://www.microlifeinstitute.org/tiny-house-resources](https://www.microlifeinstitute.org/tiny-house-resources)] are offered as a courtesy to those seeking to learn more about tiny house living. We have had first-hand experiences with many of the organizations that are included, but please do your own due diligence when contacting any company or person listed here. **MicroLife Institute** does not specifically endorse any organization, other than our own.

- Find a [builder](#) for your tiny dream home
- Find tiny house [communities](#)
- Attend tiny house [events](#)

**RECOMMENDED WEBSITES:**

[Accessory Dwelling Unit Info](#) - "A one-stop source about accessory dwelling units, multigenerational homes, laneway houses, ADUs, granny flats, in-law units..."

[ADU Designs](#)- A great website that sells super affordable plans for well laid out tiny houses on foundations that can be used as accessory dwelling units or stand alone homes.

[American Tiny House Association](#) - "Our goal is to support tiny house enthusiasts who are seeking creative and affordable housing as part of a more sustainable and self-reliant lifestyle. What can you gain here?"

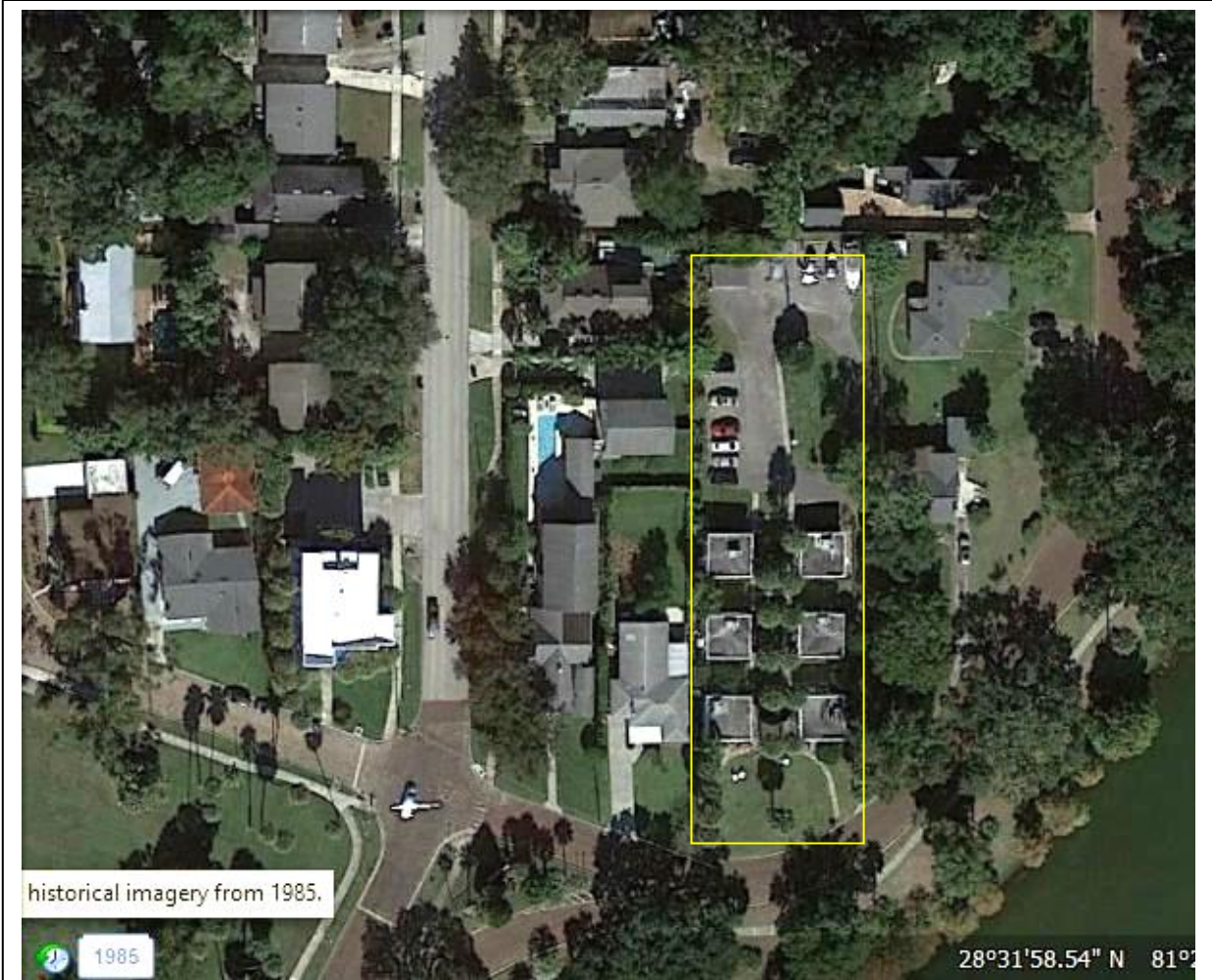
- Find [model codes](#).
- Review [construction guidelines](#) for tiny houses and provide feedback.

[Houseplans](#) - A great website to buy house plans at a reasonable price. Search for small homes designed by architects including Bruce Tolar.

[Missing Middle Housing](#) - "Missing Middle" was coined by Daniel Parolek of Opticos Design, Inc. in 2010 to define a range of multi-unit or clustered housing types compatible in scale with single-family homes that help meet the growing demand for walkable urban living.

**AND MANY MORE LINKS TO RESOURCES AT:** <https://www.microlifeinstitute.org/tiny-house-resources>

Micro Cottages, Lake Davis, Orlando.



711 N. Lake Davis Drive, built 1948, [unchanged since 1985 photo].

- Six Cottages, 24'x24' = 586 sf.; 2BR, 1 Bath.
- Lot, 302'x100' = 30,212 sf, 0.69 acre.
- Amidst a single-family neighborhood.



View from Back w/ Parking field and area for Trash Receptacles.



Front View from Lake Davis Dr: Single family homes on both sides.