

Project: X-Small
Architect: UNI, uni-a.com
Location: Cambridge,
Massachusetts
Issue: March 2007

Size matters to Beat Schenk and Chaewon Kim. The immigrant couple—Schenk is Swiss, and Kim came to the U.S. from Korea—met as students at SCI-Arc. Unable to legally accept commissions, they began building a veritable compound for themselves on a lot in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Their structures started with Small; then they bought Large next door; completed work on Medium; and finished with X-Small (or "What the Hell Is This"), a staggered stack of three marine-plywood boxes. Custom skylights on each of the floors' four corners offset the distinct lack of windows, which maintains a sense of privacy on the eye-catching lot.

