GREEN SPACES

GARDEN AT 1483 ALBERTA ST.

Although there are unsubstantial green spaces in the community, the Tin Shed Cafe at 1483 Alberta St. is aesthetically, socially, and ecologically effective. Owned by Rosalyn Hill, an artist and developer, it is a local coffee house that has a friendly storefront entrance as well as a gated side entrance leading to a courtyard.

Inside, it’s a quiet and relaxed atmosphere with various individuals reading, writing, and using computers while enjoying a hot cup of coffee or tea.

Outside, rather than lining the sidewalk with small tables for those who prefer fresh air, Rosalyn has created a small but unique garden in a side courtyard. Maximizing the use of a small space, there are small patio tables placed along the side of the building, while in the left corner there is a small walkway that leads around a bioswale that she has created to help with stormwater runoff. There is also a balcony for the upstairs of the building that serves the ground level as a covered area to drink your coffee outdoors.

To refrain from giving the courtyard area a closed feeling, it has been designed in an 'L' shape, leaving the front half completely accessible from the street. Here, a metal sculpture has been placed to resemble two parts of the ohm symbol. The lower curve is the material world of the waking state and the upper curve symbolizes the deep sleep state.

This green space proves to be the most effective and accessible in the Alberta St. community. It’s a beautiful outdoor space that offers a retreat from the busy city.