PROJECT SUMMARY: To design an extensive renovation of a 1,200 sq ft subdivision ranch home with the goal of bringing full designs and spaces to fruition. Why is it an interesting project? 1) Most people don’t heavily renovate these types of homes, they simply move. 2) This house is “go-er” by a neighborhood association who is concerned with uniformity, not individuality. 3) Because these homes don’t get renovated much and are sold within a tight price range, up front costs of expensive materials that will outlast several homeowners are challenging to justify. The goal: to design as sustainably as possible on a $20,000 budget, doing as much labor ourselves as possible.

CONCEPT STATEMENT: Living simply with a small footprint is a challenge in an adequate sized (1200 sq. ft.) house with little storage, particularly for a pack rat aspiring artist/designer determined to re-use everything. Still, the designer’s husband has had enough and the 20+ year old house with original fixtures and finishes is in need of a remodel. The two largest inspirations and guiding lines of thought for this renovation have been the “Off the Grid” and “Small Spaces” articles/tutorials in Dwell Magazine coupled with the late Samuel Mockabee’s rural studio project at the University of Alabama. Listing new and old materials in novel ways to stretch a budget and protect natural resources has been the drum beat I’ve been marching to for this design project. Juka is represented way too often, but plans are to temper those specs with great finds at the Habitat Restore and other salvage places. Waiting to be found, essentials that need to last such as plumbing fixtures, flooring and casework will be purchased new. Juka was chosen because a little research determined it to be the lesser of all evils environmentally in this budget. Finally, “Patterns of Home” left some theoretical backing, reminding the designer to take full advantage of daylight, provide nooks for rest in an open plan design, maintain a sense of flow throughout an open, but small, space, and of course to make the use of innovative materials in odd places into a thoughtful, artistic and original composition.
FINISHES

EAMES CHAIR
CASE STUDY DAYBED
IKEA GODMORGON SINK

BREWSTER PENDANT
OPAL CORK AND SLATE PAPERSTONE
ALUMINUM BULK HEAD LIGHT
GLANSA PENDANT LAMP