

Hearthstone TimberFrame®

WHEN ORDINARY WON'T DO.

EXTRAORDINARY HOMES
HEARTH STONE

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Charlie Dunn was born in 1898 on a houseboat on the White River in Arkansas, and his family eventually settled near Paris, Texas

At age seven, Charlie began an apprenticeship with a bootmaker named Ed Lewis. Since then, Charlie has spent eighty years continually improving his knowledge and skills of his trade, custom bootmaking.

Charlie is probably the most celebrated of that small, elite group that refuses to allow the tradition of the finely crafted, custom boot to become another of our lost arts. Many famous names sprinkle his client list. Some years ago, I heard a wonderful song that Jerry Jeff Walker wrote for Charlie, and I became determined to meet him. The "Hearthstone" boots you see on this page are the prized result of that long wait. Even more important than the beautiful pair of boots, though, was meeting and getting to know that special individual, Charlie Dunn. Charlie's commitment to his craft and his determination to learn something new on every pair of boots - even after 80 years of experience - provides inspiring guidance for anyone who yearns to master a craft.

What does a Texas bootmaker have to do with timber framing? Everything. We have opened our first Timber Frame catalog with this seemingly unrelated subject to help illustrate Hearthstone's philosophy on people and products. Charlie epitomizes what we at Hearthstone believe in and are dedicated to preserving and making available to the public: traditional, high-quality, custom American products. Rich products with a magical aura and quiet dignity that make eyes widen, imaginations spin, and people realize that pride, respect, and craftsmanship still exist in the American marketplace.

Timber Framing is just such a tradition. Meticulously practiced for centuries as the preferred method of building construction, the trade and tradition nearly died in the early part of this century as steel mills, sophisticated saw mills, and mass-production psychology replaced the art and craft of Timber Framing, just as that attitude displaced many of our master-trades.

Thankfully . . . a certain core of our population is rebelling against mass-production mania and the plasticization and sterilization of the American environment. And, predictably, the Charlie Dunns of the world are slowly being rewarded for their unswerving dedication to their craft, their product, and their customer. Hearthstone is committed to the development of our Timber Frame houses in the same spirit that guides Charlie. That's why we opened with a story about one of my favorite people, Mr. Charlie Dunn of Austin, Texas.

We at Hearthstone offer you a most satisfying protest against a mediocre existence. We believe that an authentic, distinctive lifestyle, in concert with a natural environment, is the best product any company can offer. The magic in the timbers of your Hearthstone home will help you create that lifestyle and environment.



Sincerely,

Randy K. Giles, President

TIMBERFRAMING



Timber Framing is a noble, majestic type of construction and utilizes exacting variations of mortise-and-tenon type joinery and massive timbers to form the framework of a building.

This beautiful oak framework is planed, sanded, oiled and is left exposed on the interior of the home, creating a breath-taking effect of open spaces and craftsmanship rarely seen in this century. The exterior of the frame is covered with a highly energy efficient blanket of laminated panels that sheetrock, insulate, and sheath the home in one operation. The result is a home of unmatched beauty, quality, energy efficiency, and design flexibility.



It's in our beamery that we inject magic into previously ordinary oak sawmill timbers. The timberwrights often seem to be wood-poets rather than woodworkers. Huge timbers are transformed from rough lumber to the finished framework of a Hearthstone Timber Frame with joinery detail seen in the finest furniture. During this process, the emotions and values of the timberwrights and the company itself become as important as sharp tools and quality timbers.

Rough timber is selected according to the master plan for your home. It is planed, cut to length, and then marked for all the intricate joinery that holds the frame together. The joinery is cut with a variety of tools ranging from mallets and chisels to 19th century power equipment to 20th century power equipment. We are not philosophically opposed to the use of power equipment. Indeed, one of the most intriguing parts of our beamery is a huge four-sided planer that was built before the turn of the century. It is an amazing machine powered by a complicated arrangement of belts and gears. It's a machine alright, but it's as much a respected piece of history as the frame itself.

We are, however, philosophically opposed to frames whose quality and character have been altered to allow increased usage of power equipment. Often, the proper joint can be made only through sweat, time, and hand tools. Frame quality dictates our discreet use of equipment, not the other way around.

The joinery itself is the heart of the system. As with any product that becomes fashionable, Timber Framing attracts some cheap imitators that often fool the unwary. It's the joinery where one can quickly establish the authenticity of the product and the commitment of the framer. Our joinery methods and types are taken from the living history books - those durable structures that have withstood centuries



of dependable service. Our forefathers in this country were frugal people without spare time: if the joinery could safely have been simpler, it would have been. In addition to continually studying existing Timber Frame structures, we stay in close contact with others who study and practice the trade and who share our interest in proper framing technique.

"Balloon" or "stud" framing is, unfortunately, the almost universal method of framing practiced today for residential and light commercial construction. A review of a widely respected carpentry handbook of 1923 readily illustrates the author's objection to what has now become the standard construction method:

"Balloon Frame - This is a cheap . . . and more or less objectional construction . . . In most cities, a balloon frame is not accepted within the fire limits . . . In early days, when people were content to live natural lives, and before the ruthless destruction of forests had reached its present stage, houses were built as they should be - substantial, well put together and lasting . . . Houses are now usually built with a total disregard for lasting qualities . . . "

This quote from *Audel's Carpenter's and Builders Guide #3*, copywrited in 1923 is as pertinent now as it was then.

Stud construction is a phenomenon of a booming society full of throwaway products. At the end of the original mortgage, one of these modern homes looks like its most useful years are surely behind it. Yet, in many towns there are useful sturdy homes 200 years old, still stylish, and still coveted. These homes were built with different concepts of style and construction. And. thankfully, people everywhere are recognizing that there's no reason for a home to be limited to a 20 or even 50 year useful lifespan. They think that two hundred years has a better ring to it and provides a more secure foundation upon which to build a family. They also know - quite simply - that a Timber Frame is a better investment. These people are Timber Frame customers.



Timber Framing is firmly based on a foundation of many years of carefully developed techniques.

The art of Timber Framing is centuries old. Craftsmen refined the technique from crudely lashed branches in prehistoric times to a system of elaborate embellishments and complex joinery in 17th century Europe. Living examples of long-lasting Timber Frame structures include Japanese temples, European cathedrals, and Early American homes and barns.

Timber Framing developed and prospered in this country until about the beginning of this century when it practically disappeared. The advent of structural steel, cheap nails, and mass produced dimension lumber — when combined with a rapidly growing young country with an insatiable appetite for quickly built, cheap housing — effectively squeezed timber framing out of existence as a building technique.

Things often come full circle, however. People are re-examining their environment, searching for meaning, roots, heritage, value, and tradition.



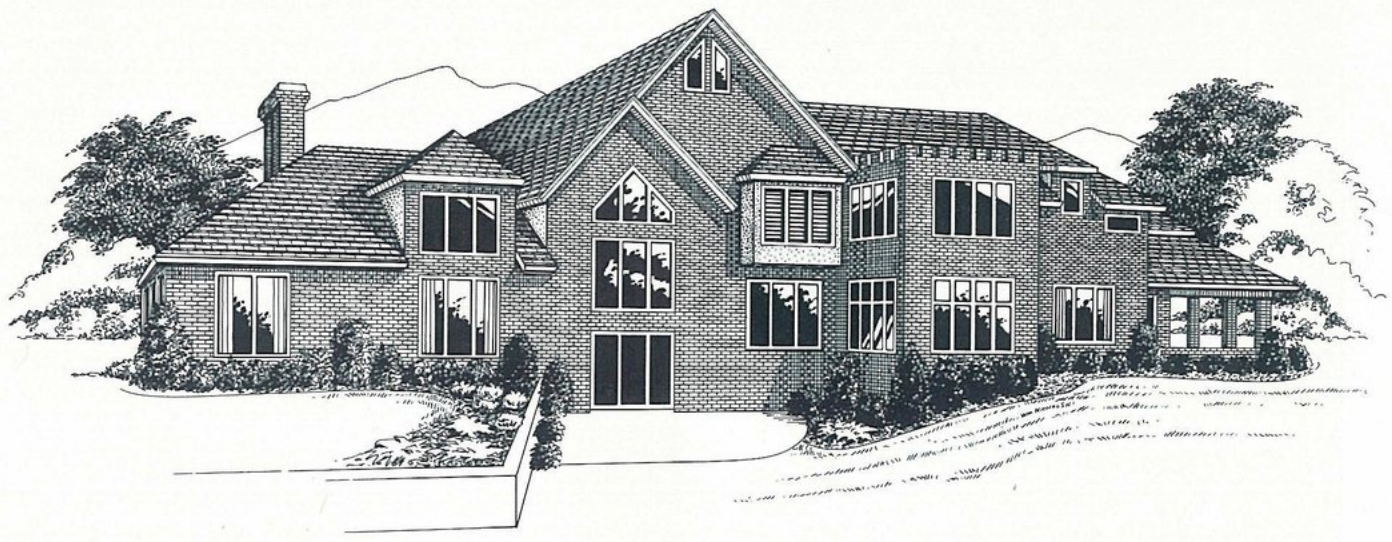
Conciously and unconciously, they are tired of plastic, concrete, mass production, computerization, and mass confusion. Something has to balance this hi-tech world we live in and a Timber Frame home is one of those things.

The recent revival in Timber Framing is a direct result of a few of these seekers of character and quality who have relearned the trade of the timberwright, have recreated the market for Timber Frames, and who are now teaching the trade to others, just as it was taught centuries ago. Full circle.

Like Timber Framing, Hearthstone has a proud and substantial history. Hearthstone was founded in 1971 for the purposes of restoring 200 year-old log homes in the southern Appalachians. When the old log homes ran out, Hearthstone began building new ones in the traditional style of square, hand-hewn logs with dovetail notched corners. We have developed an unmatched reputation as we have quietly refined our abilities and carefully blended the best of the old with the best of the new in home building techniques. Since 1983, we have been vigorously studying the Timber Framing trade, developing our beamery, sending our crews to learn from a master timberwright, and preparing this new product line for you.

Our years of experience in designing and producing unique, custom reproductions in the log home industry and our two years of careful preparation before marketing our first Timber Frame houses, position us perfectly to serve your Timber Frame needs.









Timber Frame construction helps create an extremely comfortable, liveable, and meaningful lifestyle.

The large timbers and the carefully created joinery provide a constant and satisfying reminder of strength and value that guides you and teaches your children.

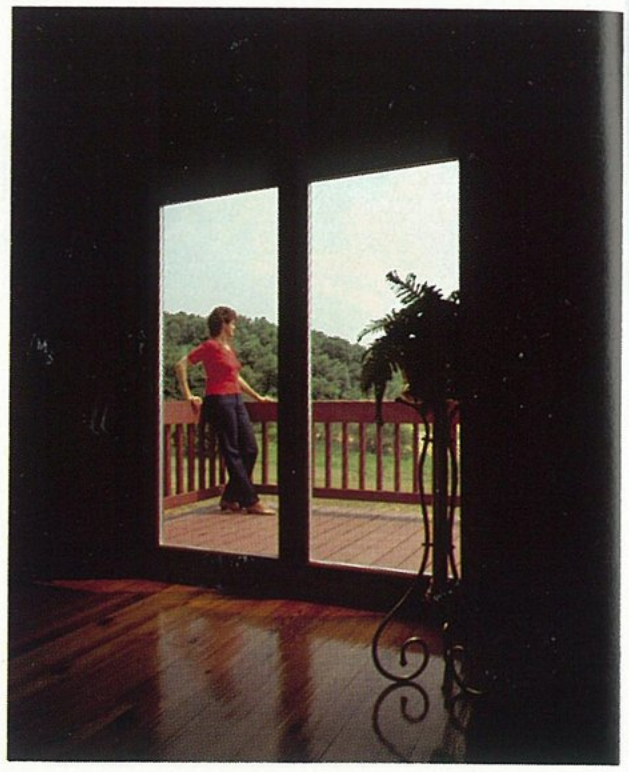
The living environment created provides for harmonious interaction between nature, family, and guests. The natural feeling under the roofed structure is often integrated with a transitional greenhouse or patio space and then to the outdoors, promoting healthful outdoor living. The floor plan and traffic pattern are conducive to open spaces, giving an impression of a much larger building and making the structure ideal for both family and entertainment activity. The stress-skin panels blanketing the house provide both comfort and peace of mind as you maintain pleasant temperatures both winter and summer without fear of outrageous utility bills.

The timbers have a certain friendly mystique about them. It's rumored that the magic the timberwrights put into them at the beamery is transmitted to its inhabitants slowly and quietly over the life of the frame. At times, the frame seems to speak. It whispers of value, tradition, ancestors, strength, dignity, and honesty. And, as time passes, it will reminisce with you. It might remind you of your Great Grandfather, who, on raising day, told you he remembered building such grand buildings but that he didn't think the young people had it in them any more. Or, it might remind you of Great Grandfather's friend, who quickly reminded everyone that regardless of the quality of construction, those old buildings could be cold. And then you can smile and marvel at the incredible energy efficiency of the modern stress skin panels. No matter who you are, how old you are, and how long you live, your Timber Frame home will always whisper these things and more to you as it anchors your life.

Adaptability and flexibility of design and style - both interior and exterior - are hallmarks of Timber Frame buildings.

The Timber Frame itself is a complete structural unit, so interior partition walls are not load bearing. The interior designer is then allowed a great deal of latitude in the development of the interior spaces. The self-supporting frame allows the development of very open, airy floor plans, while at the same time providing massive posts and beams to help provide natural definition to living areas and traffic patterns.

The stress skin panels that cover the frame also lend themselves to design flexibility. The panels provide a sheetrock interior to finish and a sheathed exterior to finish. The interior finish, then, has the unlimited options that are available to any sheetrock wall: paint, stucco, wallpaper, paneling, and more. What you don't get, however, is that hollow feel associated with a stud-sheetrock wall. The sheetrock is laminated directly onto rigid foam insulation creating a very solid, quiet perimeter wall. The exterior finish options are numerous: stone, brick, glass, stucco,





adobe, and many variations of wood sidings all work well.

The exterior lines of the homes can encompass a wide range of architectural style: New England, Colonial, European, Southwestern, Contemporary, Modern Rustic, and more. The same frame can even serve various architectural themes simply by changing the type of siding, windows, and appointments.

The structures are equally suitable as a young couple's starter home, a suburban or country family home, or a seaside or mountain-top villa. Costs will approximate custom conventional construction. Hearthstone TimberFrame buildings are unmatched as unique and practical commercial buildings such as restaurants, offices, specialty retail shops, condominiums, and lodges.

Timber Framing can provide opportunities in many different situations for many different people. The imagination is the limit. The common denominators, however, remain: time-



tested durability, superb energy efficiency, distinctive interior decor, lasting value, and a warm, rich feeling of living in concert with our heritage. What more could a designer ask for?

Building your Hearthstone TimberFrame can be a rewarding experience.

Prior to the actual construction phase, there are a number of administrative, organizational, and design related considerations that will ensure the smooth and satisfactory completion of your home. Primarily, you need to choose a home site, designate a designer and design your home, select a builder, and obtain financing.

Careful selection of the proper professionals is integral to the successful completion of your home. Most people will benefit from employing an architect and a building contractor. Choosing a site, designing, and building a home is no small undertaking.

Doing it completely yourself is a source of great satisfaction for some people, but it is important to make sure that you are one of those people. It will take a great commitment of time and effort as well as an acceptance that construction may well take longer as you either do it yourself or act as your own architect or contractor.

A good architect serves to express your design feelings on paper and to properly communicate those designs first to Hearthstone's staff and then to the contractor during construction. A good contractor arranges and orchestrates the construction of your home in a timely and workmanlike manner. He knows the sub-contractor market and they know him. Both professionals can help you with site selecting and financing arrangements.

As you can imagine, an architect or contractor can be a valuable asset to you. We in no way want to dissuade those adventurous souls who will be thrilled and rewarded with their time and effort invested in the complete or partial design and construction of their home. We do, however,



feel the responsibility to make them aware of the seriousness of their undertaking and the alternatives available to them.

Selecting a banker and obtaining financing is easier than it may seem. Banks can't make money without lending money. Therefore, you must simply convince them that you are a good loan risk, and the key to that is collateral and ability to repay. Start thinking like a banker right away and be completely prepared to meet collateral and repayment questions the minute you walk in the door. There are two types of financing: construction and permanent financing; be familiar with them. Of course, be fully armed with your home plans and related information as well as your income and expenses.

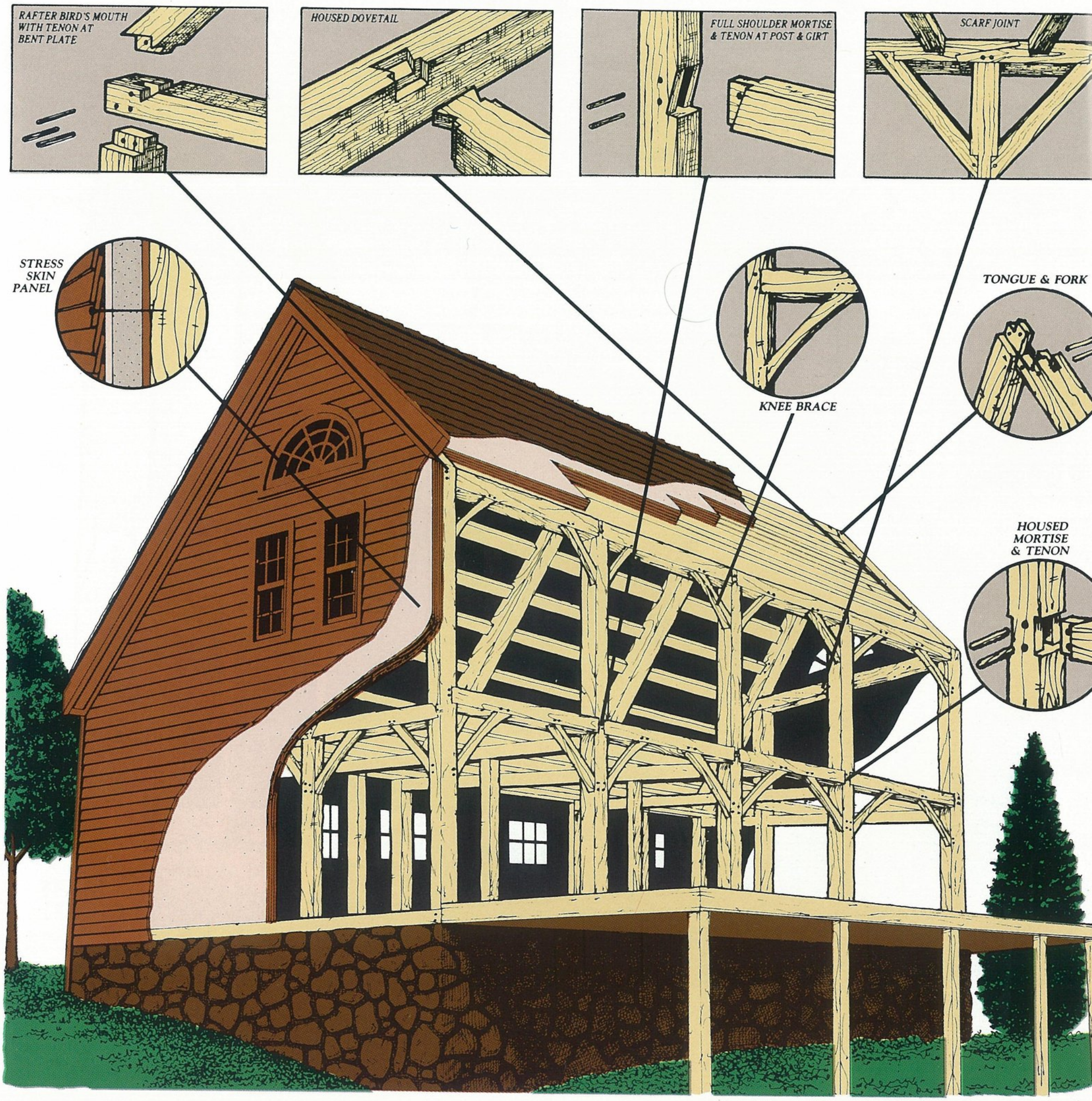
Once you, our sales department, and our drafting department come to terms on exactly what you want, drawings are released to the beamery and to your contractor. Your frame is carefully cut and finished while the contractor is clearing your land and building the foundation, conventional first floor deck, and subfloor. Our crew will arrive on raising day with the frame, stress skin panels, accessories, and a large crane truck. It will take one to two weeks to set the frame, erect the panels and install the exterior doors and windows.

At that time, your contractor will take over and immediately complete the drying in of the exterior package by adding finish roofing and siding over the stress skin panels. After this point, the completion of the home is very similar to the completion of a conventional home. Wiring, heating and air conditioning, plumbing, cabin-



etry, interior walls, and floors are all finished in a manner very similar to conventional construction. Tips and techniques on these finishing features are available from Hearthstone and we will be accessible for consultation throughout the building process.

Designing and building a home can be an educational, rewarding experience for the whole family regardless of whether or not you employ a contractor or architect. And with a Hearthstone Timber Frame, you are not only constructing a dwelling, you are creating a lifestyle, an environment, and a family heirloom.



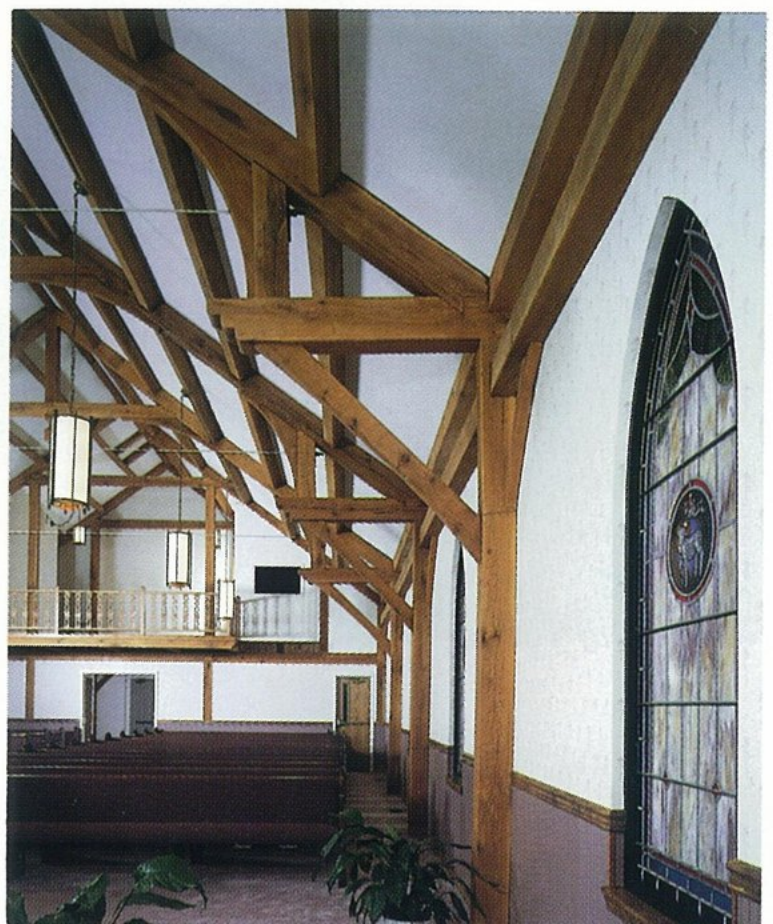
COMMERCIAL

At first glance, there would seem to be little similarity between the Old Ship Meeting House, at Hingham, Mass., and the Peace Free Will Baptist Church at Morristown, Tenn. The first was completed in 1681; the latter in 1987. Even though separated by more than three centuries, they share a common heritage in at least one respect...both are Timber Frame structures that are amazingly alike, with identical mortise and tenon joinery, fastened by wood pegs, and many of the same Timber Framing techniques.





Especially interesting is the Timber Frame roof structure, which is supported at the sidewalls by hammerbeam trusses. Measuring 84 feet by 37 feet, the space within the frame accommodates a vestibule and balcony at the entrance end, an auditorium with seating for 200 in the center, and a choir loft, pulpit and vestry at the other end.



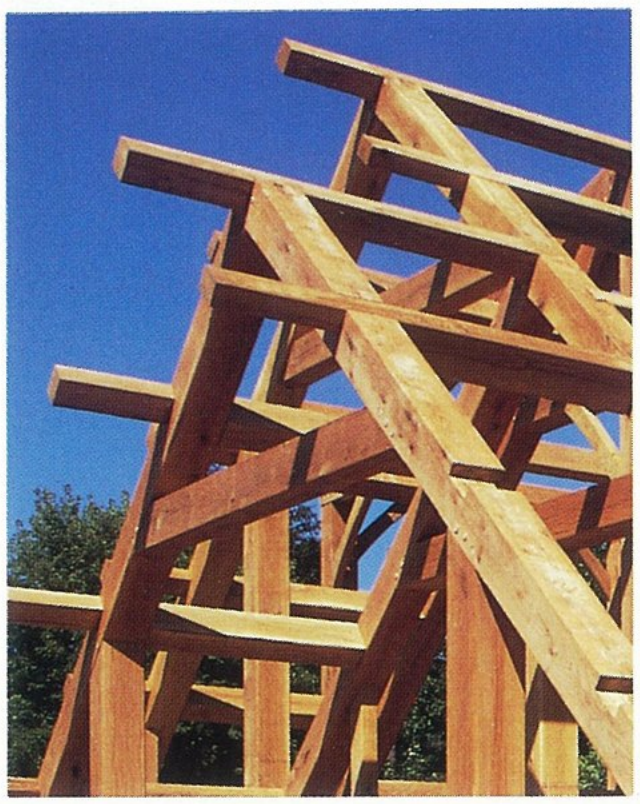


Festive Shoppers coming to Southold, New York, are finding more than they bargained for at Eastern Long Islands newest mall.

What they discover, in addition to the many shops selling quality merchandise, is an attractive village, for that's what Feather Hill Shopping Mall resembles. Its 10 residential-looking buildings are arranged in a quadrangle, enclosing a courtyard and parking area. When shoppers enter the courtyard through a



Feather Hill shopping mall is thought to be the largest commercial project ever built entirely of Timber Framing.



Traditional mortise and tenon joinery is used to fasten together the network of pre-finished oak timbers.

feet of retail space. On display, in addition to merchandise, is an open network of beautifully finished and joined oak timbers. Duplicating a method of construction common to the many two and three hundred year old buildings found in and around Southold, the massive oak timbers used in building Feather Hill add elements of interest and charm much appreciated by merchants and shoppers alike. It also contributed to solving a long-standing problem between the builder of Feather Hill and the community planners.

When developer Jim Gray decided years ago to build a shopping mall to take advantage of the hoards of people coming to Southold from the other end of Long Island, he didn't expect the resistance encountered with the city planners. These protectors of the status quo weren't about to allow a shopping mall to blemish their community. Thus developed another classic stalemate between the planners on the one hand and a determined

vaulted archway and step from their automobiles, they stroll among the buildings on flower and shrub-lined brick walkways. In fact, one of the outstanding features of this one-of-a-kind shopping center is the beautifully landscaped, park-like grounds, with winding sidewalks, street lights and benches for resting along the way. Even for non-shoppers, its a treat to visit Feather Hill.

But the most startling revelation about this unusual shopping center comes when entering one of the 30 shops occupying its 50,000 square



With the appearance of a well-tended village, Feather Hill blends in perfectly with the community.

entreprenuer on the other. Except in this case, all shared the same concern because good citizen Jim Gray was as interested in preserving the character and traditions of Southold as the city planners.

The impasse of several years standing was finally broken when Jim Gray accidently came across a Hearthstone brochure about Timber Frame structures.

"I wanted something different and very special for my project," explained Gray. "Something that would blend in with the community and satisfy both me and the planning people. I'd decided



Street lights, brick sidewalks and benches for resting along the way make Feather Hill a treat for shoppers and non-shoppers alike.



long ago that an ordinary strip mall wouldn't do.

"When I saw what Hearthstone offered," continued Gray, "I immediately knew that was the answer. Timber Frame buildings, made of massive oak timbers, fastened with precise mortise and tenon joinery, would be an exact replica of the many historic homes and other buildings found throughout this area. It was apparent that Timber Framing would match perfectly what I was looking for. So, I went to

Visitors to Feather Hill agree . . . The Timber Frame interiors give the stores an appearance and atmosphere not found in ordinary shopping malls.

Dandridge, Tennessee, to see if Hearthstone was for real. Believe me, it turned out to be very real indeed.''

What Gray found was perhaps the most mechanized plant in existence for producing Timber Frame structures. In a building that from a distance resembles a well-kept dairy barn, 8-inch square oak timbers were being planed, shaped, mortised and drilled; then chamfered at the edges and oiled, in one continuous operation. The plants' equipment included an ancient, belt-driven, four-sided planer, still doing accurate work after nearly a century of service, and several other production machines of Hearthstone's own design and fabrication. Gray was further impressed by the fact that Hearthstone worked from its own computer-generated shop drawings.

''I couldn't believe what I saw,'' said Gray. ''A little company I had never heard of with the equipment, capacity, product and skills to do exactly what I wanted. It took me less than a day to decide that Hearthstone was the answer to my problem, even though it had not handled a project this large before.

''The clincher came,'' he continued, ''when I got to know the people, starting with Hearthstone's young president and owner, Randy Giles. I knew they were entirely capable and nothing that's happened since has changed my mind. So, we got busy with the design work and in little more than a month, I signed a contract for the 10 buildings in the initial phase.''

Hearthstone's own crews started erecting the building in July, 1987, and in less than four months, the frames were up and covered with stress skin panels.

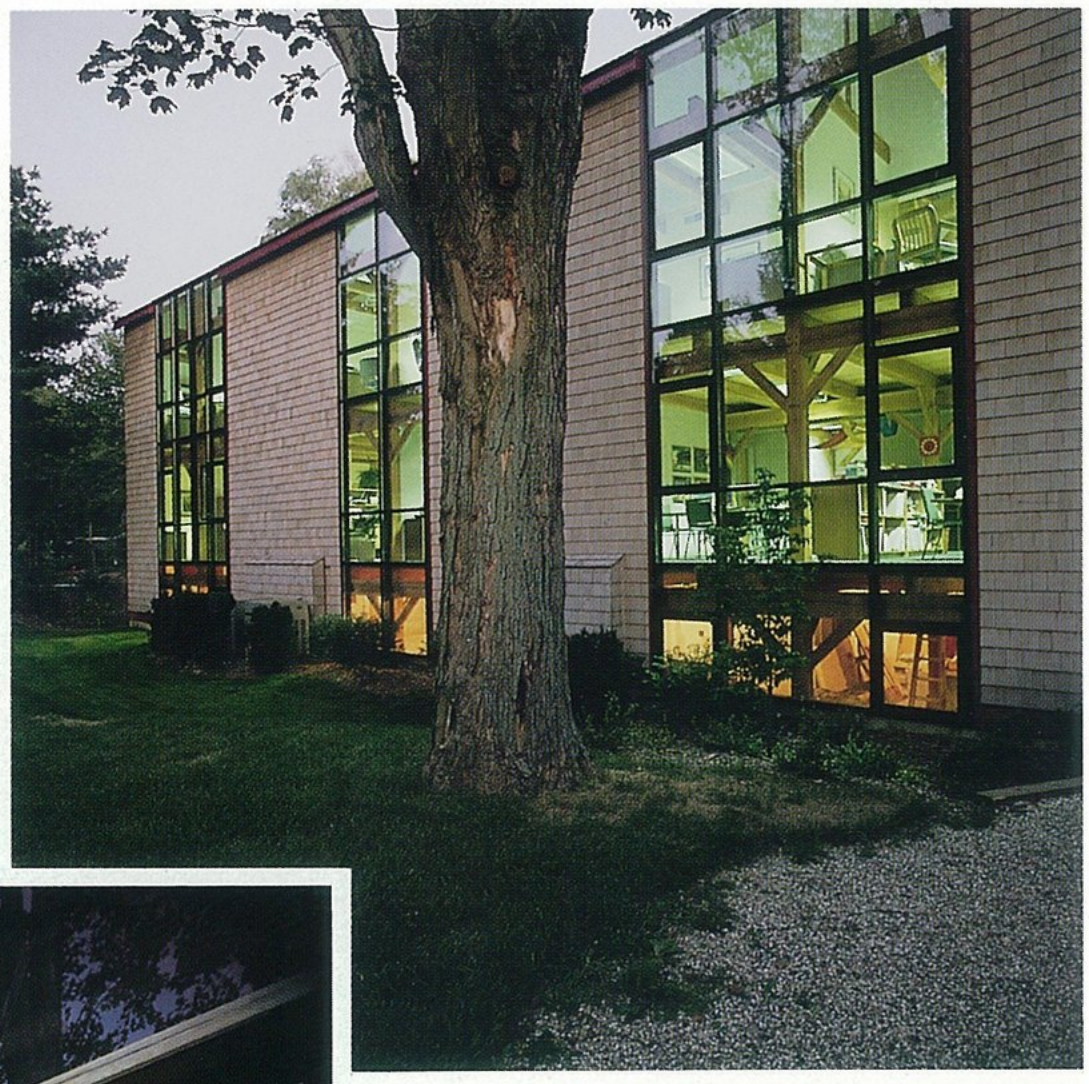


Feather Hill, named for the homesite of a 17th century local military hero, has turned out to be all Jim Gray and the community planners had hoped for. Unlike the usual strip mall, which has plagued architects and developers since the concept originated, Feather Hill's residential look, along with the historic significance of Timber Framing, has made it very compatible with its tradition-minded community.

''Almost from the moment we started erecting the Timber Frames, ''said Gray,'' applications started coming in from prospective tenants. Leasing the space was no problem at all, even though we asked and got a 30 to 40 per cent premium compared to other malls in the area. I'm already looking for a site for another Feather Hill and there's one thing for sure . . . It will be a Timber Frame and Hearthstone will build it.''


FEATHER HILL

Timber Framing by Hearthstone was the answer when a Connecticut architect wanted something special for an office building. His objective was a building that would be both architecturally pleasing and compatible with the particular country urbanity of southern Connecticut. He also wanted an environment that would be satisfying and, at the same time, inspiring to the creative people who would work in the building.





The result was a classic Timber Frame, 33 feet by 73 feet, on three and a half levels, with 7900 square feet of space. Since the external walls covering the Timber Frame were non-load bearing, the architect was able to use a wide expanse of window walls on three sides. The effect was not only to open up the work spaces to daylight but to display the Timber Frame on three levels to outside viewing.

RESIDENTIAL

To show you the beauty, drama and basic good sense of Timber Framing, come along on a visit to several Hearthstone homes.

Our tour begins with the Timber Frame home of Bob and Diane Clark.

With it's interesting blend of massive timbers, diagonal wood paneling, heartpine floors and country decor, the living room conveys perfectly a statement of style, grace and comfort.



So beautifully designed and equipped is the Clark's kitchen that it was selected for a feature article by a national home publication.

The simple foyer, with stairway to three bedrooms and two baths above, is open to the peak.





Next on our tour is the mountainside home of Bill and Bunny Andert in Western North Carolina.



The uniqueness of the Andert's home is fully revealed by the wide open expanse of the great room (below and opposite page), intricately laced with massive oak beams. Since the frame itself supports the structure instead of stud walls, as found in conventionally built homes, there's a great range of options for keeping the interior open and free flowing. Notice the sitting area overlooking the great room (opposite page).



With its semi-furniture finish and fine detail, such as chamfered edges on all beams, the frame itself becomes a prominent feature in the decor of the home, as seen in the kitchen (below).





The Ohio farm country is where Joel and Jan Wood chose to build their midwestern version of a Timber Frame home.

All the best features of Timber Framing are represented in the Wood's home (opposite page), such as vaulted ceilings, open spaces, a full display of intricately joined oak timbers and a friendly fireplace.

In Timber Framing parlance, here (lower right) is a full shoulder mortise and tenon at post and girt and a knee brace with birds mouth mortise and tenon (the curved piece immediately below the shoulder joint). To the Woods, this means their home is built with a centuries old technology and will last several lifetimes.







Every nook and cranny of the home contains an interesting display of the Timber Framer's craft. What can't be seen is the superior insulation of the stresskin panels covering the frame, rated at more than twice the energy efficiency of ordinary insulation.



A modern day plantation manor house might appropriately describe the home of Frank and Francis Perkins, found in the Delta country of Southern Mississippi.

A breathtaking display of Timber Framing is seen here in the enormous great room (below), combining sitting area, kitchen and dining area without a single partition. The opposite page shows the same room from the reverse direction.







New England through and through best describes the traditional cape design of the Dan Troy home, in New Hampshire.

Once inside however, New England conservatism quickly disappears. With its extreme openess and spaciousness (opposite page) this New England cape presents a bold and exciting use of Timber Framing.

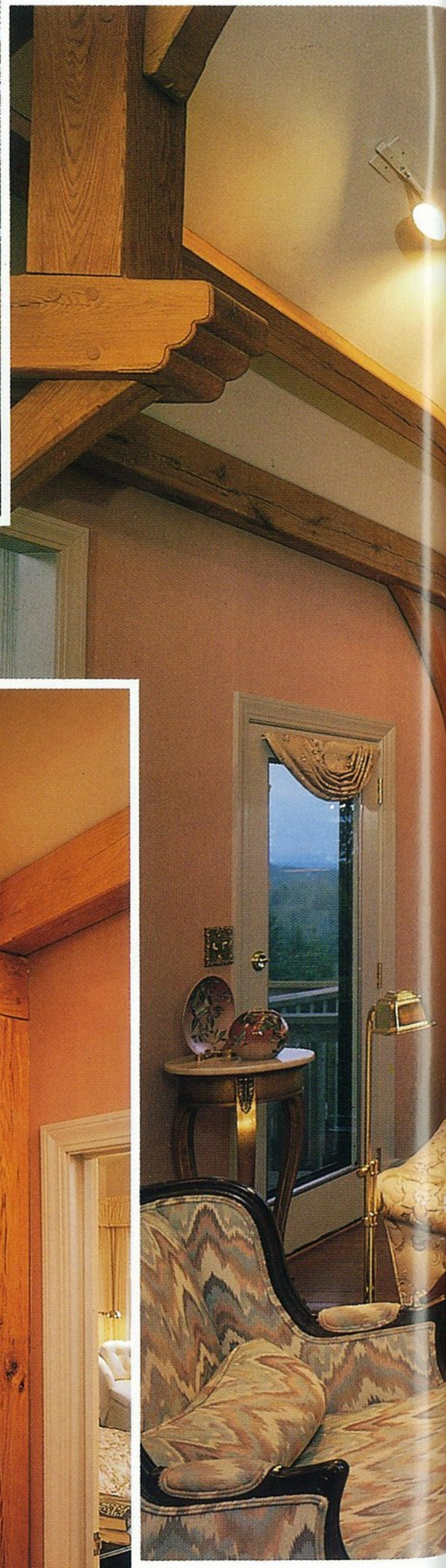




Extending more than two levels at the gable end, this gigantic window (left) opens the whole interior to the outside.







The Timber Frame home of Lynn and Beverly Wallace sits atop a small mountain in East Tennessee, overlooking Douglas Lake and the Great Smokey Mountains National Park.

Timber Framing at its best is displayed here (opposite page) in the great room. Notice especially the harmonious blending of Timber Frame, stonework and home decoration.

A feature of particular interest is the use of hammerbeam trusses which lend support to the roof structure while leaving the center completely open. Only the great room in this single level home is Timber Frame. The two wings on either side of the centrally located great room are conventional construction but the exterior walls are stresskin panels.

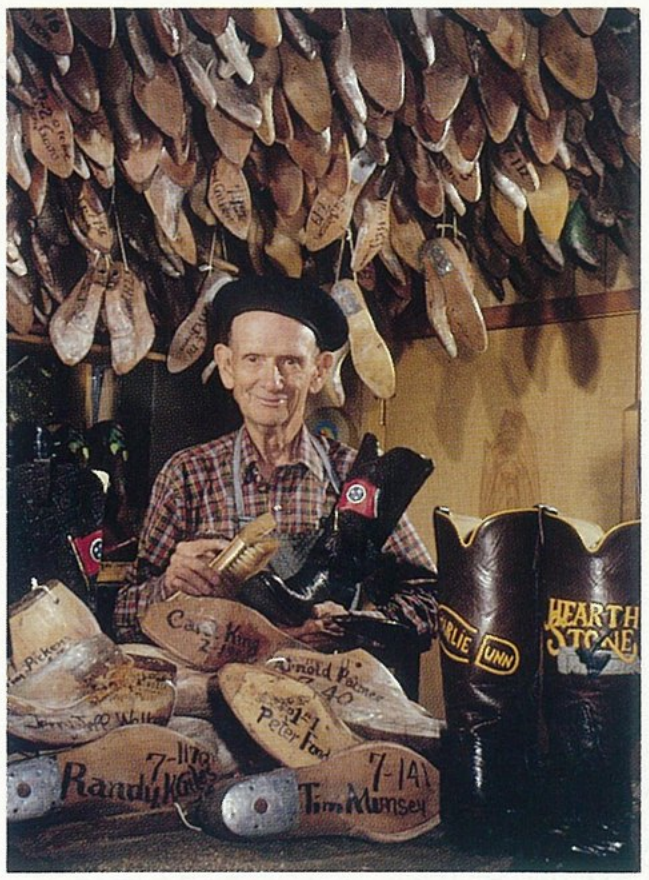




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Charlie Dunn, Austin, Texas

Hopefully, this brochure has been informative and inspirational. Developing our Timber Frame product line has certainly been rewarding and inspirational to us.

In closing we wish to thank many people. Thanks for the Charlie Dunns of the world who refused to turn their backs on tradition and quality and who have preserved the crafts and trades of our previous generations for our future generations. Thanks for that determined handful of individuals - represented by Tedd Benson, Steve Chappell, Ed Levin, Jack Sobon, and others - who have only recently restored the art of Timber Framing and have generously taught others the trade. Thanks for the customers in the world who recognize quality work and unique products. And thanks for all the people associated with Hearthstone who have patiently, unselfishly, and confidently contributed to the introduction of our Timber Frame homes.

Sample plans and designs included with this brochure may help direct you in designing your home. We will provide homes as illustrated, modified, or we will design a home completely from your own plans and dreams.

Hearthstone will continue to develop sets of plans adapted from the historical architecture native to a series of different geographical regions. In addition to the historically-based homes, we will provide some ideas on contemporary designs.

Please write, call, or visit us. Our designers and timberwrights are at your service.