

TIMBERPEG Post

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Window on the World – Taking Advantage of Views

When one Carolina family purchased their perfect lot, it came with a feature they wanted to preserve - a magnificent dogwood laden with white blossoms. They wanted to site their custom home so the tree would provide needed shade for the deck and so they could look out the window and treasure the view as the dogwood changed with the seasons and over the years.

The residence they chose to serve both needs was a timber frame home from Timberpeg Carolina. The request to design a home around a shade tree was nothing new to Timberpeg Representative Bruce Hafley. "I've designed homes around how the sun passes over a lot; around whether clients want morning sun in their bedroom or in their breakfast area. I've designed homes to take advantage of mountain or lake views and around views clients are trying not to take advantage of - like a neighbor's house."

Timber frame homes are well-suited to showcase magnificent vistas. Hafley develops sketches of each home based on clients' needs and after visits to their lots. "It involves going out to the site and understanding which features are important to them. Is it the view? Is it preserving a shade tree?" After refining the designs, Hafley's clients typically pay another visit to the site. "They may go stand at the lot with the plan in their hands and say, 'I'm standing in the living room now'." That process allows them to visualize the placement of rooms and the views from inside.

A Timberpeg home incorporates views and natural elements beautifully. The most obvious way it does so is through the timber frame itself. "The allure is the natural beauty of the wood. The character of the wood is different in every piece," Hafley says. The timbers can be made as ornate or as contemporary as the designer's vision allows.

The timber frame and posts support the weight of the structure, which allows great flexibility in the placement of walls and windows. "Since the outside walls have only load bearing points, windows can be placed along the whole length of a side. In a wooded setting, you often feel like you're sitting in the woods. Since the windows on these walls are separated with timbers, the vertical timber posts mimic the trees, thus enhancing the effect." Hafley says. Expansive walls of windows that overlook magnificent views are common features of timber frame homes. "They're usually built by someone who wants to take advantage of views, whether they are lakefront, mountains, open rural farmland or rolling hills," he says.

Timber frame design doesn't end at the windows, however. "Often we do timber-framed gazebos and screened porches that showcase the fine joinery. The accurate cuts required to join the intricate angles really showcase the fine craftsmanship of a timber frame"

When planning a home to take advantage of views, there are two main things to consider: location and design of its elements. "Many lake

homes have an impressive deck, but the deck needs to take advantage of outdoor living spaces and vistas without impeding the indoor views. A lot of people have a nice big deck off the great room with a thick railing, but when you look out from inside, all you see is the railing, especially when you're looking down at something like a lake," he says. Such mistakes can be avoided by considering interior views during the design process.

With proper planning and design expertise, timber frame owners can experience the beauty of nature even when the chilly winds of autumn begin to blow. All they have to do is look through a wall of windows and timbers that are as intricate and beautiful as nature's own handiwork.

In the Works

Denver, NC – After more than 30 years of owning their lot, the Phillips are finally building their dream home. Currently, the foundation is being completed on their new lake retreat. This 4300sf mountain design, with a few Craftsman style features, is designed to take advantage of their long views across the main channel of Lake Norman. Large picture windows in the kitchen and master bedroom, along with an arched wall of glass in the great room, combine to maximize unobstructed views while taking advantage of the natural sunlight. The Phillips are excited about being onsite in mid-December to "stand up the traditional first post."

TECH ★ NIQUES

IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS - The finishing touches are being completed on the Yarborough's new home in Davidson, NC! And it's these final details that really highlight the natural warmth of a Timberpeg. The Yarborough's will soon be installing interior and exterior antique doors that were purchased from a local architectural supply company. To compliment this antiquity, wide plank antique heart pine floors will soon be sanded and finished that were reclaimed from timbers in an old downtown Charlotte warehouse. Since the heart pine is such a rare and beautiful material, they elected to have custom built-in wall shelves installed in the great room. To blend rooms, heart pine

kitchen cabinets were built onsite and another natural material, marble, was chosen as the counter top. Where heart pine floors aren't used, several variations of natural earth-toned tile was installed. One of the most attractive features is the handmade antique heart pine stair rail and banisters with their copper inserts. According to 25-year carpenter Tommy Dillard in his own humble way said, "I believe they are the most beautiful railings I've ever built." All this custom detailing only enhances the natural beauty of a Timberpeg - one the Yarborough's know well as they will be moving from their 25-year old Timberpeg into this new upgraded one in January.

Timber Tips

Time to Design – As you sit around the crackling fire this holiday season looking at home magazines, do you imagine your family enjoying the atmosphere of a Timberpeg home next season? Are you ready to start building your new Timberpeg home? Have you selected a site? Have you listed your criteria and needs? Have you created a wish list? Have you determined a budget? If you haven't you need to get started. Many factors should be considered before starting the home of your dreams. Let us lead you through the complete design and construction process. If you want to begin building this summer, you need to begin now.

Touch of Excellence

Is energy efficiency important to you? Then a Timberpeg will certainly fulfill your needs. Our walls are a continuous thermal envelope that wraps the entire house by attaching to the outside of the timber frame. Since there are no 2-by-4's in the walls containing loose fitting fiberglass insulation, there is no room for air infiltration. The lack of 2-by-4's also eliminates conduction heat loss through these members resulting in significant energy savings. Susan Thomas says, "I saw a 25-30% drop in my utility bills when I built my Timberpeg. And it was bigger than my old house."

OUR MISSION

Provide casually elegant living environments, combining the natural warmth and tradition of timber framing with the highest quality materials and attention to details – reflecting the lifestyle and function desired by each Timberpeg homeowner.

BEAMING★RECOMMENDATIONS

"I just love laying in bed in the morning and looking up at all the intricate angles and fine woodwork. I'm still amazed at how well the timbers meet and connect. The fact that there are no gaps speaks to the quality of the structure."

Elizabeth Green – Timberpeg Homeowner Cornelius, NC.

"I had been building only conventional homes for 15 years when Timberpeg approached me in '95 to build my first timber frame home. While there were some differences, Timberpeg's thorough plans, friendly building system, and onsite support made it easy."

Jerry McNinch – ABJ Construction, Mooresville, NC