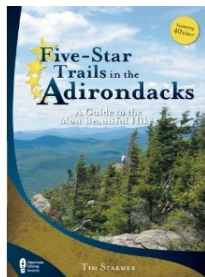


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A Note from the Owner: Where has *NHW News* Been?

In 2008 I was contracted to write a hiking book and over the past two years I have spent my spare time hiking, mapping, and writing. I am proud to say that [Five Star Trails in the Adirondacks](#), my second book, has been released.



During this time I did not have time to work on the website or the newsletters. I apologize for the delayed updates and newsletters but the good news is that an excellent hiking guide is now out, *ahem* go out and buy a copy, and updates to the website and more editions of the newsletter will be readily forthcoming. If you have not been to the site, newheritagewoodworking.com, recently there have been a lot of updates and as always we welcome your [feedback](#).

Two Simple Tools to Kick Start Your Timber Frame



Where to start?

One of the most daunting tasks about beginning your custom timber frame project, is knowing exactly where to start. Should you start designing your dream and consider the budget after? Or do you start with the budget and work backwards from there? Do you start with the timber frame or the floor plan? In a floor plan, do you start with personal space and then move on to public space? How about indoor vs. outdoor and even transitional space? Do you design the frame and then integrate mechanicals or the other way around? How

will the enclosure system affect the frame, mechanicals, and windows?

In many ways it is a lot like preparing a meal. While you are prepping one item another is simmering or frying while yet another might be baking or defrosting in the microwave. All of the ingredients are prepared individually, separately but in consideration with the whole and timed so that they all coalesce into one superb meal. So where do you start? In reality you have do all of these things at once. If this all seems a little daunting consider it this way; we do all of these things at once. Because the timber frame is so intimately tied with the look, feel and function of your dream home it is important that it get integrated in your design process as soon as possible. While in some circumstances we will act as the overall designer we do recommend that you use an architect; in order to get a building permit it may be required.

(Continued on page 2)

The New Heritage Woodworking Mascot!

Mort is our new Mascot. Beside learning the art of sitting and fetching things other than dirty socks, he is learning the art and craft of timber framing. As such he will have to learn the terminology. Like many timber frame novices, one of the very first terms that is taught is coincidentally his name sake; *mortise*.



Mortise Barktoven (aka Mort)

MORTISE. In general, a rectangular cavity into which a tenon (or another object such as a lock) may be inserted. ¹

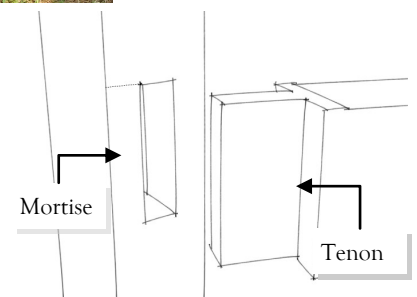
Generally the mortise is taught along with its mating side of the joint; the tenon.

TENON. The end of a timber, reduced in section and flanked by one or more resulting shoulders. ¹

Okay so maybe this a shameless exploitation of cute puppy pictures so you will read the newsletter but there will be more [Lessons with Mort](#) and continuing explanation of timber frame terms and concepts to come. So keep an eye out for more of Mort's education in future newsletters.

¹- Timber Framing—The Journal of the Timber Framers Guild; Number 68, June 2003

Upcoming Event: Timber Frame Home Tour!
(Details on page 4)



Two Simple Tools to Kick Start Your Timber Frame (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

Developing the Concept

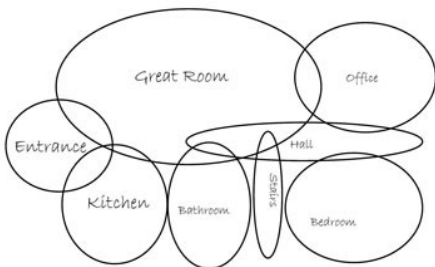
Okay, so where do you start? Long story short you start with us. We will guide you through the initial phases of design and help transform your ideas and dreams into reality. Obviously we cannot create your design out of thin air so we need to start with your feedback. For some, expressing your hopes and dreams is a difficult task and if you are anything like us it helps to start formalizing your ideas into some material form. To get you started we recommend the following two tools;

- *Create a Scrapbook*

Put in your scrapbook anything you would like to incorporate into your project. See a picture of a kitchen design or color paint you like, or maybe you found an appliance you really like. Clip it, copy it and put it in a folder for future reference.

- *Bubble diagrams*

Rather than focusing on the exact sizes of rooms concentrate on the relationship they will have with one another. Drawing bubble diagrams are simple and powerful tools to communicate not only the size and location of rooms but also the relationships rooms and spaces have with another. Once again don't get bogged down with details; focus on the relationships and functions.

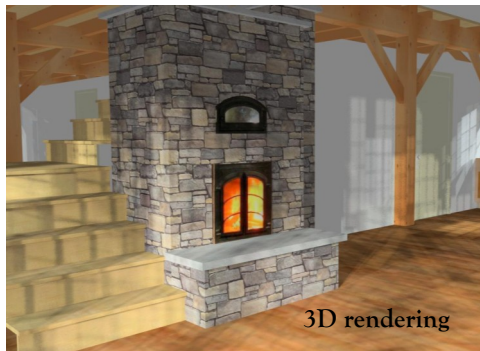


Keep in mind that rooms or spaces do not need to have walls to be defined as spaces. The config-

uration of the timber frame will allow you to define a space without actually enclosing it. This allows you to dramatically create distinct areas even within an open floor plan.

Moving on to the Floor Plans

At this point some people choose to develop their own floor plan and/or elevation drawings. After coming up with your bubble diagrams the floor plans will be a lot easier, but it is all too easy for people to get bogged down in details at this point. Remember there is great deal of other items that need to get integrated into your home so don't take this phase too far or get too attached before consulting with us. If/when you have a rough floor plan it is the ideal time to discuss your project with us. We can quickly take



your scrapbook, diagrams, and plans and put them together into 3D renderings and/or animated walk-thrus that will help you to visualize your project.

By now some but probably not all aspects of your project have been clarified and worked out to form the basis of a rough budget. However it is unlikely that sufficient information/drawings are available to form a contract or acquire a permit. To move forward a set of concept drawings are needed for the basis of a contract. These concept drawings will also be needed by an architect to formalize your drawings for a permit or builder to further expand on your budget. The develop-

ment of these drawings takes a lot of time and consideration on our part so we are unable to offer them as a free service. However we have come up with a way to ease the effect on total project cost as well as recognize the considerable effort these drawings require to be thoughtfully produced. Compensation for these drawing is based on living space (defined as total area that is inhabitable. i.e. a single story 24' by 24' space is 576 square feet while the same two story space is 1152 square feet) and range from \$1 to \$1.50 per square foot of living space. Three quarters of all payments made towards concept drawings are later credited towards your construction contract with us. In this way we hope to foster the collaborative effort that is necessary to create your dream home.

Remember the design phase of project is intended to save you money and is not something that should be overlooked or rushed. Rather it is essential that you give this phase of your project adequate time and begin it as early as possible. The preconstruction phase is best started at least one season, if not more, before you hope to begin building. So if you expect to build in Spring/Summer now is the time to get started.

How to draw a bubble diagram

- 1) Draw a circular shape to represent each room/space.
- 2) Give the shape a size that represents its eventual form. Form small circles for closets and small rooms. Long ovals for hallways and long rooms. Broad ovals for larger rectangular spaces
- 3) Place each room/shape next to the rooms/spaces it will connect to.
- 4) Overlap spaces that will flow into one another while keep separate rooms distinct.
- 5) Allow your bubbles to take on free forms rather than rigid circles and ovals so that they wrap around into each other as needed.



Be Local !

Lately the Green Movement has gone mainstream and while this is certainly a measure of progress, it falls short of the much greater goal of being sustainable. In addition to environmental consideration, the sustainability movement also accounts for the community and business interests as well. Perhaps the most overlooked aspect of this formula is that no particular leg takes precedence over another. They all carry equal weight and each supports the other. Too much of one and the others suffer. On the other hand if each is fostered they build a synergy that helps each grow faster.

Local Business and Sustainability

One of the most effective ways to promote and foster the sustainable movement is to buy from and support local businesses. Not convinced consider the following. A study in Chicago found, for every \$100 spent at a local business \$68 stays in the community while the same \$100 spent at a chain business only leaves \$43 dollars in the community. This is a stunning statistic that essentially reveals how chain stores are essentially funnels that suck money out of the local community.

Timber Framing is Local

So one of the questions you may ask is how is New Heritage Woodworking local. Besides being locally owned and operated and employing local labor we also get the majority of our materials locally. Our posts and beams are sawn at a local sawmill (less than ten miles from our shop).

Furthermore they get their timbers from woodlots which are logged by local loggers on properties within Central New York. Whenever we source other materials/supplies we always consider local sources as part of the equation. In fact most of the Structural Insulated Panels and even the end sealer we use to slow moisture loss in our timbers are manufactured in Buffalo (the nearest source we know of). Going totally local is difficult but is one of our goals and metrics we take seriously. One of the most difficult aspects of going local is discovering local businesses. Fortunately we have connected with **SyracuseFirst**, a nonprofit that encourages citizens, businesses, government and nonprofit organizations to "think local first." Their mission

is to promote a sustainable community and is a principle we whole heartedly support (it is one of our founding principles for goodness sakes). We are proud to be supporters of this great organization and encourage you to check out their website, <http://syracusefirst.com>, and become a supporter and/or get involved in this movement. Not convinced consider some of the following:

Top Ten Reasons to Buy Local

- 1) **Significantly More Money Re-circulates in Syracuse.**
When you buy local, more money is kept in the community to benefit the Greater Syracuse tax base.
- 2) **Unique Businesses Create Character & Prosperity: It makes us a destination.**
The character of Syracuse defines our local community and helps generate tourism. By preserving local businesses, we offer alternatives to tourists visiting the Syracuse area.
- 3) **Environmental Impact Is Reduced.**
Businesses can utilize local resources to make eco-friendly decisions. Community members are less likely to disperse when businesses are centrally located which also decreases congestion and pollution.
- 4) **Most New Jobs are Provided By Local Businesses.**
Local businesses help employ citizens of the Syracuse area. If we continue to buy local, job creation will expand and help build a more sustainable community.
- 5) **Customer Service Is Better.**
- 6) **Non-Profits Receive Greater Support.**
- 7) **Local Business Owners Invest In Community.**
When local business owners give back, they help to reinforce the buy local movement.
- 8) **Public Benefits Far Outweigh Public Costs.**
Local businesses utilize public service and local spending to ensure that sales tax is reinvested in the community.
- 9) **Competition & Diversity Leads To More Consumer Choices.**
- 10) **Investment In Greater Syracuse Is Encouraged.**
Due to their distinct character and autonomous nature, entrepreneurs are more likely to settle in sustainable areas. Nurturing local businesses, strengthens our community.

(Top ten reasons from SyracuseFirst website)

Socialized Timber Frames ?

Okay so the headline might be a bit misleading since this is not about politics, but rather various social media online. Yes New Heritage Woodworking has entered the realm of social websites, namely Twitter and Facebook (we are also on LinkedIn). We originally scoffed at the idea, but after talking with many of you and noticing how many people wanted to stay informed about our ongoing projects and company developments we realized that social media/web services were an ideal means to stay in touch. We look forward to the interaction these services will enable and hope you will join/follow us. Links to our social media pages are available on our website or you can use the following information:

To follow us on Twitter look for our username: NewHeritageWood. Or use the following link:



[http://twitter.com/newheritagewood.](http://twitter.com/newheritagewood)

To visit us on Facebook use the following link :

[http://www.facebook.com/
NewHeritageWoodworking](http://www.facebook.com/NewHeritageWoodworking)

Of course there are many other ways to follow our projects, web updates, or receive news about upcoming events. We have added a means to [subscribe](#) by email as well as an [RSS feed](#). Additionally if you would like to share our content/web site with others we have added a sharing service (pictured below).



All of these links and features are on our website so please join us online and as always we welcome your [feedback](#).



7022 Bush Road

Jamesville NY 13066

Phone: 315-677-3884

Email: info@newheritagewoodworking.com

Visit us on the web at :

NEWHERITAGEWOODWORKING.COM



Timber Frame Home Tour

Event Details

When: February 19th 10 am -2 pm

Where: 7022 Bush Road

Jamesville NY 13078



Many of our customers say that a timber frame cannot truly be appreciated by looking solely at pictures. Rather they must be experienced so you can really feel the warmth and beauty of a finely crafted frame. On February 19th we will be offering a tour of our shop as well as one of our completed projects so that you can see what they are talking about. Each frame has its own character and you will be able to see two different timber framing styles. In addition to the gorgeous timber frame the completed house features many green techniques/ technologies and offers a unique opportunity to see so many special systems tied together.

If you would like to tour one of our other ongoing projects contact us and we will happily make arrangements. For future events visit us online at: newheritagewoodworking.com/about-us/events.



Home Tour Highlights

- Timbers harvested from the owners woodlot used for the frame, flooring and millwork
- Timber framed house, garage, porch and entrance
- Rainwater Catchment
- Solar Panels
- Masonry Heater
- Radiant Heat
- Passive Solar Design
- Structural insulated Panels