

BY NANCY FONTAINE

What do a barn and a grand home on Long Island have in common? A lot when the house is built with a Yankee Barn Homes post-and-beam design.

There is indeed a much-lauded Yankee Barn Home in East Hampton. The house, known as Laurel Hollow, was featured in the 2014 book *Prefabulous World: Energy-Efficient and Sustainable Homes Around the Globe* by Connecticut-based author Sheri Koones. >>>



YANKEE BARN HOMES POST-AND-BEAM MASTERS

Laurel Hollow
A traditional
barn-style home with
contemporary flair.
Photo by Chris Foster
Photography.





Grantham Home

The quintessential post-and-beam barn. This home was inspired by traditional New England barn architecture. From the exterior, it's a simple barn house. The interior is defined by the post-and-beam frame utilizing an open floor plan designed for easy living. Photos by Northpeak Design Photography.



Winning Ways

The company has gained renown for its designs and its system of creating prefabricated panels. It won a Design Excellence Award from *Residential Design & Build* magazine in 2010, and last year, the “Grantham Lakehouse” design was *New Hampshire Home* magazine’s Architectural Design winner. The Grantham Lakehouse is one of what the company calls its Barn House designs, which are their most popular home style. But since the designs are customizable, no two Yankee Barn Homes need be alike.

Started in Massachusetts in 1969, Yankee Barn Homes has been headquartered in Grantham, New Hampshire, for more than 40 years. In that time, they have shifted from providing a limited set of predesigned home shell packages to truly custom houses varying in style from barn homes to classic farmhouses, cottages, mountain lodges, and coastal retreats to homes with modern and contemporary flare.

One of the essentials that hasn’t changed is that Yankee Barn Homes fabricates much of the final product ahead of time in its Grantham factory. Their True Panel System creates less waste both at the factory and on-site compared to basic structure insulated panels, which require cutting to fit window, door, and skylight openings.

According to CEO and co-owner Paul Marinelli, “After the lot is cleared and the foundation poured, we ship materials to the building site.” The building is fast too. “The home goes up similar to a barn raising: timber frame, panels, then the roof, providing a weather-tight shell,” Paul says. Nothing is compromised by exposure to the elements, so any excess can be recycled instead of thrown out.

Building on the company’s successful methods has allowed for expanded design capabilities. “We are centered around post-and-beam, but we’re willing to

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These homes are no drafty barns. Yankee Barn Homes' True Wall™ and True Roof™ panels are insulated with polyisocyanurate, which provides the highest attainable R-value per inch of thickness.



Cabot
This home focuses on open-concept living and provides a spacious feel as soon as you walk in the front door. The welcoming entrance guides you to an open living area featuring the great room, dining room, and eat-in kitchen. Photos by Northpeak Design Photography.

Cove Hollow

This cottage combines the elegant ease of traditional shingle-style architecture with 21st century build technology. It's an example of a hybrid timber frame, allowing for as much or as little post and beam as you would like.

Photos by Chris Foster Photography.



look at different styles,” Paul explains. When he and creative director and co-owner Jeffrey Rosen took over the company in 2011 after a period of transition, they updated designs and “pushed hard to build the most energy-efficient homes that we can.”

Satisfied Customers

The process of building a Yankee Barn home begins with a client working with the company on the design, from which the Yankee Barn home shell package is created. The home shell package includes the precut, prefinished Douglas fir post-and-beam frame, True Wall™ panels (R26.2 to R37.4) with prehung Andersen or Marvin windows; True Roof™ panels (R43.5 to R66.5); and exterior doors and optional pine or cedar siding and prefinished or primed trim. (R-value is a measure of thermal resistance used in building and construction.) Once the package arrives at the building site, local contractors, working with the help of a Yankee Barn supervisor, raise the shell and complete the interior finishes.

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“Paul and I intend to continue promoting energy-efficient construction methods using the most current technology.”

—Jeffrey Rosen, Creative Director and co-owner

choose materials that are respectful of the environment. The polyisocyanurate, for instance, has a much lower environmental impact than standard polystyrene insulation, and the timbers used in the frames are sourced from members of the Sustainable Forest Initiative, whose mission is sustainable forest management.

Satisfaction tends to be high among Yankee Barn Homes’ customers, which includes Jeffrey Rosen himself. “I came to the company as a retail customer, and when I visited the New Hampshire facilities to view the product, I was so impressed by the facilities that I signed a design contract that day. The intimacy of the experience really left an impression on me. In one visit, I met with sales, was moved through to design, and left with a concept for a house in hand.”

When the opportunity presented itself later, Jeffrey jumped at the opportunity to become co-owner with Paul Marinelli, who says they make a great team. “I’m the operations guy, and Jeffrey is the design guy. He has a wealth of experience in home design, interior design.”

Jeffrey’s plans are simple and ambitious: “Take an iconic brand, build from all that is good, and remake it into a driving force in the residential housing market. Paul and I intend to continue promoting energy-efficient construction methods using the most current technology. We’ll also continue to advance the architecture, encompassing both the traditional barn home and other architectural styles.” He concludes, “The future is bright for Yankee Barn Homes!” ^{TW}

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Boulder Meadows
This great room features soaring ceilings and large windows to maximize natural light and capture the stunning scenic views. Photo by Northpeak Design Photography.





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