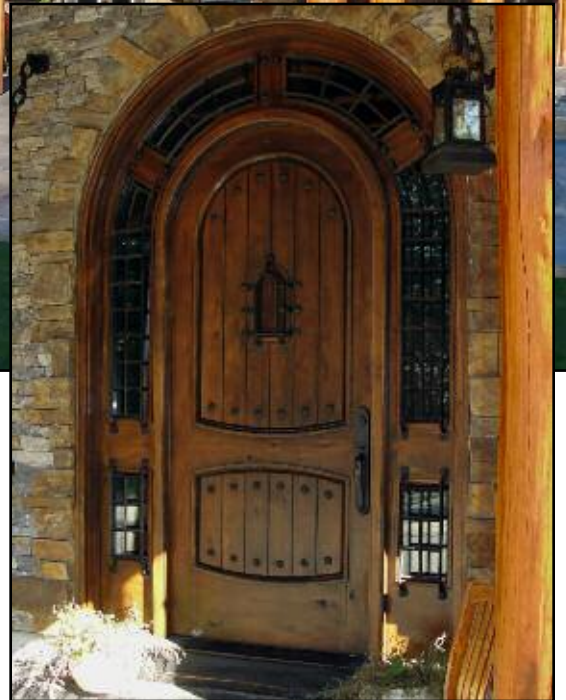


DISTINCTIVE WESTERN RED CEDAR LOGS WERE PRESSURE WASHED, SANDED, AND THEN STAINED; THESE ARE THE FOCAL POINTS OF THE OUTSIDE AS WELL AS THE INTERIOR ACCENTS.



A Warm, West-Coast Welcome

Residential Renovation Project Showcases Western Red Cedar Roof and Sidewall Products

by Lynne Christensen; photos by Kelly Vaille and Lynne Christensen



tall, medieval style door swings open on an interior that celebrates Mother Nature at her best. Deep in the heart of the Greater Vancouver Regional District, British Columbia, the new home of the Barry family is best described as a unique house that stays true to its roots. Literally. Taking a tour of this home is a

privilege, door after door opens up on a gorgeous wood showcase, an environmentally-friendly masterpiece perfectly suited for this large, busy family.

Owners Darlene and Chris Barry describe their project as "... something that would celebrate both our family and its heritage." This sentiment is reflected in every part of this carefully designed home. Wood

is the solid design feature that anchors this home in the midst of trees and wildlife on a 1.6-acre park-like setting.

From Concept to Design

The original rancher was built in 1972 by Darlene's parents, Harold and Mavis Thornton, and as time passed the land was always kept within the family. When the needs of

Darlene's own immediate family were considered, focus turned to the original site, and plans were drawn up. The family consists of the owners, their six children, ranging from mid teens to early twenties, plus a delightful grandmother. The goal was to create a central place for teens, friends, family dinners and entertaining, plus a welcome respite from the owners' hectic lifestyle associated with their two businesses.

The former family home totaled 3,200-sq-ft. and simply was not large enough to accommodate the family and their hobbies. With a project of this scale, coupled with the owners' definite sense of style, it was critical to get the design correct and reflective through the entire project. Much credit is due to the very patient Chris Dibnah of Hariko Ventures, Maple Ridge, British Columbia, in charge of the eight sets of drawing revisions. Renovation specialists Calvin Stortaboom and Byron Vanderbeek of Falcon Construction, Pitt Meadows, British Columbia, provided expert, hands-on assistance with framing, log, and beam



construction, design and artistic foresight.

Much of the work was performed by the owners themselves who contributed time, expertise, and labor to every aspect of the project. Contributing much of the cabinet and molding work, the owners helped craft custom cabinetry using Toredoo wood, an innovative use of fiber that cannot be processed in a lumber mill. However, keep-

ing green in mind and recognizing that the dried wood is stable, the owners used it to create unique cabinet fronts and moldings.

It is Easy Being Green... with Wood Products

Green, environmentally-friendly features abound throughout this home. All of the

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A GORGEOUS PARK-LIKE SETTING IS A PERFECT COMPLEMENT TO THE HOME.

A Warm, West-Coast Welcome

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building materials were sourced to be as natural as possible. The use of wood was considered imperative. Wood is known for its sustainability and low carbon footprint. Being a renewable resource, wood products can be recycled and returned to the earth, providing nutrients for the next generation of forests. The primary energy use and global warming potential (greenhouse gas emissions) for a square (100-sq-ft.) of heavy handsplit and resawn shakes was equivalent to the energy released, and greenhouse gases emitted from, utilizing a third of a 20 lb. BBQ tank of propane (Life-Cycle Analysis report commissioned by and courtesy of Cedar Shake and Shingle Bureau). In addition, "On average, a typical tree absorbs, through photosynthesis, the equivalent of one ton of carbon dioxide for every cubic meter's growth, while producing the equivalent of 0.7 ton of oxygen." (Source: Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Management). Using wood products ensures that carbon will remain locked into the wood for decades. Due to its high insulating factor, energy-efficient cedar shakes and shingles

keep homes cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter.

Owner Chris Barry stated that, "We wanted the warmth of wood and the environmental friendliness of something that wasn't petroleum-based. Wood was and continues to be the answer." The project used 24" by 1" handsplit and resawn pressure preservative treated Certi-label™ western red cedar shakes with a bevel butt. The bevel butt was an upmarket addition to reduce drip line issues as the roof ages. An 18" Certigrade® pre-stained, rebuted and rejointed sidewall shingle was used for an even, tailored appearance. All shakes and shingles were provided by Imperial Cedar Products Ltd, Maple Ridge.

Reclaimed bevel siding, part of the original house constructed in 1972, was stripped of its two coats of paint, re-sanded, and re-stained. The owners were thrilled with the result and Darlene Barry stated, "If a product that's already 36 years old can still look like new today, that's as environmentally friendly as you can get." A burlled yellow cedar wet bar also came from Imperial

Cedar Products. It was coated twice with epoxy and uses recycled port-holes and window frames from the scrapped Queen of Sidney, the first British Columbia ferry commissioned by Premier W.A.C. Bennett. Her maiden voyage was June 15, 1960, on the Swartz Bay – Tsawwassen route. Historians recount how halfway over the crossing, Premier Bennett stopped the ferry and ran the new British Columbia flag up the mast. Previous to that day, the province had always used the Union Jack; on an earlier trip to England, Bennett discovered that British Columbia had been given its own flag by King Edward the VII in 1906. Bennett decided that this ferry's maiden voyage was the perfect time to adopt British Columbia's own flag.

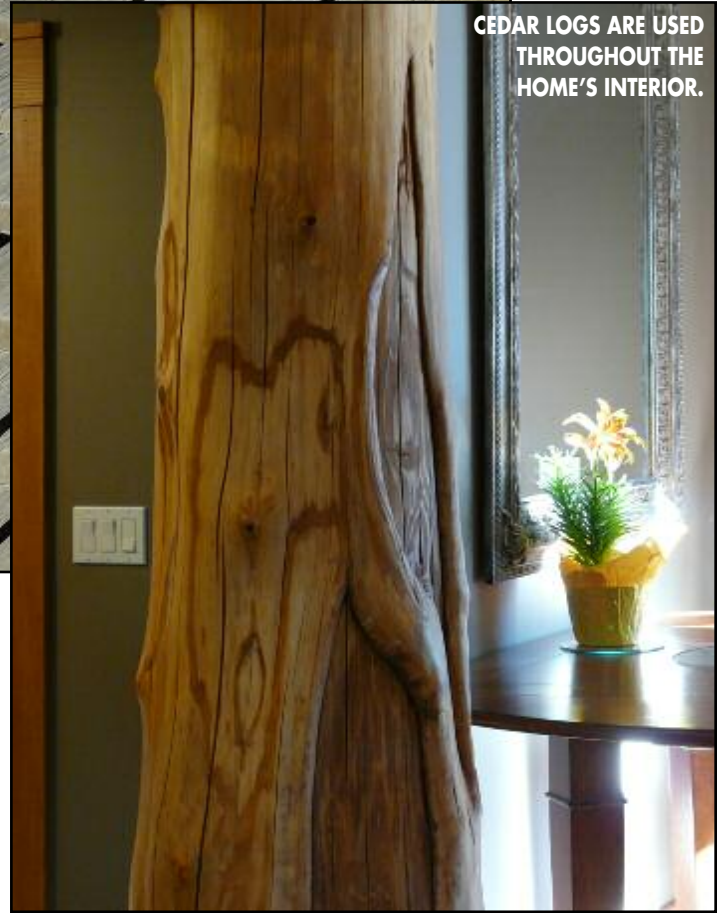
Details Count

This stunning residence offers detail work that opens up like a warm palette as one moves from room to room. Intricate stonework was performed throughout the house and on the fireplaces, by Mike Baloc

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1 INCH THICK WESTERN RED CEDAR SHAKES WITH BEVELED BUTTS WHERE USED ON THE ROOF.



CEDAR LOGS ARE USED THROUGHOUT THE HOME'S INTERIOR.

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of I&E Stone Design, Pitt Meadows. A polished stone sink, constructed by the owners, consists of black stones inlaid by hand into the concrete and provides a unique accent feature in the master ensuite. The sink's design was inspired by a similar one seen at a restaurant in Mexico on a vacation a few years back.

Other fascinating architectural features include the retention of the original low-slope roof over the sunken media room and the kitchen: one of the owners' sons hand-sanded the beams and decking, preparing it for re-staining by Dean Wensley of Finished by Dean, Maple Ridge. Wensley also stained all of the exterior doors including the massive medieval front door. Amazing, too, is the 6' diameter tree stump used to support the stairwell leading to the upstairs floor. The stump originally weighed in at 3,400 lbs, and after a visit to the dry kiln, it was reduced to a mere 2,700 lbs. The own-

ers, along with Falcon Construction, rolled the stump into the house on pipes, taking the better part of a day and four men to accomplish the task.

The owners brought the outdoors in, but the backyard was not neglected in the design. A two-part water feature graces the outdoor kitchen and eating area. Granite and sandstone were purchased at auction from a leftover lot, and recycled plumbing from a pool renovation was used for the fish pond. One indulgence was the multicolor LED lights in the swimming pool.

Project Specifications

The house was installed with a sprinkler system to meet municipal code requirements. Two on-demand water heaters were specified for the project as were air source heat pumps, both recommended and installed by Marlow Kirkwood of Big Valley Heating, Maple Ridge. The home features

eight bedrooms, ten bathrooms, two kitchens, and two laundry rooms. A 2,000-square-foot shop includes a boat bay plus extra room for home construction and finishing projects. It also provides ample storage for the owners' large collection of tools.

The owners' creativity is evident: archival shake and shingle mill photos, family pictures as well as First Nations artwork from Vancouver Island all grace various walls. Each has its own distinctive, family meaning that turn this house into a true home. As for challenges, with the home totaling over 7,000 sq.ft., there always will be new projects on the horizon. The Barrys did live onsite during the later stages of the project and, with such a large family, the owners admit that this strategy did make for some trying times. Right now, however, their biggest concern is shooing away the large blue heron that lands in their pond each morning, hoping for a tasty fish breakfast.

