



AT HOME IN VERMONT

A Builder's House

Photographs by Carolyn Bates
Edited by Joseph Healy

The Leaches put their building know-how to work on their own home in Jericho.

COMING HOME TO VERMONT was always on the minds of University of Vermont alumni Andy and Judy Leach, who left the Green Mountain State for jobs in the Boston area after graduation. For many years, they enjoyed the challenge of their busy careers—Andy ran his own general contracting business and Judy worked as a risk assessor for an environmental engineering company; however, when they had two sons, their perspectives changed. Juggling long commutes, demanding jobs, and raising babies, they longed for a simpler lifestyle and a better quality of life.

Moving back to Vermont in 1991, they saw an opportunity to combine family business with family priorities. Joining forces with Andy's brothers Todd and

Scott, Judy and Andy established Leach Construction of Vermont, with custom design, energy efficiency, and quality craftsmanship as the hallmark of their business. To showcase their work and set themselves apart from other talented builders in the area, they applied these principles in the home they built for themselves. In a true family and team effort, Andy and his brothers built the house from Judy's design, with "supervision" from their sons Nate and Jack. It was done just in time to welcome home Megan, born soon after construction was complete.

From the outside, the home captures the nostalgia of an older New England farmhouse. A large welcoming front porch, with a barrel vault ceiling and rich woodwork, beckons from the

road. The home's story-and-half style, with steep roofs, large overhangs, cedar shakes, and clapboards, and garage tucked behind the house, are all reminiscent of older construction.

The interior was designed to handle the demands of a growing family and an in-home business, and features an efficient, open-space floor plan. Long views across the house allow Judy to watch the three kids in the playroom from the office. Homework at the dining table can be supervised from the kitchen while dinner is underway. The interior areas are well-connected, yet each defined by their own design elements.

Leach Construction of Vermont can be reached at (802) 434-5578 or www.leachconstructionvt.com. For more photos, please turn to page 75.



Each Leach Construction of Vermont home has earned an Energy Star rating, with more "5-Stars Plus" ratings than any other builder in Vermont.

(Continued from page 72)

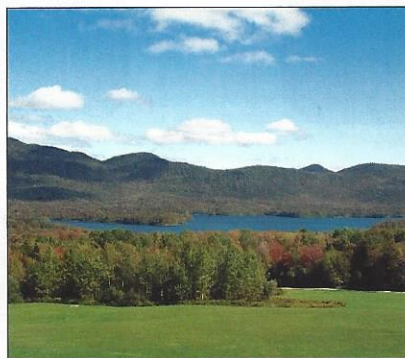


Custom details and traditional craftsmanship are evident throughout the Leach home. Andy built the stone fireplace, topping it with a mantel he milled from a 100-year-old fir beam salvaged from a previous building job. He and his brothers custom-milled the window and door casings, the newel posts, and many other trim and finish details.

(Continued on page 76)

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MOUNTAIN LODGE Chittenden, Vermont

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(Continued from page 75)



Upstairs at the Leach home, the four bedrooms, additional study space, and sheltered porch off the master bedroom are welcome retreat areas. Varied ceiling heights, interesting angles, nooks and alcoves, natural woodwork, and faux painting give this home a comfortable and inviting feel.

Robert Wallace Real Estate

www.robertwallacerealestate.com



22 Prospect St. - Woodstock

Contemporary home with rooms of generous proportion (11 rooms, 3+ bedrooms and 3 baths) on 4.2+/- acres of land. Situated well off the street in an elevated position to take advantage of views to Mt. Tom and westerly over the Ottauquechee River Valley. Within an easy walk to all village amenities. **\$829,000**



427 Woodstock Rd. - Woodstock

Well maintained cottage with 7 rooms, 3+ bedrooms, 2 full baths on .59 of an acre presently organized as two apartments but connected to allow use as a single residence. Easily accessible on the east side of Woodstock Village overlooking the river. **\$249,000**



2705 Church Hill Rd. - Woodstock

Gracious single level home (9 rooms, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths) on 4.2+/- acres just outside the village. Floor plan is an engaging interplay of formal and informal rooms and the grounds a mixture of gardens and small lawn areas. View with modest clearing and subdivision possible. **\$549,000**



Hartland Hill Haven - Hartland

Spacious contemporary cape (10 rooms, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths) on 16.5+/- acres with open living spaces including a gourmet kitchen and adjoining family room opening to a screened porch and deck overlooking the pond. Fine interior finishes, energy efficient, private, 3 miles to Woodstock Village. **\$769,000**



802-457-2244 phone

5 Central Street / Box 630, Woodstock, VT 05091

877-227-0242 toll free





The Leach home's longterm value is further enhanced by its quality construction and 5-Star energy efficiency. Builder Andy Leach researched and implemented an innovative system of building for a stronger, better-insulated, tighter, and more energy-efficient home than conventional construction.

(Continued on page 80)

A RESTORATION DREAM- THE HANDLE HOUSE



18th Century home with 17 rooms on 5+ beautifully landscaped acres. This home is a fine example of a period past! Spectacular views and location are irreplaceable! Includes a reclaimable tennis court, 40x24 in-ground pool and pool house, potting shed and barn. All in the heart of the ski country and only 4 hours to NYC.

Absolutely worth the effort. **Additional 45 acres available. \$875,000.**

COUNTRY ESTATE



1790 cape with southern exposure on 121 acres of pasture and woodlands. The house has been completely renovated using some of the finest craftsmen in southern Vermont. Three fireplaces, are original to the house. The architect designed renovations include oversize windows framing the spectacular 50 mile mountain views, autom. generator, a new slate roof, solar/central heating systems. An in-ground solar heated pool, a plethora of trails, and end of the road privacy complete this special offering. **\$950,000 Reduced to \$825,000.**

WINTERWOOD FARM



Stunning executive home on 5.9 acres. Privacy, gardens, stone walls, patios & mountain views. Great room w/expansive glass to views and antique barn board accents. 3+ bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 fireplaces, spacious master suite, in-ground heated pool, tennis court, pond, 2 car garage, sugar house

shed & generator. 5 minutes to lake and 15 to skiing. **Exceptional offering at \$1,125,000.**

LAKE RAPONDA ESTATE



21+ acres with lake access & private dock rights. Exceptional Timberpeg home with cathedral ceilings, 5500 sq.ft., hardwood floors w/radiant heat, 2 stone fireplaces. Open concept living w/country kitchen. 2 three-season porches, home theatre, game room, perennial gardens, lighted trails

w/access to extensive trail system. Attached garage and 6 bay carriage house with guest suite, and 2 autom. generators. **Tremendous Value at \$1,775,000.**



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(Continued from page 94)

Nestled in the woods of Jericho, Andy and Judy Leach (shown here with Todd and Scott Leach, who helped to build the house and are partners in Leach Construction) are enjoying their home, a better balance between work and family, quality time with their three children and dog Baxter, and contributing to a sustainable future for generations to come through their energy-efficient house designs. ▮

