



This stunning timber home has some serious “wow” factor. Example? How about the fire-house door, for starters? This unique space is used to marry the home’s breezy, whitewashed interior with the majestic scenery outside.



Built to resemble a centuries-old farmhouse that’s been added onto over the years, this 10,000-square-foot Hamptons home is like no other. “It’s very livable,” says builder John Rives.

Long Island Ideal

A New England-style, industrial-chic “farmhouse” in the Hamptons? Why not?

STORY BY HOLLY SMITH

PHOTOGRAPHY BY RICH FRUTCHEY



When the owner of this stunning estate first approached Guillermo Gomez about designing a house that would take pride of place in one of New York's most coveted addresses—the Hamptons—“He asked us for a modern stone house,” recalls the Manhattan-based architect. “But I thought the house needed to be in context with the area. So we spoke about it, and I persuaded him to go with what I call a Nantucket farmhouse, meaning a farm that’s surrounded by ocean, not one that would be in upstate New York or down in the Carolinas.”

And the perfect medium for crafting such a place? Timber, of course.

“From the start,” says Guillermo, “I conceived this house as a timber home. But it’s not the usual polished timber frame. It looks as if it’s old and reclaimed.” Credit not only to the fundamental appeal of the Douglas fir beams, but also to the gallons upon gallons of whitewash applied to the timbers once the frame was erected.

Yes, whitewash—on the entire 10,000-square-foot home.

“There’s definitely a small number of people who opt to alter the wood’s natural look,” says Josh Bouvier of South County Post & Beam, which provided the timber for the home. “But we’ve had several people do it over the years, either with whitewash, a light pickling or a colored stain. It gives a unique look to the frame, plus, it ages very well.”

And it looks incredible, judging by the result in the Hamptons: a six-bedroom, 6 1/2-bath New England-style showpiece with a one-of-a-kind look that was completely by design.

“The home doesn’t look like any other house in the Hamptons,” says Guillermo. “Everyone wants a place out of that movie, ‘Something’s Gotta Give’: shingle-style, with crown molding, oak flooring and wainscoting. Instead, we designed this house to be modest on the exterior—to respect the beautiful environment where it’s located—and doesn’t want to be a McMansion.”

TOP LEFT: Who says neutral can’t be a knockout? As the dining room proves, a monochromatic marriage of timber and brick packs a visual punch. And those simple white accessories? Icing on the cake.

TOP RIGHT: White on white: As throughout the home, the decor in this bathroom is intentionally understated so that the architectural details—not tchotchkes—take center stage.

OPPOSITE: The best of all worlds: With the kitchen’s stunning Douglas fir timbers, gleaming hardwood floors, weathered bricks and view of the polo pony-filled meadow beyond, it’s hard to know what to admire first.



ABOVE: Intentionally left dark, these ceiling beams bring an unexpected jolt of interest to one of the home's bedrooms. Gracious furnishings add to the good looks, while a zebra rug provides a dash of exotic fun.

TOP RIGHT AND OPPOSITE: The owner of this sensational home, "Wanted to have front and back views from his master bedroom," says architect Guillermo Gomez. "So we created a sitting room that's on the front of the house, and the master bedroom is on the back."

RIGHT: Comfy benches, backgammon, cold drinks and a view to the pool: Does life get any better than this?



Home Details

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 10,000

BUILDER: JER Developers

TIMBER PROVIDER: South County Post & Beam

But the home's subtle-on-the-outside vibe (which doesn't compete with its 9-acre, polo-pony-filled property) gives way to pure drama within. And while other homes might rely on ordinary cosmetic flourishes in a veiled attempt to stir up architectural excitement, this place creates it with soaring spaces, industrial-like touches, endless windows and beamed ceilings and walls. Taken separately, each component is masterful. Together, they're a masterpiece.

And topping the whole thing off? The living room's glass firehouse door that, when opened, seamlessly blends the indoors and out.

"I love that door," says Guillermo, who added the unexpected element not only for its good looks and practicality, but also because its scale was perfect for the grand space. "Proportion is most important. You can use different materials—industrial or not, sophisticated or not—but when you put them in the right proportions, they become fantastic."

So, too, does the home they're found in—especially when a visionary owner assembles the right team and the best materials to turn an unusual idea into an unrivaled reality.

"It's an awesome house," says JER Developers' owner John Rives, who both built the place and is best friends with its owner. "We've probably had more than 500 people to the house during each of the last two summers, and anyone who's been in it has adored it. They're in absolute awe." ■



UPPER LEVEL



MAIN LEVEL



LOWER LEVEL