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reimagine...

renovations to set you dreaming

LOCAL WARES HARDWARE, FASTENERS, AND FLOORS

BY COURTNEY GOODRICH • PHOTOGRAPHED BY JOEL BENJAMIN

Yankee Dandies

Renovating requires resources, planning, and time, not to mention a lot of patience. Quality workmanship, careful design, and superior building materials such as these examples of New England-made products can mean the difference between good and great renovations. We found flooring and wainscot made of wood reclaimed from the bottom of Maine's Penobscot River, rustic nails cut the old-fashioned way, and latches, knobs, hinges, and levers passionately designed and crafted by a family-owned business. They make us eager to pick up a hammer.

WATER RESCUE

Maine Heritage Timber drags up pine, spruce, and fir logs from the bottom of the Penobscot River near Ouakish Lake in Millinocket, Maine. It is wood that sank 100 years ago when the artery was the main way to get fresh-cut timber to market. After using a long-reach excavator, powered with bio-hydraulic fluid and equipped with an orange-peel grapple to recover the wood, the company dries it in a kiln and then fashions it into flooring, wainscot, and furniture.

Pine flooring (pictured) and spruce/ fir shadow board (Page 101). Maine Heritage Timber, Millinocket, ME; maineheritagetimber.com.



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LOCAL WARES

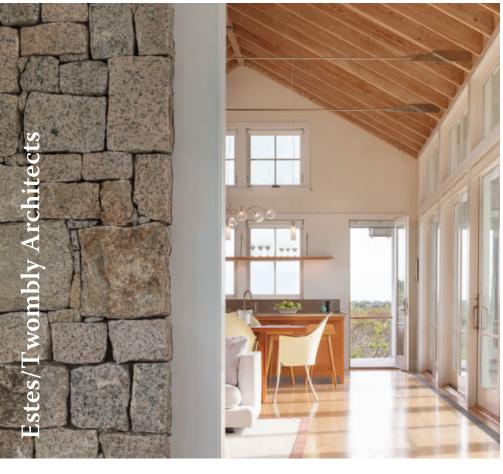


CUT ABOVE

To builders, there's nothing as pleasingly humble as the nail. Before Ezekiel Reed of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, invented the first device to cut and head one in 1786, nails were handforged in small shops around America. Technology has produced sleeker designs and more efficient processes, but Tremont Nail Co. of Mansfield, Massachusetts, relishes the old way. Specializing in producing nails for restoration projects where authenticity is most important, the company, which began in 1819 in Wareham, Massachusetts, and was bought by Acorn Manufacturing Co. in 2006, uses machinery from the mid-1800s to cut sheets of steel into hefty spikes, headless nails, small brads, rose-head and wrought-head designs, galvanized nails for boats, and tough masonry nails to pierce concrete and mortar.

() (FROM LEFT) Clout, Floor, and Spike, Tremont Nail Co., Mansfield, MA; *tremontnail.com*.





MOULDINGS | INTERIOR DOORS | HARDWARE | STAIR PARTS | MANTELS

FINE FINISH

Founded by Bill Lowe in 1982, Lowe Hardware is a family business now run by daughter Emily and son Elliot. For use on boats, homes, or commercial projects, the superbly crafted collection of levers, knobs, locks, hinges, and pulls is designed and manufactured in a 6,000-square-foot workshop in Rockland, Maine. There are 22 standard finishes from bright silver to blackened bronze, but the company also offers custom work and finishes.

() Knuckle Hinge in polished and brushed nickel (ABOVE, TOP) and Ribbon Lever in polished nickel (ABOVE, BOTTOM). Square Pull in brushed nickel and Faceted Egg Knob in polished nickel (Page 98). Lowe Hardware, Rockland, ME; *lowe-hardware.com*.

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