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Bear Creek Lumber Product Highlight

Port Orford Cedar

1x6 Clear T&G
 Misc 1x Clear boards for trim
 Owner: Kim and Al Owens Los Gatos, CA
 Builder: Frank Correia / Correia Construction
 "We want to mention our builder. He did a beautiful job and we want him to know that!"



Merle, Here are the photos I said I would send without the scaffolding. I hope they are not too late because they look much better-Kim



Port-Orford-cedar has been used for a wide variety of things from the Hawaiian Presidential Palace to Japanese Buddhist temples, California gold mine timbers and building construction. It was used for high quality boats – Sir Thomas Lipton used this wood for his Shamrock series of 100' racing sailboats, built as challengers for the Americas Cup just prior to World War I.

This wood is in great demand in China and Japan for coffins, and for temple construction because of its close relationship to Hinoki cypress (Chamaecyparis obtusa) which is thought to have a spiritual nature. It comes from a limited geographic range, growing on a stretch of the Oregon-California Coast for about 200 miles.

The wood of Port-Orford-cedar is clear with a straight, but somewhat uneven, medium grain. The wood is yellow-white in color, sometimes with tinges of red and has a bitter ginger taste and smell. Sapwood is hardly distinguishable from heartwood. Of relatively light weight and good strength, this wood has a specific gravity of 0.40 and weighs about 27 pounds per cubic foot at 8% moisture content, about the same as eastern hemlock and a little heavier than eastern white pine.

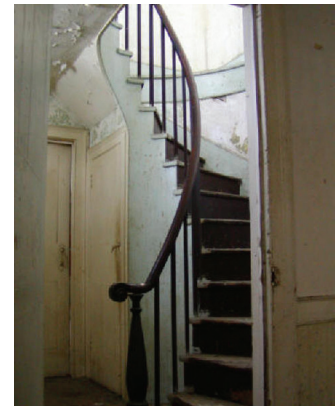
The wood dries easily, and quickly with no problems. It works well in every respect with power or hand-tools, polishes and takes paint, stain and all finishes extremely well. Its ease in staining makes it simple to imitate mahogany and other higher priced woods, adding to its popularity as a fine cabinet wood. Port-Orford-cedar is very stable in any application and when exposed to soil, water, or weather is considered to be one of the most durable of woods.

Bear Creek Lumber carries Port Orford cedar in timbers, beams, tongue and groove (as seen above), trim, decking and several types of siding. Its available in all standard grades including clear. Vertical grain clear is available by special order only, as there are a limited amount. If you would like more information, call (800) 597-7191.

Historic Michigan Home Reborn In California

When landscape architect Marci Camacho, and her husband Don decided to bring a little history into their Sonoma County, California neighborhood, they went all the way. All the way to Michigan, this is. They had found a 1831 Greek Revival home in Township, Michigan that was going to be torn down by a developer. They made a trade, a \$1 Sacagawea coin in exchange for the house. Then they had the house dismantled, carefully so as not to damage the parts. Moving a multi-storied house 2,400 miles is no small feat. Reassemblage was even a more detailed work of love.

The house includes floors, walls, windows and an unusual elliptical stairway (on right) built 173 years ago. The house had been built without nails. Wooden pegs and hand-cut mortise



and tenon joinery held the overly sturdy dwelling together. In recreating the house in California, the new owners are remaining faithful to the design, going so far as to minimize even the electrical outlets that are being added. Adhering to the old school design took some arm twisting with the local building department, as did getting the house on the local historical register. It added a full year to the construction process. But with the help of a Midwestern timber framer, the family is delighted with the results.

Among the treasures found was a 128 year old "time capsule", which is fact was a small round tin filled with a scrap of lined paper that said 'Lee Wilcox Washington, Macomb County Michigan, Sept. 25, 1876', in neat cursive writing. Finding the note led to the discovery that David Wilcox's son had disappeared shortly thereafter.

The decision to move an older building to their property was made when the Camachos, who had a late 1800's carriage house on the land already, could not build a 'new' home that was historically equal to the carriage house. They found the Wilcox house, one of several Michigan Township homes that was slated for removal to accommodate a growing suburb development. Little is known of the Wilcox family, but the families who lived in the area were truck farmers for the most part, growing fruits and vegetables on small lots of less than 100 acres each.

Marci particularly likes the connection to the quirks of the past. One room had a particularly wide door which she learned was sized so that a casket could be brought into the room when the family, after a death, would hold a necessary building materials for added strength.

viewing. She also marveled at how overbuilt the house was, using three times the necessary building materials for added strength. Historians in California may have frowned on the intrusion by a mobile landmark, but the Michigan historians are tickled that the home was saved. And the Camachos, who have purchased materials from Bear Creek Lumber for the renovation, couldn't be happier.



Relocation project by Bradstreet Builders and Historic Preservation LLC
www.homelesshomes.com/wilcox.ht



Right: The Wilcox House before leaving Michigan.
Above: Proud owners, Don and Marci Camacho

coming next month: The house in its new home in California

Industry News

Severe droughts in the West are expected to result in an extreme fire season this summer, which could curtail both logging and in some areas, construction. Washington State is experiencing the worst drought in 28 years. Montana is entering its seventh year of drought. In western Oregon, private timber lands were closed to recreational use in March, the earliest closure on record. With a shortage of fuel tankers and National Guard, state governments are nervously eyeing their reserves. Idaho has 85% of its troops overseas or awaiting deployment.

After a record output of timber and lumber, 2005 and 2006 are expected to see drops in demand. Americans used a record 62 billion board feet of lumber in 2004, up 8.4% from the previous year. With 1.96 million housing starts and 19.5 million board feet used for remodeling, lumber consumption was at an all-time high.

The remodeling industry has seen expenditures for residential projects triple during the decade between 1970 and 1980, and then increase 250 percent between 1980 and 1990. And those were the slow times compared to our current market. More than 24 million homes are between 23 and 32 years old. Owned for the most part by older Americans, it is estimated that these homes are prime for billions of dollars of repair, maintenance and improvement work. Even as new construction wanes with rising interest rates, the remodeling sector is expected to make continued gains. The two biggest remodels continue to be kitchen and bathroom, as the aging population looks for better accessibility and the latest crazes in those respective parts of the home.

Small Changes Can Lead To Success

While your TIMBERLINE Editor was waiting at an airport, I picked up a paper with these little gems of wisdom, I thought I could share. They are excerpted from a book by Robert Maurer called "How One Small Step Can Change Your Life: The Kaisen Way".

To stop overspending: Remove one object from the shopping cart before heading to the cash register. You'll know which one!

To begin an exercise program: Stand, yes, just stand, for a few minutes every morning. Standing burns that much more calories than sitting.

Canadian Housing Sets Record

The Canadian Real Estate Association announced that existing home sales and housing starts reached record highs in 2004, with the province of Ontario leading the pack. Toronto was the leading metropolitan area, in the number of units sold. Vancouver had the highest average price at \$374,000 Canadian. That's a 13% increase in the average home price compared to 2003.

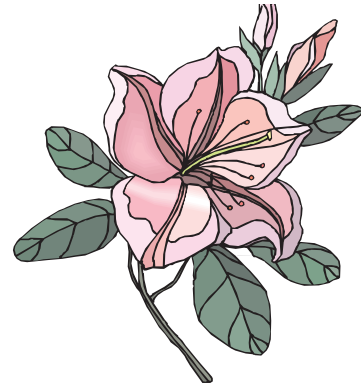
Housing starts hit a 1-year high with 233,431 units built. Ontario had 85,000 of those starts. Quebec posted 58,448 starts. Sales are expected to fall off in 2005 and 2006 because of the increase in price, as well as rising interest rates.

Indonesian Forests Bear Brunt of Disasters

Recent twin disasters are intensifying the pressure on Indonesian timber production. Researchers say that at the current rate of harvesting, Indonesia's rainforests will disappear by the end of the decade. While logging was banned in hard-hit Banda Aceh in 2001, illegal operations persist, and are intensifying due to the pressing need for 100,000 new homes. Importing lumber for the homeless is somewhat impractical, and the country's timber mills have the capacity to produce enough lumber to ease the housing shortage. But the logs available would have to come from protected reserves. 70% of the region's logs already come from illegal sources. Alternatives such as brick and concrete are available, but the speed by which plank homes can be built has been preferred, given the country's dilemma, including the increased threat from more earthquakes and tsunamis.

To manage stress: Once a day, note where your body is holding tension. Then take one deep breath. Exhale and Relax.
To keep your house clean: Pick an area, set a timer for five minutes and tidy up.

Get more sleep: Go to bed one minute earlier or stay in bed one minute later.



Unhappy? You Might Just Be an English Architect

The 2005 Happiness Index compiled by City & Guilds, the British-based body established in 1878 to encourage education and training in and for the workplace, has revealed some surprising statistics regarding architects. Only two percent of architects enjoy their jobs, just one percent below civil servants, while hairdressers top the happiness league with 40 percent claiming to be extremely happy in their work.

City & Guilds works with industry, government and training organizations to identify the skills needed to support the UK economy, and makes awards for vocational learning. Hot off the heels of hairdressers in the index are chefs (23 percent), beauticians (22 percent) and plumbers (20 percent). Hairdressers find their job satisfying because of fast results and a personal touch. Whether architects are more likely to be unhappy in their work due to the risks of the profession, its arduous slowness, or feeling undervalued, is unclear. Chris Humphries, director general of City & Guilds comments: "Nowadays true job satisfaction and happiness is about fulfilling your full potential, tapping into your own creativity and feeling that you make a difference.

Architects of other nations were not interviewed and may be MUCH happier. We hope so!

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TIMBERLINE

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