

TIMBER FRAMING

Timber framing is a 2,000 year old tradition of connecting heavy timbers into a rigid structural frame using wooden joinery. The natural beauty of the wood is enhanced by the interplay of these timbers and finely crafted joints. A well executed timber frame delights the eye and engages the soul.



The Arkitex Studio



Since 1983, Red Suspenders Timber Frames has been carrying on this tradition of craftsmanship. Working with architects, builders and clients, we have integrated timber framing into all types of structures from diminutive pavilions to expansive residential and commercial projects. The result of these collaborations is a series of buildings that are as solid and durable as they are beautiful.

WOOD

The process does not begin in our shop, but rather in the forest. Wood is the heart and soul of what we do. We, therefore, take great pains to assure the quality of our material. We often literally go out into the woods to select the trees that will be used in our timber frames. To further ensure quality control, we operate our own saw mill, dry kilns and planing mill.

We use many different woods in our work. There is no perfect wood for all projects as each has its benefits and limitations. Red and White Oaks, Southern Yellow Pine,



Ken Anderson & Associates

Douglas Fir, Cypress, Walnut and Western Red Cedar have all found their way into one or another of our projects.

Whenever possible, we prefer and recommend the use of dry timbers. Green timbers are often used in timber

frames, but they shrink, check and move as they dry. To avoid this, we kiln dry almost all of our new timber or use recycled material. Recycled timber is salvaged from old structures that have been dismantled after years of service. These recycled timbers are generally quite dry and stable. These timbers have a beautiful patina not seen in new material. Nail and bolt holes add character to individual timbers. There is also the added environmental benefit in using recycled materials.

ENCLOSURES

As beautiful as a timber frame is, it is only part of a completed project. Except in the case of open air structures, the frame must be enclosed. We generally recommend the use of structural insulated panels (SIPS) for this enclosure.



Ron Balderach & Associates

These panels are made from a sheet of rigid foam insulation sandwiched between two structural skins. When applied to the exterior of the timber frame, on both the roof and walls, these panels provide the interior finish surface, exterior sheathing and,



most importantly, an efficient and unbroken layer of insulation around the entire structure. By combining these high efficiency panels with energy conscious design, the energy requirements of a building can often be reduced by 50% over conventional construction and insulation methods. We generally provide and install stress skin panels on the timber frames we craft. Any type of finish, natural or man made, can be applied to the interior and exterior surfaces of these panels.



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DESIGN

Timber framing offers limitless possibilities for design. Massive posts and beams can create soaring open spaces or embrace more intimate areas. The timbers and joinery combine to become sculpture. But as beautiful as a well executed timber frame is, we are fully aware that it is only part of a more important whole. It should define and enhance the plan, be structurally sound and



aesthetically pleasing, work in conjunction with all other systems in the project and make sense economically. In our nearly two decades in the trade, we have developed methods and techniques to make this possible. Through design consultation, we are happy to put our experience and knowledge to work for you.

WHAT ELSE?

Beyond the timber frame and structural insulated panels, we also can provide finish materials such as flooring, siding, trim, pattern board stock and timber accents. We regularly build custom wood



The Arkítex Studio



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interior and exterior doors, cabinets, stairs and railings to match or complement the timber frame.

HOW DO WE BEGIN?

As you can see, we take ideas and dreams and make them into reality. A working relationship with Red Suspenders Timber Frames means a commitment to excellence and exceptional craftsmanship. Such a relationship usually begins with a visit to our shop in Nacogdoches where you can see our work and meet the fine people who work here. You can also visit our website at redsuspenderstf.com and take a virtual tour of our facility. We would also be happy to have one of our representatives visit your office to discuss possibilities with you. Please call our office and let us know how we can assist you in making your design a reality.



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