

*High Country*

# HOME

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MAGAZINE AND RESOURCE GUIDE

## *THE* **PROMONTORY HOUSE**

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Famous*  
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COBBLER**

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Elementary's New*  
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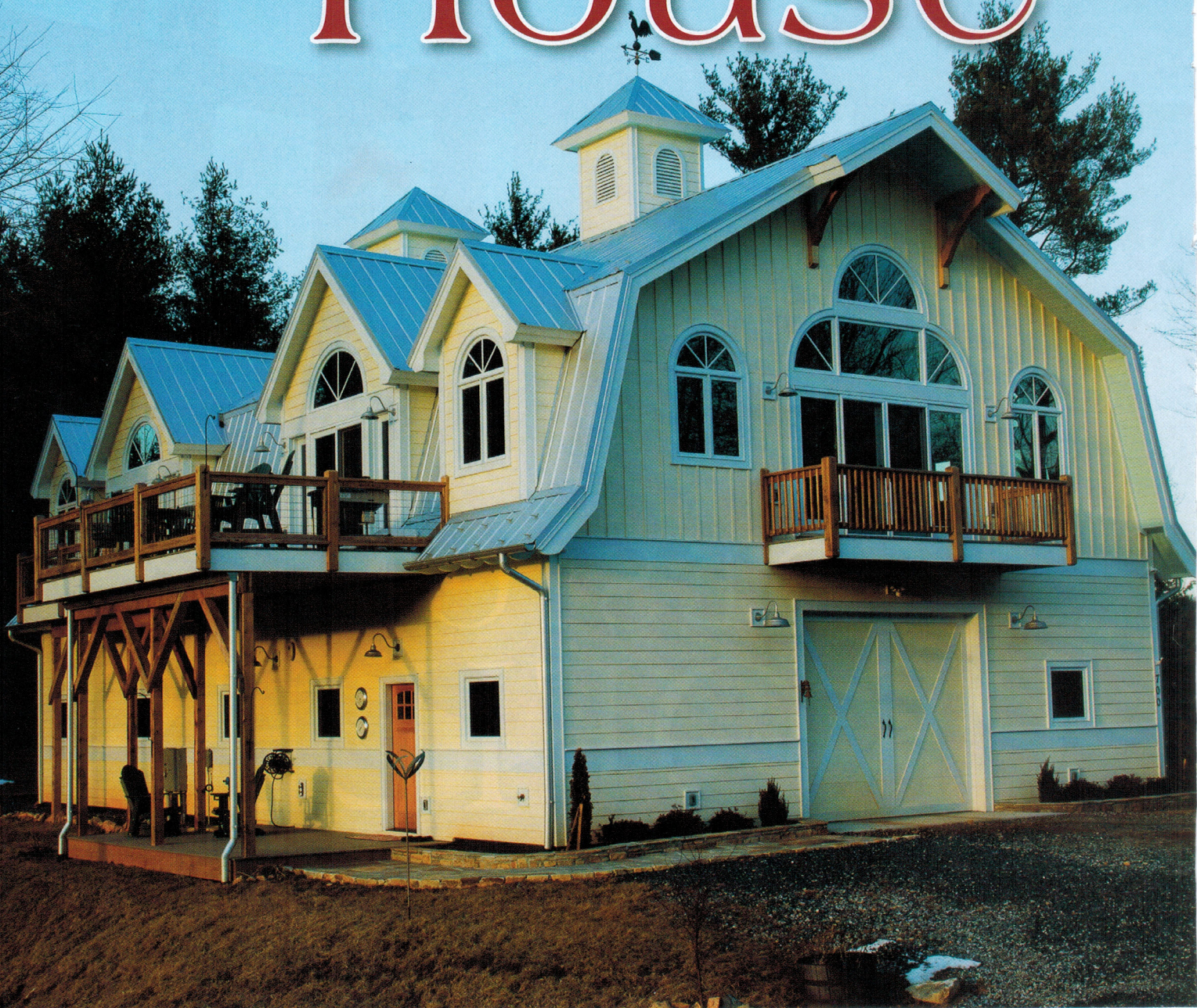
*Far from Standard*

| by SARAH SANTIAGO

Photos by MICHAEL RUSSELL

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# *the* Carriage House





Mountain homes are typically painted a color to match the immediate surroundings: shades of green, brown, grey, and red. But at the end of a winding road, sitting atop a mountain in West Jefferson, a refreshing surprise comes into view.

This homeowner's admiration of Key West inspired the pastel exterior of soft yellow with sky blue under the eaves of the roof. Designed in imitation of a Dutch carriage house, the traditional barn door leads your eye up to a grand display of windows under a gambrel roof line.

A small foyer on the first floor gives only a glimpse of the exquisite craftsmanship throughout the rest of the house. Slate stone tiles cover the floor, lending a deep contrast to the lighter wood tones. The first of four bathrooms is settled here between the entry to the 2,500 square foot garage/workshop and the staircase leading up to the 2,500 square foot living space.

The stairs of naturally finished heart pine with railings of cedar send you up to the great room bathed in natural light. This is where we are greeted by the masterpiece of the house; a ceiling of massive spruce dormers which provide an immense feeling

of spaciousness, a technique repeated in each bedroom. Nowhere in this house will an eye become bored with the architecture. Everywhere you look there is an angle to be followed that leads to another pleasing design element. Whether it's the room decor or structural integrity, this "carriage house



style" will wow you. Taking advantage of the vaulted ceiling, a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace warms the far corner of the great room. Due to the large dormers, the top of the fireplace

angles with the ceiling instead of ending in a straight line, giving the illusion of a chimney that extends through the roof. The fireplace is veneered with Bucks County cultured stone, a rustic accent to the all-wood construction of the rest of the home. The mantle above the fireplace is made of a spalted maple tree that fell on the property during construction. This rare lumber provides a light toned grain with contrasting dark lines created by the natural decay of the wood. Jeff and his team dried and sealed this gem which was then used to create multiple custom pieces throughout the house.

The flooring in the living quarters is 150-year-old heart pine reclaimed from industrial buildings across the country. The owners chose this wood for its historical significance and rustic appeal. The cabinets and island in the kitchen are knotty alder with a dark walnut stain, designed by The Glasswing Design Co., a subsidiary of J.S. Construction. The kitchen's granite countertops and backsplash behind the stove are a shining menagerie of earth tones. Sit there long enough and you will lose track of time following the glittering patterns in the rock. Just off the kitchen is a deck outfitted with



Adirondack chairs are set on a nearby hilltop to create a perfect viewing area of the mountain expanse.



Massive windows serve a dual purpose, letting in natural lighting as well as accentuating the gorgeous spruce dormers. The stone fireplace reaches to the ceiling, an impressive focal point for this great room.





a heavy gauge steel farm fence rail, adding to the charm of the pastoral setting without interrupting the fantastic view or sacrificing aesthetic appeal.

The living area is separated from the bedrooms by a pair of knotty alder French doors capped by a transom window which allows natural light from the great room to fill the hallway. Beyond these doors is a spacious laundry room lined with calico hickory custom cabinetry. The owners thought of everything when they asked for a special nook of the laundry room for the cat litter box complete with a built-in fan (just like us humans have in our bathrooms). Requests like this are one of the benefits of employing Jeff's company. His fulltime crew of talented craftsmen strives to bring their clients' visions to life with a personal touch. It all starts with building a relationship and uncovering the beauty of a truly custom experience tailored to fit needs of each unique client.

In the master suite, you will find tranquil lavender painted walls and glass doors opening up to a large balcony with a view of the valley and mountains. Walking into the master bathroom, the eyes are immediately drawn to a roomy stand-up shower sheltered by another tall dormer. Enjoy a private view of the mountains while you bathe under a waterfall showerhead attached to a spalted maple wooden beam. Sea green glass tiled walls reflect the brilliant green of the Rainforest marble countertops, incorporating the owners love of beach colors common in Key West. This unique slab of rock brings the outdoors in with its incredible combination of green streaked with



deep red and brown. A window situated between his and her sinks is a subtle reminder of the natural mountain surroundings.

The guest suite is painted a soothing Haint Blue, the same blue used beneath the overhangs of the gambrel roof. Historically, this color has been painted on ceilings of sitting porches and soffits at eave locations to (theoretically) repel wasps, spiders and ward off restless spirits from settling in the home. The guest bathroom is decked with tiles on the floor and shower walls, both imitating slate stone in tones of black, grey and brown.

In a traditional carriage house, the bottom level would be where the horse and carriage are kept. In this case, beneath the second floor living space there lies a man cave (or rather, man warehouse) consisting of 2,500 square feet of open floor. This allows for storing a large work bench with enough room leftover for wood work-



ing tools, a few cars and possibly a small aircraft.

Before visiting this awe-inspiring mountain retreat, I was told that Jeff Smith was very precise; all the screws in the house were turned so their notches lined up. After the walkthrough, I am blown away by Mr. Smith's attention to detail and fine-point craftsmanship. This is truly one of the most

spectacular homes I've had the pleasure of seeing. J.S.Construction's commitment to excellence results in works of art that clients can call "home." If you're interested in a seamless construction experience, J.S. Construction is sure to deliver. Jeff can be reached at 828-719-5724 or you can visit his website at [www.JSconstructionLLC.com](http://www.JSconstructionLLC.com) for more information. **HCHA**



# The Carriage House | *Far from Standard*



To add to the  
ambiance, this  
light fixture is  
reminiscent of an  
old oil lamp. The  
barbwire detailing  
that encircles the  
top brings to mind  
the idea of a true  
carriage home.







◀◀◀ In this bathroom, every possible detail helps add to the character of the room, from the dragonfly sink to the brightly colored walls.

