Early New England Homes
by country carpenters, inc.

Reflections of the Past and Sustainability for the Future
Our Philosophy

A CALLING not to forget our rich COLONIAL HERITAGE

Appreciating the FLAVOR OF LIFE once found in the SIMPLICITY OF THE PAST

Providing a building that is IN HARMONY with the COUNTRYSIDE we live in

Striving to UNDERSTAND and DELIVER each client’s unique EXPECTATIONS of HOMEOWNERSHIP

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE while not losing sight of the vanishing landscapes our forefathers fashioned

PLEDGING to support RENEWABLE RESOURCES

Letting the reward of our work provide our needs while BRINGING JOY AND PEACE as it was intended
Our early New England homes have been fashioned after several authentic 18th Century homes found along the Connecticut countryside. These charming structures contain timbered ceilings, wide plank floors and handcrafted features that are rarely found in homes today. It is easy to imagine family members gathered around the large center fireplace sharing stories and time together.

Early New England Homes has a vision to restore warmth and character to homes built today, and bring family and friends back together in the heart of the home.

We invite you to come explore our model home.

Whether for food, warmth or friendship, the hearth fulfils our basic need for gathering.
COMFORTABLY MODEST homes are simply stated and built to a human scale.

The true value of your home is not measured in dollars, but in the quality of life it affords, and the genuine spirit of family that it houses. If you take a look at the history of home ownership, a natural connection developed between a home and its inhabitants when the early New England colonists first experienced the opportunity of owning their own property, building their own house, and working hard to make that house a home. Those colonists were rewarded with a sense of pride and appreciation for the heartfelt human values of simplicity, efficiency, and modesty. These values are forever preserved in the architecture of the period, and you now have the opportunity to experience them today through Early New England Homes by Country Carpenters. Although daily life in the 18th Century was indeed different than today, Early New England Homes still believes that your home should add essential value to your daily life.
Imagine living in a place where interior and exterior proportions are designed to a human scale, natural materials create character, and living spaces flow like conversation.

Early New England Homes has engineered a unique, open architecture, timbered ceiling system that works with conventionally framed walls, allowing many of the charming characteristics of early New England to be incorporated into your newly built home.

The center chimney is an integral part of the design and promotes the concept of a gathering place for family and friends. The system also allows flexibility in the placement of interior walls so you can build a home with a floor plan that meets your individual needs.

**OPEN FLOOR PLAN** enhances family unity.
Building a house is a major undertaking. It is very important that the home you build fulfils your expectations, and the whole building process goes smoothly from beginning to end.

GETTING STARTED

The first step is to visit our model and experience, first hand, a walk through our home. See the integrity of the structure, and feel the spirit of the space. If you decide that an Early New England Home is right for you, we can chat about your lifestyle, your site and your time frame. Then you choose a builder. An Early New England Homes crew can build your home if you are within our range, or you may choose a local builder. Following this initial consultation, we will begin to create a roadmap that will lead you through the entire process.

This is a home building system. What you purchase are fully engineered building plans, our unique pre-cut timbered ceiling, along with pre-cut wall studs and rafters. You can also choose to add some or all of the custom handmade options from our workshops, including bead board trim, wide floor boards, hand-planed paneling, stairs and doors as well as hand-forged hardware. For those who choose their own builder, this system also includes helpful construction manuals to enable your builder, with the support of Early New England Homes, to build the home of your dreams.
Working these materials by hand restores the artistry and wonder of true craftsmanship to your home.

The essence of 18th Century life can be captured by surrounding yourself with the natural elements of the period – bricks, metal and just the right amount of wood.
Seven Sets of Engineered Plans
Main House Framing Package
Optional Wing and/or Ell & Farmer's Porch
Exterior Trim Materials
- beaded cornerboards
- water table boards
- window trim
Ceiling Boards, 8”, 10”, 12”
Handmade Front Entry Door
Interior Trim Materials
- beaded door & window trim
- custom baseboards
Fireplace Mantle
Early New England Stair Packages
Handmade 4-Panel Interior Doors
Clinch Nailed Board & Batten Doors
Forged Period Hardware
Hand-planed Interior Wall Paneling
- vertical beadboard
- beaded wainscoting
- capped chair rail
Interior Flooring
- random wide boards, 12”-17”
Cabinet Packages & Closet Stock

PLANS AND PARTICULARS that add character to your home.
The first floor plan will provide the footprint for the layout of the entire house. The flexibility of this home design allows its interior space, ell and porches to be configured in a variety of ways to accommodate the size of your family or your preferred lifestyle.

Your initial consultation will open the door to a world of possibilities available to you in an Early New England Home.
Do you have a passion for entertaining? Perhaps solitude is more your style, or grandchildren factor into your future. Maybe you plan to raise a family and you recognize the richness of spirit that comes from a hearth-centered home. It just makes sense for you to play an active role in the development of your surroundings. Whatever interests or needs define your daily routine, these are the tools that will shape an Early New England Home plan into the home you’ve always dreamed about.
ADAPTABLE SPACES for guests, hobbies, kids or grandchildren.

Whether it’s a spare bedroom, home office or the sewing room you’ve always wanted – every room, nook and cranny is bursting with charm.

The second floor is a space waiting to be discovered. It is a frontier of possibilities for you to develop into your world of purpose. A typical room configuration might include a master bedroom, two smaller bedrooms, a bathroom, and an open studio or sitting room at the end of the hall. However, in the early planning stages, interior walls and rooms can be arranged in a variety of ways to design an upstairs interior that will perfectly adapt to your specific needs.
Dreams come true

Early New England Homes can offer the lifestyle you seek in a beautiful cape, saltbox, gambrel or colonial home. Our designs come from authentic 250-year-old homes that still dot the New England landscape today.
Our flagship 1750s style center chimney cape sets the standard for all our Early New England Homes. This home has a hearth-centered open floor plan on the first floor, and reproduces details throughout the entire home that restore the charm of the 18th Century in your home today.

Early New England Cape

Small Cape also available
At the heart of most 18th Century New England villages was the town green. On many of those beautiful greens you would find a center chimney saltbox. Our Early New England Saltbox is graced with the same beautiful lines found on those classic saltbox homes.

The first floor of our saltbox is as spacious and open as our cape and the saltbox roof affords more space on the second floor for larger bedrooms.

**Shown without the Ell option**
Early New England Gambrel

Early craftsmen knew how to design a home that was both beautiful and functional. Our Early New England Gambrel maintains the beautiful proportions of original gambrel homes found throughout New England.

The first floor room in the gambrel surrounds the center fireplace, just like our cape, allowing you maximum flexibility to partition the rooms as you like. The gambrel rooflines create a beautiful and charming second floor that just feels like old New England.
Early New England Colonial

The early colonists hewed the beams for their homes from the virgin forests that surrounded their property, and each home therefore had a unique character. Our Early New England Colonial reflects the character of the area. The large summer beams and timber ceilings create a warmth that is just not found in today’s homes.
Much of what’s important in life can be found right at home, and that is why finding the right home is so important.

If you are considering building a house, you owe it to yourself to sit down and honestly evaluate what you want your home to do for you. Simply by designing living spaces that build on the wisdom and experience of past generations, Early New England Homes has rediscovered just how much value a home can add to your life. Families raising children, empty nesters looking for their own retreat, or even grandparents will find that an Early New England Home is where their heart is.

You and your family have so much to be thankful for.
Over 30 years ago, Roger Barrett Sr. had a vision to build a company that would somehow preserve New England’s rich colonial heritage for future generations to experience and enjoy. The year was 1974, and Roger Sr. indeed began to build, quite literally! Together with his wife, Lois, and son, Roger Jr., he started working in his backyard taking salvaged old New England barns and building beautiful post and beam homes.

Roger’s love of old barns eventually changed his path as he began to focus on creating a company specializing in barns and carriage houses. It was important to Roger that these buildings exhibit the charm and style of colonial New England, thus fulfilling his original vision. Working with their son, Roger Jr., the Barretts began to offer New England style post and beam barns and carriage houses in fully engineered, pre-cut kits. Country Carpenters was born.

Many years have passed since those early days in Roger Sr.’s backyard. Roger Jr. now heads up our team of over 30 employees and craftsmen with his son, Roger, III at his side. The original vision still continues today with the introduction of Early New England Homes by Country Carpenters.

In the early 1900s, a family tradition of blacksmithing was started that still continues today at Country Carpenters. Fred Brehant served as the blacksmith for the Town of Hebron in those days, and he passed his trade on to his son. Fred Jr. now serves as our very own village blacksmith.

Fred Brehant Jr. truly embodies the Early American spirit. He proudly carries on his family heritage, as well as the traditions and craftsmanship of past generations as he continues to hand forge hardware for Country Carpenters and Early New England Homes. His son, Fred III, and his granddaughters, carry on the family tradition for future generations to enjoy.

We dedicate this catalog to Roger Sr., Lois Barrett, and Fred Brehant Jr., who graciously live by the Early New England beliefs and values they also strive to preserve. They are truly an inspiration to us all.
From I-91 North or South
In Hartford, take I-84 East to I-384 East. Go to exit 5 and turn right at the end of ramp. Follow Rte. 85 South for 1 mile then turn right (remaining on Rte. 85). At stop sign turn left and Early New England Homes is the first property on the left.

From Points West
Take I-84 East to Hartford and follow directions above.

From Southeastern Connecticut
Follow Rte. 85 North for 4.6 miles past the Rte. 66 intersection then turn right (remaining on Rte. 85 North). Travel another 4.6 miles and Early New England Homes will be on your right.

From the Boston Area
Take the Mass Pike West to I-84 West to I-384 East. Go to exit 5 and turn right at the end of ramp. Follow Rte. 85 South for 1 mile then turn right (remaining on Rte. 85). At stop sign turn left and Early New England Homes is the first property on the left.