

The Bowles' Residence  
North Qualicum Beach, Vancouver Island

# Amazing Timber Frame Great Room!

Cedar beams held together by mortise & tenon joinery and precision cut wood pins.

By Robert Read  
Photography by Antonio D. LaFauci

Timberrrrr! The first of 40 huge 150' red cedar trees drop to the ground on the North Qualicum Beach property of Holly and Wayne Bowles. This was the beginning of an exciting renovation to their 32 year old home purchased 13 years ago. Holly and Wayne, like many of us, dreamed that one day they would be able to turn their home into the dream home they have always wanted. Years of hard work running their own window & renovation company, Complete Window Services in Parksville, finally paid off. Completing some of the most stunning renovations ever seen on Vancouver Island the Bowles can now finally apply their expertise and turn their home into a dream home too.

The Great Room was built as an extension to the Bowles residence. The Bowles designed the entire project while working closely with master timber frame builder, Cliff Walker of Timbersmith Timber Frames and Log Homes in Parksville. Timbersmith is a locally owned family business with all four of Cliff & Susie's children participating in their proud workmanship. They have built Timber Frame homes throughout North America and around the world including homes in Ireland, Japan, Korea, Spain and Israel.

Holly and Wayne's Great Room spans 1000 sq. feet with a Cathedral ceiling that peaks at a height of 24 feet with a spectacular 23 foot long skylight, an ingenious design by the Bowles. On a clear night one can gaze up at the stars as the moon casts its mystical light through the giant skylight and into The Great Room creating a peace and serenity that would alleviate the stress from anyone's day. The Great Rooms' framing is best described as a 'Double Hammer-Beam Bent Configuration' held expertly together by mortise & tenon joinery and large precision-cut wood pins. As a result of this fine workmanship, in true framing tradition, not one metal plate was ever used to join the massive red cedar beams.

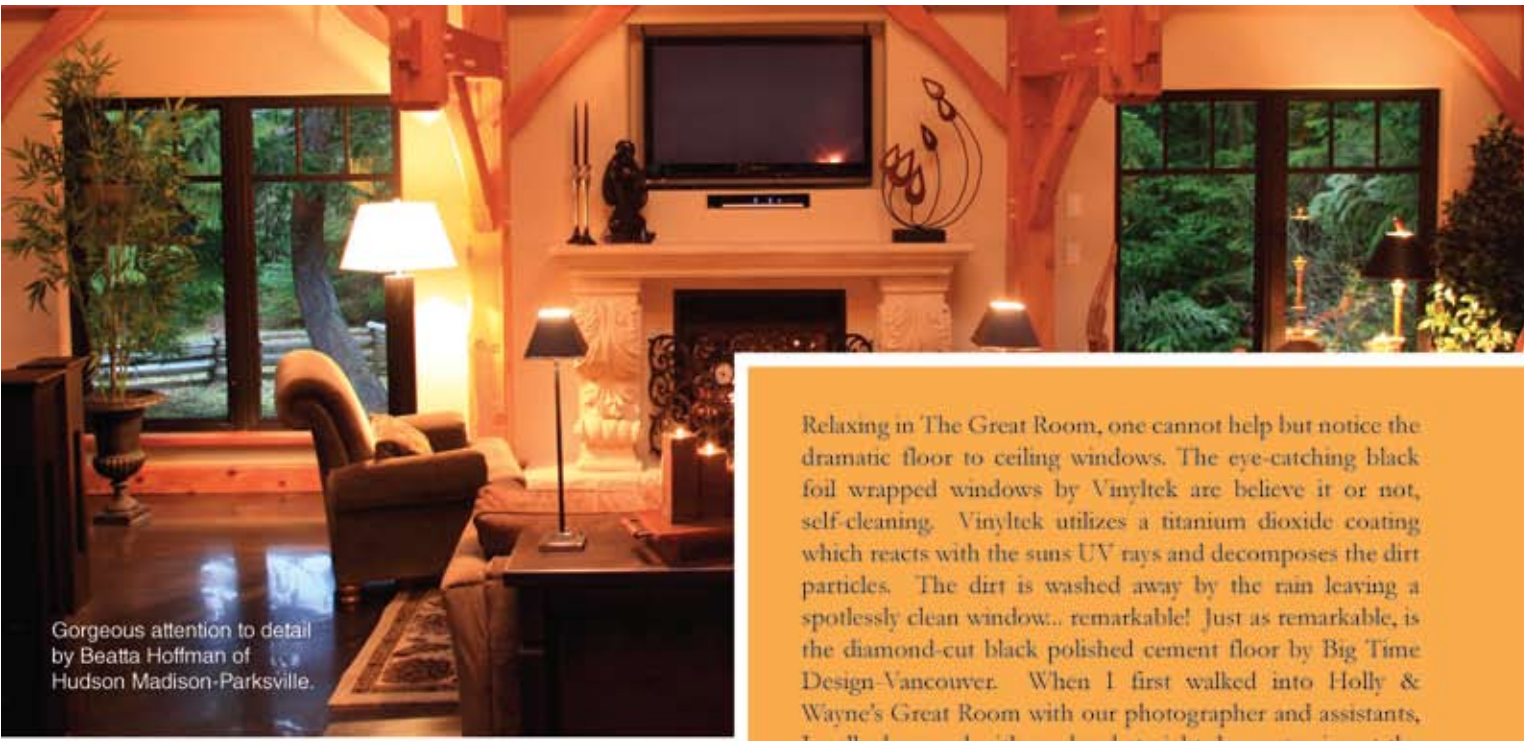


Holly & Wayne Bowles



Throw blanket purchased at Duecks on Broadway 63 years ago for Holly's Grandparents as they did not own a car with a heater.





Gorgeous attention to detail by Beatta Hoffman of Hudson Madison-Parksville.

Relaxing in The Great Room, one cannot help but notice the dramatic floor to ceiling windows. The eye-catching black foil wrapped windows by Vinyltek are believe it or not, self-cleaning. Vinyltek utilizes a titanium dioxide coating which reacts with the sun's UV rays and decomposes the dirt particles. The dirt is washed away by the rain leaving a spotlessly clean window... remarkable! Just as remarkable, is the diamond-cut black polished cement floor by Big Time Design-Vancouver. When I first walked into Holly & Wayne's Great Room with our photographer and assistants, I walked around with my head straight down staring at the floor in amazement and then found myself crawling around on my hands and knees patting the floor... I just had to touch this floor. Suddenly, conscious of how I must look, I stood up quickly only to find that one of our assistants was doing the same... hilarious!

Holly and Wayne designed their Great Room to include the kitchen... any great chef would give up his grandmothers secret recipe to cook in this kitchen! A large granite counter top bar by Filko Marble & Granite in Parksville, accompanied with white leather stools from Hudson Madison Interiors in Parksville announce the kitchen area.



Dinning Table. Purchased at Spencer's Department Store (later became Eaton's). Used in China Department and sold to Holly's grandfather who worked there. Cost: \$2.00 delivered!



The Bowles Timberframe Great Room expertly built by Timbersmith Timber Frames and Log Homes.





Furnishings and accessories - Hudson Madison, Parksville



The Bertazonni gas range from Schöne Living in Parksville.

Espresso Cabinetry house the stainless steel appliances from Schöne Living of Parksville. The dishwasher, of course, is a Miele renowned for their super quiet yet flawless cleaning ability. Now, the gas range... you have to check out the gas range. It's a Bertazonni. It's from Italy. It's sold exclusively at Schöne Living. The Bertazonni gas range is simply incredible and it's so well priced you will be pleasantly surprised.

To bring the Great Room together, Holly & Wayne brought in the talents of Beatta Hoffman of Hudson Madison Interiors in Parksville. Holly stated; 'Many of us think we have good taste and can decorate a room just fine and I thought that too ...wrong!' 'Our Great Room would not be as great without hiring the talents of Beatta'. When you ask Beatta about her work she politely answers 'I don't do houses—I create a home'. Beatta is obviously very proud of her work and rightfully so; she added the final touches to a room that is fitting of its name...The Great Room!

