

BY PAMELA BROWN PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOHN HESSION

Creating Lasting Relationships and Enduring Satisfaction

BENNETT BUILDERS TAKES PRIDE IN QUALITY CONSTRUCTION



onathan Bennett is proud to be celebrating five years in business this spring. After working as a sole proprietor for other local builders for many years, Jonathan knew it was time to establish his own company to help homeowners create the home of their dreams and provide exceptional services for all their construction needs. "I decided to branch out on my own because I knew it was time. I wanted to establish my own company with my own personal goals," says Jonathan, owner of Bennett Builders, a company that serves the Lake Sunapee and Upper Valley regions of New Hampshire. The full-service construction firm offers complete start-to-finish new home construction, small or large renovations, garage and barn construction, kitchen and bathroom remodeling, deck and porch construction, roof replacement, and general contracting services.









Striving for Precision and Perfection

Two key principles guide Jonathan in his work: superior craftsmanship and customer satisfaction. "I approach each and every project with the knowledge, skill, passion, and attention to detail necessary to produce good-quality construction. I build lasting relationships with all of my clients. I keep in contact with every one of them, and some for several years now," he says, adding that his close working relationship with industry professionals is a bonus that results in innovative design and fine details. "The most important quality that we bring to our construction is precision. We strive for perfection on even the smallest projects."

Jonathan and his crew are always willing to return to the site after completion to address any additional issues to make sure every client is satisfied. "My name is written on our signs, so I will stand behind our work 100 percent and ensure that our customers are happy with their investment," says Jonathan, explaining that technology has revolutionized communication between contractors and homeowners and keeps the process running as smooth as possible. "Technology such as electronic signatures and texting has reduced the gap with miscommunication and construction delays."



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Clockwise from far

left: This project involved installing a NanaWall to maximize views of Lake Sunapee. Each panel folds and slides to the sides of the home's exterior, creating a wide-open space. Interiors were updated with whitewashed oak floors and custom woodworking. Custom built-ins were installed on both sides of the original fireplace. Working with the homeowner, Bennett Builders was able to create a more modern hand rail. Project design by Bonin Architects.

Beacons of Beauty

A few years ago, Jonathan took on a whole-house renovation of a lakefront cottage in Newbury. "I worked with the original structure and kept some of the home's old characteristics. It was one of my biggest projects when I first started out on my own that included custom woodworking, whole-house upgrades, and all-new energy-efficient features," he explains. Today, the home is a testament to the talent and expertise of Bennett Builders and stands as a beacon of beauty by Lake Sunapee.

Another project was a complete remodel of a 3,000-square-foot home in New London. "The interior and exterior were gutted and completely renovated. The homeowner





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wanted a more modernized feel for the home, so we literally took everything apart from top to bottom," says Jonathan, who utilized a good amount of reclaimed wood throughout, featuring the hand-hewn beams in the great room and also using the original fireplace but modernizing it while still maintaining a touch of the old-world feel. "We incorporated a lot of light, opening it up and giving it a contemporary feel, and also adding in energy-efficient features." These homes reflect some of the design trends Jonathan is seeing in the industry, such as lighter colors, reclaimed wood, and use of gold and brass fixtures.

Hands-On Attention

To ensure a top-notch end result, Jonathan oversees all construction projects. "I'm constantly on-site at our projects, and usually working with the crews," he says. He finds the work interesting and engaging. "Every day is different—there are no two days that are the same so there is never a dull moment. There's something special about watching a project come together and homeowners getting to see their ideas and plans turn into reality. I have had the pleasure of returning to some of our completed projects, and just seeing a family living in that new space and the way it came together with furniture and decor brings such a feeling of accomplishment and gratitude. It really makes all of the long days worth it."

Working outdoors, despite the inconsistent New England weather, has never been a bother to Jonathan since he takes pleasure in his career. "I'm not sure anyone would necessarily be surprised, but I am an avid outdoorsman. I will take any opportunity that I can to be outside," he says. "And I also love to build and fix things, which is probably why I ended up where I am today." **TW**

Bennett Builders

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