



June/July 2005

# Crosscuts

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## SUMMER HOURS

**Monday – Friday**

7:30 – 5:00

**Saturday**

7:30 – 2:00

**Closed Sunday**

We will be closed

Monday, May 30th, for Memorial Day.

Monday, July 4th, for the Fourth of July.

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## Custom Milling Helps to Preserve Historic Spirit of Portsmouth Property

When Jim Reid purchased the former Kingsbury House Education Center at the corner of Chapel and State Streets in downtown Portsmouth, his goal was to bring back the spirit and stateliness of this prominent, 190-year-old historic landmark.

Divided into two structures, the property is comprised of a stately brick residence that sits prominently on State Street, to which a quaint wooden cottage is attached. The cottage is set back behind an ornate wrought iron fence, fronted by the remnants of its former caretakers, a business that many in the area remember as the Gardner's Cottage or the Strawberry Banke store.

This wooden cottage area required the most extensive renovation work, with "a lot of rot and not a straight line in the

place," says Reid. In addition, the second floor was completely unusable, with random partitions and exposed heat ducts scattered throughout.

Bringing Reid's vision to life was Whitney Saidla, owner of the Stratham design/build firm Whitney & Company. Saidla designed the renovation plan to not only take advantage of the property's structural integrity, but to also preserve its history: from saving original beams which appeared to have been salvaged from buildings that fell to the great fires of the early 1800s, to mixing old floor boards with new, custom-planed flooring to ensure that the building's "old" look was maintained throughout.

Thanks to Rand Lumber's custom milling capabilities, both Reid and Saidla were able to achieve their goal of staying true to the character of the property. Says

Reid, "The rough hewn beams they milled look great. They are nice heavy beams that appear to be from the period of time that the structure was built."

Rand Lumber also provided rough hewn boards for the sub-flooring, which Reid and Saidla left exposed underneath to further maintain that "old house" feeling.

"I'm not Rand's biggest customer, but I've worked with the company

### If the Walls Could Talk

A year ago, it was a mutual commitment to quality historical preservation that brought property owner Jim Reid to Rand Lumber for custom millwork. Little did Rand family members know that their Seacoast area heritage would have already preceded their own, personal experiences with this historic property on the corner of Chapel and State Streets in Portsmouth.

Past and present converged one day during renovation, when Reid discovered several faded, hand-written documents that had been once stashed in the walls of his in-town residence. In addition to letters to and from original owner Samuel Kingsbury, Reid found what appeared to be a party list for an event in the 1860s. Invitees included well-known Seacoast area names such as the Badgers, the Lightons, the Rickers, and the Adams... and naturally, the Rands.



The wooden cottage attached to Jim Reid's in-town residence has been used for many purposes throughout the years.



Rough hewn beams from Rand Lumber helped to combine the old with the new, paying tribute to the property's 190-year-old character.

consistently for 15 to 20 years," says Saidla. "We've used them for planing and a wide variety of other custom milling, where we knew we would get the quality and attention to detail that we needed for the project at hand."

"Plus," adds Reid, "they're local guys, they're right here, and they have a great reputation. It's nice to work with good people and I knew they'd do a great job."

The property itself has experienced several lives, serving for many years as the residence of Samuel Kingsbury and his family; another period of time as offices for Strawberry

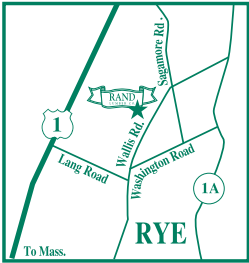
Banke; recently as an attorney's office; and now, as an in-town residence. Within the year, Reid hopes to move his own business, Reid Publications, into the wooden cottage where he will continue to produce publications spotlighting local real estate properties and rentals.

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# Specials of the Month

**JUNE & JULY 2005**

**\*\*LUMBER SPECIAL\*\***  
20% OFF 1x3 thru 1x12  
#3 Premium Pine (D4S)  
Hemlock Flooring...\$ .95 sq ft.  
**\*\*Gravel \$8.00 Yd.\*\***

**\*\*INSECT REPELLENTS\*\***  
Bug Off...\$5.19 (reg. \$6.19)  
OFF Spray...\$4.69 (reg. \$6.10)  
Hornet Spray...\$4.90 (reg. \$5.90)

**\*\*FOR THE GARDEN\*\***  
4' Stakes...\$11.50  
Garden Hoe...\$7.99  
Garden Rake...\$5.99

**\*\*BARK MULCH SPECIALS\*\***  
Processed (red) Hemlock  
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Processed Pine  
...\$20.00 yard loaded  
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Clean Wood Chips  
(for playgrounds & walkways)  
...\$10.00 yard loaded



Receive a FREE Rand Baseball Hat with a \$10.00 purchase and this flyer

May not be combined with any other offer.