

SUMMER HOURS
Monday – Friday
7:30 – 5:00
Saturday
7:30 – 2:00

As the time changes, so do our hours. We will be closing at 4:30 after October 31st.

We will be closed
 Thursday, November 11
 for Veterans Day
 and
 Thursday, Friday, & Saturday,
 November 25, 26, & 27
 for Thanksgiving.

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The Former Lady Isle School Regains Its Glory

Built by the Catholic Church on a picturesque island overlooking Little Harbor, and used as a school from 1935 until the early '70s, Lady Isle School had been vacant for some thirty years when Mike Clark purchased it in 1999.

Clark, a Portsmouth entrepreneur, has been involved in many seacoast businesses, from high-tech to commercial and residential real estate; and wanted a top-of-the-line home with plenty of room for both guests and his young family.

Teaming up with long-time business partner Marcus Lopsey, the two formed a new company, M2M, and began restoring the property. Mike and Marcus have previously completed four seacoast home renovations. Designed by Mike, the home will feature 5000 square feet of living space, including 5 bedrooms and 6 bathrooms when completed (hopefully later this Fall). JSN Engineers in Portsmouth was consulted to help reestablish the structural integrity of the home, which had fallen into disrepair over the decades. When completed the home will also have red cedar shingles and white cedar siding.

Marcus and Mike took an entrepreneurial approach to the renovations, putting together a stellar team of professional builders, each a specialist in his own area, to complete the project, rather than

one foreman and many subcontractors. The result has been a very high quality of workmanship.

The finished home will retain many original features, including the original central staircase, its railing and balusters, the original hearths and fireplaces, and leaded glass windows. There will be pocket doors custom made by Sam Dillon to match the leaded glass as in the windows.

In the coming years, there will also be a horse barn, boat house, and greenhouse built on the property; and the other original buildings on the island will be renovated.

Marcus uses a variety of suppliers, and listed Rand among his favorites both for price and for responsive deliveries. Rand supplied much of the framing for this home, 2x4s, 2x6s, and specialty sills; and will be providing finish molding as the project nears completion. Marcus found Rand Lumber after working previously at a home project in Rye. The on-site sawmill has also been an attraction for quick turnaround

of custom-milled items.

Being on a secluded island, this isn't a typical property where passers-by can drive by and watch the transformation. We hope this brief overview has provided a snapshot into the entrepreneurial energy and quality craftsmanship brought to the project. Rand is very proud to be part of this amazing restoration.



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