

GREEN TECH THE SERIES COLUMN FOR OCTOBER 7, 2015

HEADLINE: CIRCA 1894 SPA: ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RECYCLE EVOLVE

As this latest project evolved, I have had a constant stream of e-mails on the project, how it was progressing, what we used in the assembly.....etc.....etc. Last week, we opened for business and, as the old saying goes, a picture is worth a 1000 words, so here they are.

The building envelope was totally sprayed with Polar Closed Cell foam thanks to Jeff at Kingston Spray Foam. As a testament to this assembly, the heating system has hardly run at all as yet. Carpentry crew; Paul, Spar, Josh and landscaper, Matt, who helped on the build did an amazing job. Some of the pictures show the actual assembly in progress, including the decks. One picture shows the first of three hot tubs that had to be "built-in" to the three levels of deck. Across the road in the village, neighbour Kevin brought his time honored skills at welding. All the stairs and the iron entrance archway, which had one step in the grave, Kevin restored.

Everywhere we could, we reused, reclaimed and recycled. All the exterior windows and doors were reclaimed. As well, the wainscot in the bedrooms was reclaimed from the walls of the Sunday school. A local saw mill provided all the cedar for the deck frame, decking and the pine panel interior of the spa addition, thereby reducing delivery time and keeping in mind the 100 KM rule for materials, as much as possible. The ceiling in the B&B was reclaimed from a renovation at the Royal Ontario Museum; the fireplace mantle came from outside Orillia, reclaimed from an old home. The pine European style hot tub came via Owen Sound, where it had sat in its original packaging for over 28 years. On the recycle side, we boast the first Recover grey water recycling unit installed in Ontario. Special thanks to Chris and the crew from Valley Plumbing in Perth, who took on a difficult "first time ever" drainage system. All of the entrance stone placed by Matt, was reclaimed from a demolition project in Ottawa and, maybe most fun of all, our entrance seating is actually a pew that graced this very church in its early years. When it comes to reuse, reclaim and recycle, it's actually a long list.

Donna and I wish to extend our "Thanks" to all those who have contributed, large and small. This renovation/addition is a testament that you can build energy efficient, while utilizing recycled and reclaimed materials and produce a stunning, quality, energy efficient project.

If you wish to see more pics go to [www.circa1894.ca](http://www.circa1894.ca) or if you are in the area of Watsons Corners, please drop in and we will give you a tour.

