

EAST COAST HOME+DESIGN





KYLE TIMOTHY

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For most people, a dilapidated barn is not exactly the image associated with an ultramodern dance and yoga studio. But for the lucky family working with the team at Kyle Timothy Home, this dream was made a reality.

The clients, a N.Y.-area couple with two older daughters, were looking to replace the eyesore on their property. The structure, dating from the 19th century, was all that was left standing after the main residence and a guest house were newly constructed two years earlier. “As this property was a summer/holiday home, they requested the creation of a space where all family members could exercise and relax,” said Kyle Timothy Blood, owner of Kyle Timothy Home. “The mother wanted to practice yoga and meditate; the husband wanted to lift weights; one daughter wanted to dance; the other daughter wanted to use aerobic equipment”

Kyle had worked with the family on the previous developments, so he was aware of the need for caution when approaching the structure. Due to the barn’s significant damage, Kyle tried to salvage what he

could (mainly beams and floorboards) before completely demolishing it. He then drew both a floor plan and elevations of the new structure and gave them to an engineer who created the construction specs.

“In order to adhere to the town’s building codes, I had to retain the footprint and height of the original barn,” Kyle explained. “However, I was able to move the sliding doors to the new ‘front.’ I also added as many windows as possible to allow both light and cross breezes to fill the space.”

Kyle also found Holophane light fixtures in a salvage shop and had them retrofitted to use LED bulbs inside the studio. A local glazier created the mirrors along the dance floor, while an area metalworker custom-made both the railings and stairs. Finally, all of the multi-purpose gym equipment was selected for smaller footprints.

Understandably, the clients were thrilled with the end result: a modern exercise space that retains the external beauty of the original barn.



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