



WHEN ARCHITECT AND FURNITURE DESIGNER Christian Brown built his home in Jericho, he wanted “a contemporary interpretation of a vernacular Vermont farmhouse.” Built by Leach Construction, Brown’s house is simple in shape, with subtle angles that run parallel to the surrounding pine trees.

From the foundation (a concrete slab with radiant heat) to the clapboards (which are made from long-lasting cement board, rather than wood), Brown made choices that are energy-conscious and environmentally sensitive. Every room in the open-plan home gets southern exposure, which allows for nat-



PHOTOS BY CHRISTIAN BROWN

ural light and passive solar gain. The insulated, translucent window panes are three inches thick.

The house has a five-star energy rating and won several 2006 awards from the Vermont Home Builders and Remodelers Association, including accolades for energy efficiency, innovative design and environmental excellence.

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Brown has a highly efficient boiler, which heats the hot water that’s piped under the floor, producing even heat on the first level and second-floor bathrooms. He designed and built his dining-room table and chairs, as well as the kitchen countertop and fireplace surround.