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REAL ESTATE



The "old corner store" home in Gilmanon Corners will be featured on HGTV's "You Live in What?" (Courtesy photo)

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Gilmanon home gets attention from HGTV

We deal with a lot of really special homes at Four Seasons Sotheby's. It is kind of what we do. The unique, the one of a kind, and the extraordinary are what we specialize in. It was kind of nice when one of our properties caught the attention of a production company down in Tennessee. They had seen the home online and wanted to come up and do



By ROY SANBORN

a segment on it for the HGTV show called "You Live in What?"

They were calling about the amazing property that I refer to as the "Old Corner Store" in the historic Gilmanon Corners. It was restored into a residence by Douglas Towle back in 2002 and is now owned by long time Gilmanon residents John Funk and Deb Chase. This 1800s colonial structure was once used as a dry goods store complete with a soda fountain that sold ice cream and also housed the post office. The store was owned and operated by L.W. and M.H. Schultz. They also sold gasoline from the vintage 1920s-style gas pumps and just outside the door was a long bench which was dubbed the "Gossip Bench" by the locals. I am sure there were plenty of stories told by the patrons sitting there. It appears that on the north end of the structure there was a livery stable that quite possibly saw a few Model T's from time to time and was also used to store all sorts of farm supplies.

Doug restored the property preserving the original features including hand-hewn plank wainscoting, wide pine and brick floors, exposed beams, Indian and Shaker shutters, original door hardware, and old wavy glass while incorporating all the modern amenities like a designer kitchen, high-end plumbing fixtures, central air, and whole house surround



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see next page

from preceding page

system. It is truly an extraordinarily charming and comfortable home.

Anyway, just last week, a five man production crew from Beyond Media, LLC headed by a gentleman named Dustin Rader showed up to shoot the segment and interview John and Deb on camera. They really wanted to get a little sense of the history and what it is like to live in a house that once had been used as the center of commerce in the community back before traveling in a gas propelled vehicle was commonplace.

The recording process took a good six hours and these guys obviously knew exactly what they were doing. I was particularly amazed by the way they used lighting to create the desired on-camera effect. To the untrained eye, I could tell little difference as they moved three or four diffused lights to and from and back and forth. Maybe I had to be looking through the camera,

but they lost me. Obviously, getting the right angle and backdrop was very important but it was John and Deb that were the stars of the show. They have an intimate knowledge of the history, reconstruction, and rebirth of the structure and they shared that in their interviews in a charming way. They both love this house and setting and hate dearly to part with it but life changes for us all.

The production crew came armed with all kinds of lights, meters, tripods, mono-pods, cameras, and even a drone which they used to get some great aerial footage. I think that may have startled a few people passing by. It was really fun to watch the entire process and as always learn a few things along the way. They said they will work many, many hours to somehow edit all this footage down into a much smaller segment for the show. Their work has only just begun. They informed us that the show will air sometime in March and promised to give us a heads up so we wouldn't miss it. We'll keep you posted. In the meantime, if you know anyone that wants to live in the Old Corner Store (and Post Office!) we can arrange that!

Please feel free to visit www.DistinctiveHomes.NH.com to learn more about the Lakes Region real estate market and sign up for our monthly newsletter. Roy Sanborn is a sales associate at Four Seasons Sotheby's International Realty and can be reached at 603-677-7012.




HGTV crews record a scene in the historic Gilman home, which is expected to air sometime in March. (Courtesy photo)



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