



ARCHITECTURE



Hudson Passive Project Becomes First Certified Passive House in New York

by **Bridgette Meinhold**, 03/26/11
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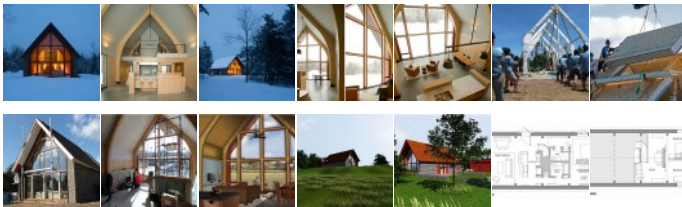
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Although there are several passive houses in construction or recently completed in New York, like **this one in Brooklyn**, they haven't officially been certified as a **Passive House Institute in the US**. The **Hudson Passive Project**, designed by **Dennis Wedlick Architect** and built by **Bill Stratton Building Company** in the Hudson Valley, is one of the highest performing in the country because of its super tight and heavily insulated envelope. High cathedral ceilings and gothic flair give the home a church-like feeling even though it was inspired by the old stone barns common to the region.

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In order to achieve **Passive House certification** you have to build a very well insulated home that is virtually air tight and heated primarily by the sun and from the people inside. A large south facing wall lets the sun come through a set of **Serious Windows** (725 Series), and skylights bring more daylight into the rest of the home. The walls are insulated with 12 3/4" EPS foam (R50), the roof uses 12 1/4" Neopor SIPs (R53) and the foundation is an insulated concrete slab on layers of gravel, EPS, and XPS (R60).

Upon achieving its certification, the Hudson Valley Project also set a record for air-tightness with a score of 0.149 ACH at 50 Pascals and reduces its heating consumption by 90 percent. A Zehnder ComfoAir heat recovery ventilator brings in fresh air while minimizing heat loss. Two Mitsubishi Mr. Slim heat pumps (SEER 23 and 26) and three Cadet electronic baseboard heaters provide the heating and cooling. As expected, all the appliances are Energy Star rated.

The three bedroom, two bathroom tallies up to 1,568 square feet and was designed to blend into its surroundings, reflecting the rural atmosphere of the Hudson Valley Area. The high performance home does not have any **solar photovoltaic system**, solar hot water, or wind turbines. It relies on its design for its energy efficiency. According to **Jetson Green**, the home cost \$250-300 per square foot.

+ **Hudson Passive Project**

+ **Dennis Wedlick Architect**

+ **Bill Stratton Building Company**

Via **Jetson Green**

Photos @Elliott Kaufman



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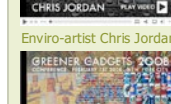
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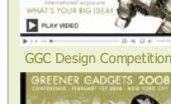
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