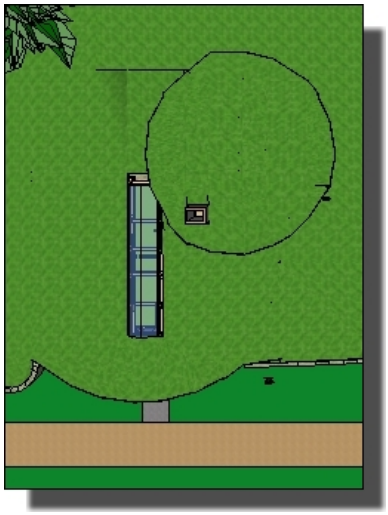
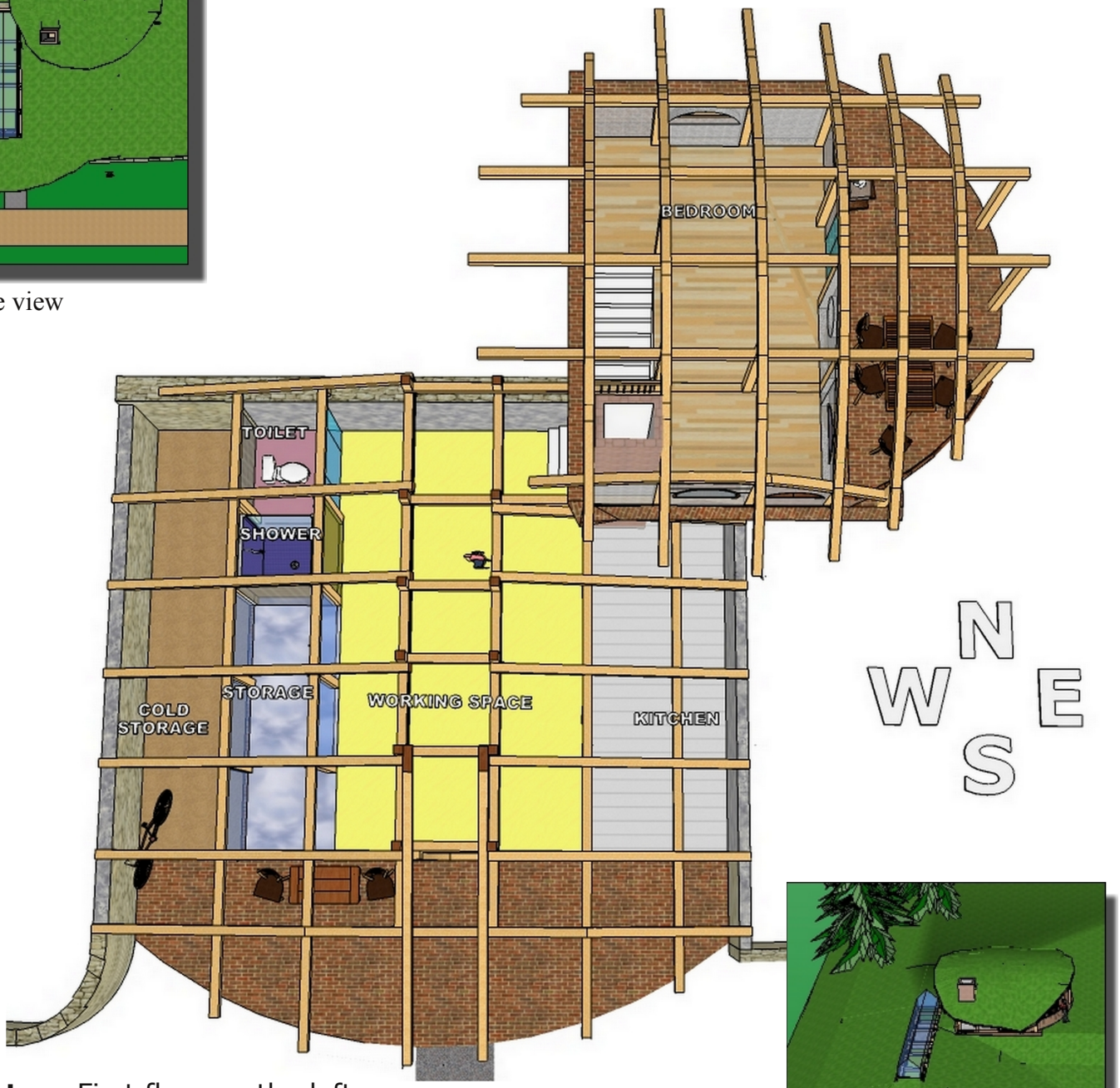
The Principled Description of an Artisan's House and Various Alternatives
Part II



Bird's-eye view



Main picture First floor on the left:
- The cold storage where mainly firewood etc. is kept.
- Right from the cold-storage begin the warm areas (listed from top to bottom): WC, shower and warm storage.
- In the middle is the working space (yellow floor). From the top-right angle (south-east) a flight of stairs leads to the second floor. In the middle of the working space is a sky-light stretching the whole extent of the room. (The skylight has not been drawn on the main picture)
- Towards the right from the working space is the kitchen (grey floor). From this direction the chimney/firewall is seen quite poorly. The chimney is placed between the kitchen and the living room, next to the stairs.
- The chimney/firewall also lets heat pass towards the second floor, which has its own fireplace. The chimney is made of tiles and stone.

Bird's-eye view from the south

We have a collection of links concerning our activities - including the text-files - in the Internet. You can also obtain them in various languages by writing to:

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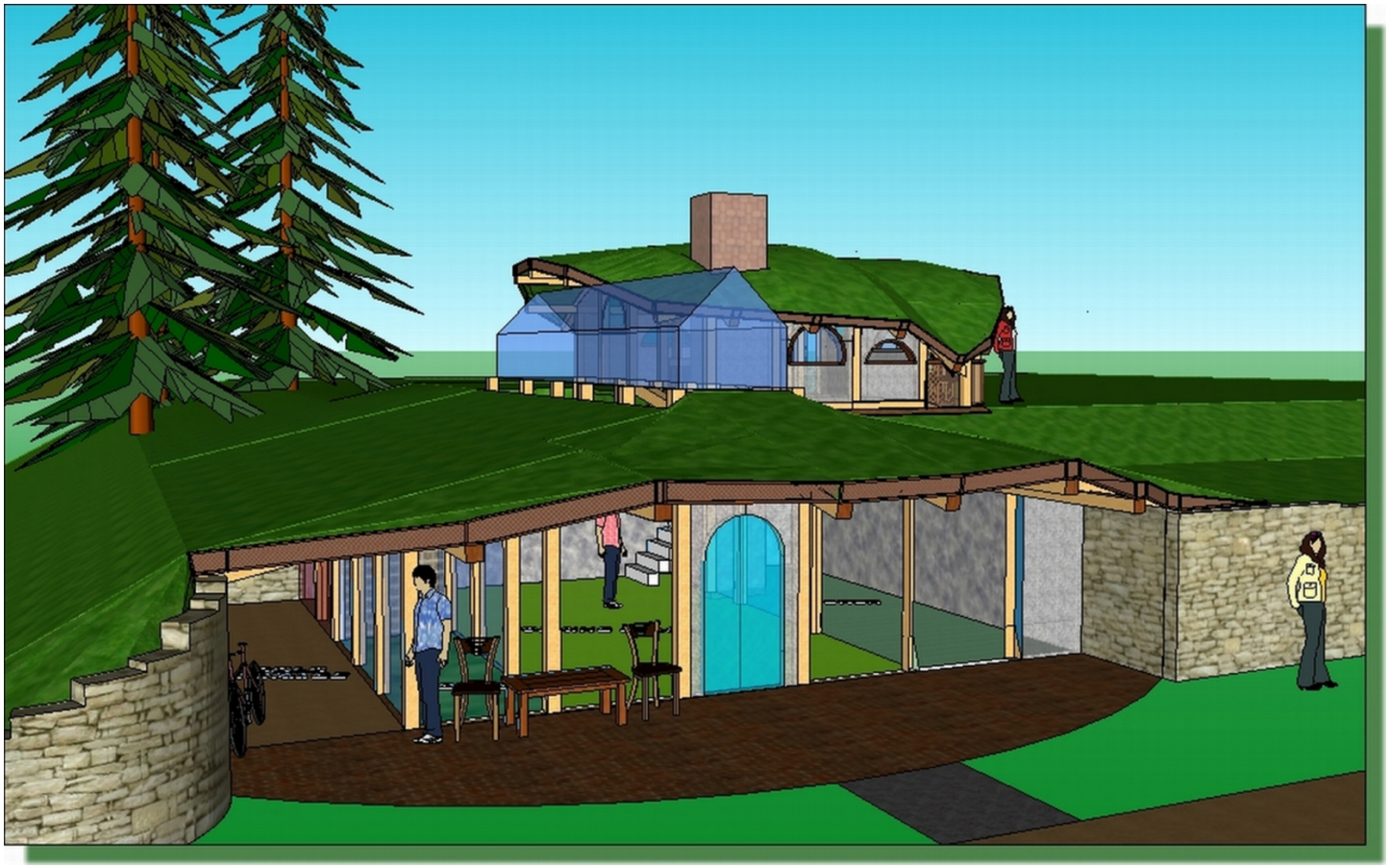
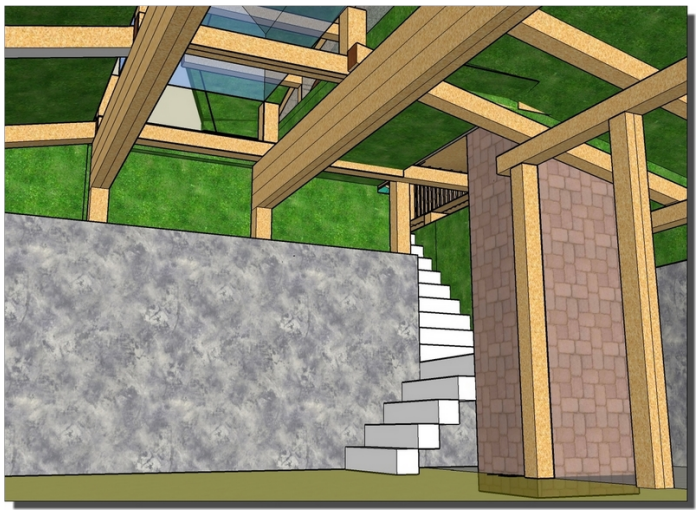
6.6.2009 Henry Björklid



The outer walls have been removed from the picture.

Cold-/wood storage



Stairs leading to the second floor.

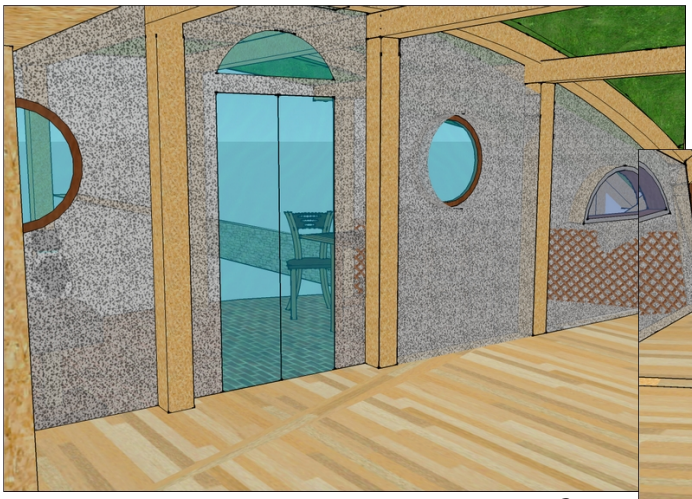
A view from the kitchen, near the main exit.

A view from the stairs towards the main exit.

The second floor is the artisans home.

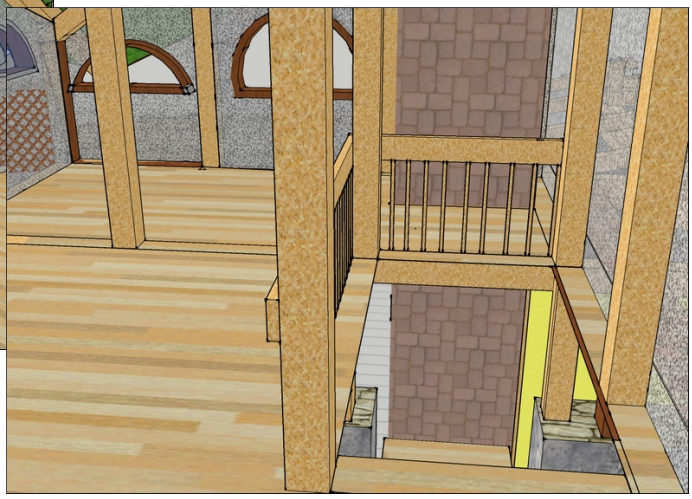
Under most circumstances, two artisans share the working and/or vending area.
For example, the blacksmith is not in the house at all during working times, but his vending space can be taken care by another artisan who during the day is working at this space.
One or the other can live upstairs.
The same applies to the carpenters - also they do not work in his place of sales.

In a situation where, for instance a painter, comes to work for a couple of months, it is beneficial that the living quarters are in the same place than where s(he) works.

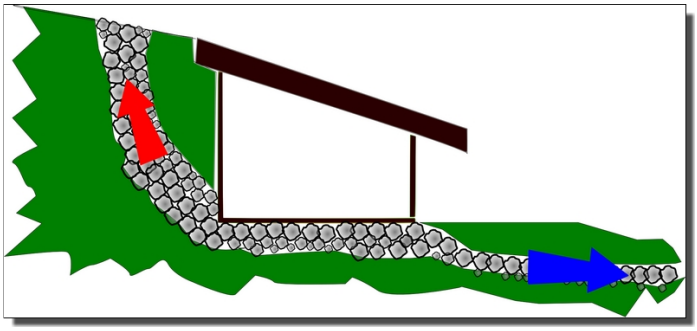


The door to the approximate of 15 m^2 of sheltered terrace.
The terrace can easily be fenced off with a weaved fence or with vines.

The staircase to the first floor.



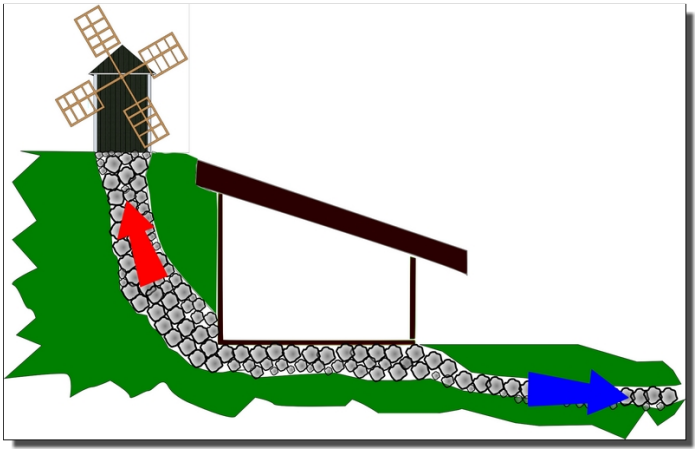
Foundation - Rocks and stones are going to be needed



In order for the ventilation to work, 'a well filled with stones' is built. The well is approximately 1 meter in diameter.
To prevent the stone-well from being glogged with snow, somekind of a construction has to be made on top of it.
If the construction is painted black, and perhaps 2 - 3 meters high and cylinder-shaped, the air inside warms up higher than the outside temperature, even with less sunlight. As a result, the air inside starts to rise, thus acting as a vacuum-pump for the well of stone.
During cold weather, the air coming out of the depths of the ground is always warmer than the air outside, so this principle functions also during winter.
The barrel has to have a cover from under which the air passes, while preventing snow and rain from entering. In the picture, the barrel is made into a windmill to suit the surroundings.

All stones even slightly flat or with edges are to be used for various walls which are going to be constructed.

- The house has a 70 cm thick bed of stones underneath it. The stones enable the effective ventilation underneath the house, which is the cornerstone in mould prevention. This is the usual problem when building of on a slope. Venting out of the radon gas is also essential. A thick bed of stone also prevents damage from water. The stones are used for building a downward-sloping underground drain.



The Helsingin Sanomat web-edition coincidentially had a story today, 31st of May, on the subject:

http://www.hs.fi/kotimaa/artikkeli/Rakentajat+eiv%C3%A4t+ole+panostaneet+tarpeeksi+radonin+torjuntaan/1135246387705#Scene_1

Helsingin Sanomat:
Constructors have not payed enough attention towards the prevention of radon gas.

<snip>
"Radon gas and its degrading radioactive by-products harm the lungs and increase the risk of lung cancer, especially on people who smoke."
<snip>
"Radon gas transfers into houses from the ground, where it is formed as a part of radioactive decay of uranium.
In Finland, the high content of radon gas in houses is explained by natural conditions, as well as the building technology popularized after the wars. "

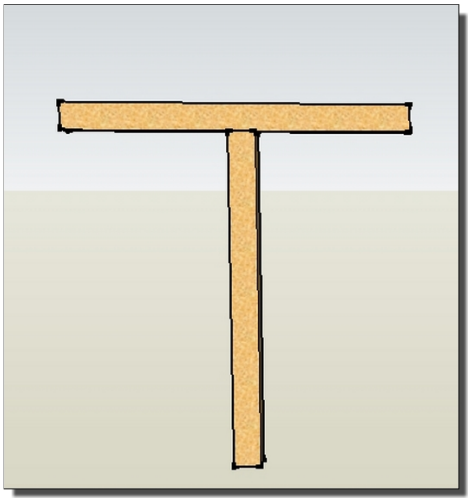
"Houses no longer stand on poles nor is the bottom of the house able to ventilate itself, since the lower foundations of previous times have been changed to foundations resting on the earth and on slates.

The ground based slate rests on a sand or gravel matress, like a flatfish on the bottom of the sea. Under the slate various kinds of gasses - radon and also stuffy microbe-infested breathable gasses which smell like a cellar - wait for an opportunity to rise upwards."
<snip>

The frame of the building

When designing and implementng the construction of the frame, a few points have to be taken into consideration:
- Everything has to be implemented in a fashion as beautiful as possible, because the supporting frame is left visible so that the special features of the building will come forth.
- Even a few curved supports changes the appearance remarkably (See pictures below).
- Because all beams and supports are made of small pieces of wood made into beams, the curves can be produced without a rise in costs. Here, as in everything else, one has to be carefull not to exaggerate, and make everything according to good taste.

One continuously has to bear in mind that **a commercial project is in question**, in other words **everything is done so that the artisans and the local operators have as much customers as possible**. Without customers, new jobs are not made.
All activities have to be linked with as many local operators as possible in order to create employment. This has to be done with as small economic sacrifices as possible.



Owing to drafting-technical reasons our drawings look like illustrated here.

In reality the houses look more like this.
With a few curved supporting arcs the appearance of the building changes remarkably

Somebody might feel that the arcs make no difference to the economy of the community, so I ask for everyone to ask oneself: "What is so beautiful about this?", and furthermore: "Are people interested in beautiful and elaborate buildings?".
Or reversively: "The world is full of houses, and there are a lot of free ones around the province. How do we get travellers interested, above other things, also of our constructions and our construction skills?"

This entrance of a church turns 200 years of age this year. It's appearance can be changed significantly with two support beams.

Gluing of birch for a flight of stairs we did last summer. The work was simply based on the method of the clamps being fastened to table so that an arc was to be formed. Pine and fir can be arched to a remarkable extent.

It is good to remember a rule of thumb: An elaborate and well designed job usually requires 5 - 10 % additional time, but improves the end result by 100%!

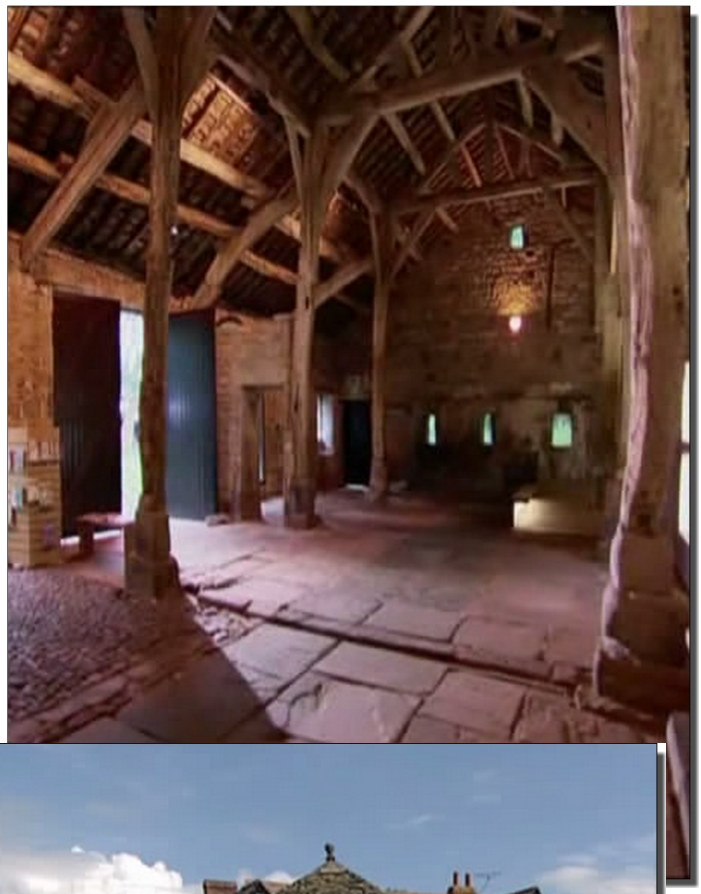
Maybe the back wall could have had curved support beams?

On the left:
And old barn which has been renovated exactly according to the original.

On the right:
Big entities of arcs can also be made as long as one has a lot of 29-euro clamps.

The visible beams give appearance, and a few support beams removes the impression of a pile of crossing beams.

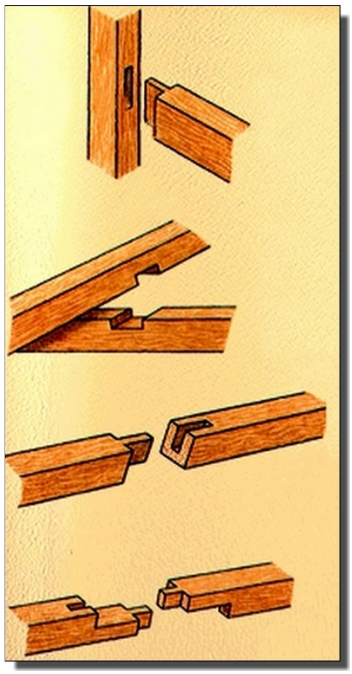
New production implemented with old styles and methods.

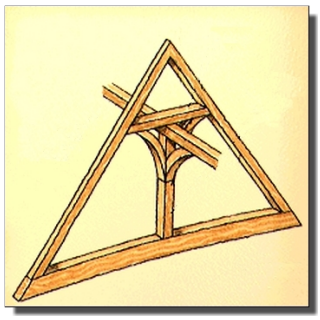


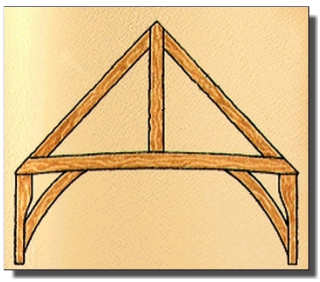
In previous times, a lot of buildings were made from round wood.

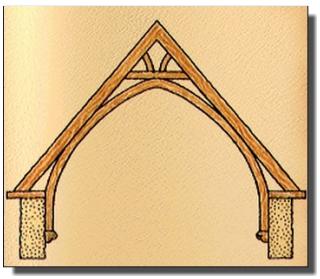
In the old, there is a distict style which reminds us of the nature.

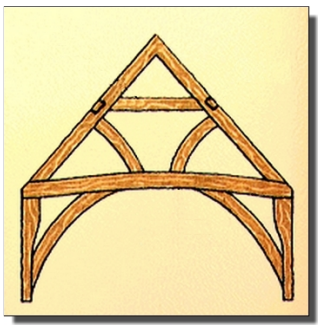
And old coach shelter in England.











Acquiring the tools of a professional slotmaker does not require a jack-pot from a lottery

This is how to:

- Chisel the holes.
- Chisel the sides.
- Chisel the corners.

The coach shelter presented on the previous page would also be suitable for this kind of a job. However, it could be built as slightly lower for this purpose.

Fabricating from round wood makes the construction more stronger, but requires more skill. On the other hand, if one is able to presume the forthcoming situation in one's work and have a grasp of the math and the geometrical insight, it takes one summer to learn what is needed. Some people learn faster, and some people slower. In this way the handcraft village gets impressive shelters.

The wood is peeled when fresh and sawed to a right measure.

Chiselling and trying until it fits.

The building of cafe/sauna requires a lot of hands. The decorations need less hands but even more of a procedural plan. If you look carefully, all decorations is the work of glueing together wood and done in series!

After seeing this picture, surely many people think: *"Well, we do not..."*
But why not? When 765 pieces of these are to be made, which later on are glued together in a row, they will not be done with a knife. On the other hand, the first 30 can be learned, but the remaining 735 pieces are accomplished much faster. The same applies to other wooden parts too.
We agree on the part that this kind of a cafe ceiling will have a reputation which stretches far, and without that "Oh, so precious!" marketing costs.
Attractive pictures have to be on the pages of publications, so it is guaranteed that the people will flock to see it.
Subversively: If Yours truly does the decorations from half finished products, the marketing is guaranteed.
If Yours truly does the marketing work for the corresponding amount of time, the marketing is proceeding on a good basis, but the same old marketing path is to be travelled time after time, from one year to another. This is where the catch of the idea lies. When the emphasis is put on the construction, the marketing asset is created for years to come.

To be continued....