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THE VINTAGE WOOD FLOOR COMPANY

Even if you've never heard of The Vintage Wood Floor Company, you are probably familiar with its work.

"We've done all the wood for Dive Bar and Juliette Kitchen" owner Joseph Pfeiffer says, name-dropping two local hot spots.

It has even done a majority of the woodwork you see around South Coast Collection in Costa Mesa where The Vintage Wood Floor Company is located.

"Our work can be seen all through Orange County."

Pfeiffer began his business, which specializes in custom hand-crafted wood floors created from antique reclaimed materials, when friends from his hometown in Wisconsin decided to tear down their old barn.

"I did one of my rooms with the wood and people really liked it."

Much of the antique wood The Vintage Wood Floor Company pulls from Ohio, Kentucky and Wisconsin is old growth lumber from a time when wood was grown naturally and unforced.

"Typically we take down old barns and industrial structures from the later 1800s to

the early 1900s," says Pfeiffer.

Antique wood tends to have a tighter grain, bigger, longer planks and an unduplicated inherent beauty. Which is to say nothing of the sustainability aspect.

"You are taking this resource and repurposing it, that would otherwise literally just go to waste either in a landfill, in a burning or just get buried."

The raw materials are shipped to a production shop in Santa Ana where the wood is crafted into floorboards. And because every floor is custom-made, customers have a lot of options.

"Our customers have the ability to customize the widths, the lengths, the colors or the surface texture. Pretty much customize every aspect of their floor."

Among their most popular flooring is the Antique Barn Board Oak, which has original saw marks, nail holes and solid knots and hole patterns and the Coopersmark Barrel Oak, made from reclaimed wine barrels. Besides floors, they also do wall paneling, garage doors, interior doors, and tables and will even sell lumber if you are inclined to do

your own project.

"We also do a lot of the antique reclaimed beams," he says, "So we'll take the old beams from the old barns and structures, bring them out, patch any of the holes, saw them to size and then frame them back into the house as decorative ceiling beams. When you walk into the house you have these 100 and 125-year-old beams that really lend an authenticity to a house."

And that authenticity is what it's about for Pfeiffer.

"Our motto is 'Worn by the wind, tempered by time,'" says Pfeiffer. "When I started this company, that was what was important to me. You know, there are tons of people that make floors, obviously. But we have an authenticity that is unmatched."

— SARAH MOSQUEDA

■ The Vintage Wood Floor Company
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