



**COMMERCIAL CASE STUDY**  
BAVARIAN MANOR  
PURLING, NY



## CENTURY-OLD CATSKILLS INN AND RESTAURANT SAVES THROUGH SOLAR THERMAL TECHNOLOGY

---



*The Bavarian Manor uses solar hot water to meet the high volumes of hot water its guests require.*

.....

***“... the savings  
are enormous.”***

Built during the Civil War, the 18-room Bavarian Manor in Purling, Greene County, New York, looks classic, Catskills-resort elegant. It’s an ornate wedding cake-like monument to the past, meticulously crafted of hyper-decorated wooden construction. You can imagine gowned and top-hatted guests arriving in horse-drawn carriages.

Today’s guests wouldn’t know the 19th century building uses solar hot water, without climbing on its roof or looking over the owners’ shoulders at before-and-after electric bills.

### **Hospitality Industry Needs**

Any hospitality business — hotels, inns, B&B’s and restaurants — needs hot water in dependably high volumes and high temperatures. Laundry full of linens and towels and dishwashers are the major hot water consumers for most. As alternative energy systems have matured and earned public policy support and subsidies, solar hot water systems in particular are winning wider acceptance in the industry.

“As a hotel operation, we’re a large user,” says innkeeper Stan Oldakowski. He explains that 11 solar collectors lie unseen atop its restaurant addition, feeding water at 200 degrees into heat exchanger tanks totaling 615 gallons that supply all the hot water the busy inn and restaurant need. Apex Solar, headquartered in Queensbury, Warren County, both manufactured and

**THINK YOU’RE READY TO GET INTO HOT WATER?**

To learn more call 1-866-NYSERDA or visit [solarhotwater.nyseda.ny.gov](http://solarhotwater.nyseda.ny.gov)



*Eleven solar collectors heat water for the inn and restaurant to 200 degrees.*

installed the system at Bavarian Manor, with impressive results. The company serves both commercial and residential users.

### **Fast Payback Through Enormous Savings**

“The payback will be very quick — only two or three years — because the savings are enormous,” says Oldakowski. While the system cost \$37,762 installed, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) paid \$25,000 of that, making the system affordable.

In the summer, Oldakowski reports his electric water heaters are completely turned off. “The sun gives me everything I need in the summer,” he says. “And even in the winter, even at 10 degrees, if the sun is shining, it’s working for me.” When days are shorter, he still realizes savings of 65 to 75 percent versus what he had been paying.

Support for solar hot water systems that replace electric hot water heaters is available from NYSERDA, along with federal tax credits to help make the systems more affordable.\*

*NYSERDA, a public benefit corporation, offers objective information and analysis, innovative programs, technical expertise and support to help New Yorkers increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy and reduce their reliance on fossil fuels. NYSERDA professionals work to protect the environment and create clean-energy jobs. NYSERDA has been developing partnerships to advance innovative energy solutions in New York since 1975.*



## **THINK YOU'RE READY TO GET INTO HOT WATER?**

To learn more call 1-866-NYSERDA or visit [solarhotwater.nysERDA.ny.gov](http://solarhotwater.nysERDA.ny.gov)

NYSERDA support is currently available only for customers that heat their hot water with electricity.  
\*Always consult with your qualified tax professional to determine your eligibility for tax credits.



**NYSERDA**