

Alameda PRESERVATION Press

NEWSLETTER OF THE ALAMEDA
ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Winners of the Twenty-Sixth Annual Preservation Awards

— JUNE 11, 2023 —

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Home of Truth • 1300 Grand Street • Alameda

Purple Passion to Gorgeous Green 940 Santa Clara Avenue

Story by Karen Lithgow

**Award Recipients: Missy and Dave Connolly, Owners;
Jorge Escamilla, Escamilla Construction, Contractor;
Bob Farrar, Gold Leafing**

The story of 940 Santa Clara Ave. renovation begins with the happy event of when my wonderful next door neighbors, Missy and Dave Connolly, moved into the house in 1997. When they purchased this 1895 transitional Colonial Revival Marcuse & Rimmel house, it had a medley of bright purple hues on the exterior (think Barney the dinosaur) because the previous owners had wanted it to match the lotus blossoms from their backyard tree. The house has been included in the book, *America's Painted Ladies, The Ultimate Celebrations of our Victorians*, (Larsen, 1994).

Once the Connollys took possession of the house, they had many projects to face. High on their list was a new color scheme. They contacted Bob Buckter, known as Dr. Color, to create a multi-shaded green theme with seven colors that also included gold leaf. This was a particularly exciting development for the neighbors, as the two Marcuse & Rimmel houses to the right already had new Bob Buckter-created colors. This addition meant a trio of fanciful multi-colored homes. The change of color was amazing! Along with the colors, the Connollys made sure the accents were enhanced so all parts of the house would show.

Missy and Dave again had their house painted last year in 2022 and contacted Jorge Escamilla to get the job done. This time they replaced the missing swag plaster pieces and buttons. The buttons that they added on the front were based



This Marcuse & Rimmel Colonial Revival shows off its gorgeous architectural details, some of it newly restored with a seven color paint scheme and an abundance of gold leaf.

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940 Santa Clara Avenue...continued from page 1



The prior purple-hued color scheme was based on the lotus blooms from a backyard tree.

upon other houses that they've seen. Duplicates were made from the original plaster pieces and put in the appropriate places to make them look original. These parts were then covered in gold leaf by our own AAPS gold leaf expert Bob Farrar who happens to live in the Marcuse & Rimmel two doors down and part of our trio. Bob says he used about 500 gold leaf sheets to complete this painted lady. There were a number of parts of the house that were covered in the same color when it was painted years ago which obscured some of the architectural detail. This time around, those parts of the house were painted in contrasting colors to make sure all of the details would show. There were also three finials located on the top of the side gate that were rotten. A neighbor was able to replicate the finials and they were finished in appropriate colors also topped with gold leaf. When you stand in front of the house, you will see that there are many details revealed with the different hues of the paint theme.

After the AAPS preservation awards committee met to consider giving 940 Santa Clara a Painted

Lady Award for their fine paint job, I was reminded that the replacement of the Connolly's porch stairs was also a major project. The Connollys inherited a very old set of stairs that with time became too rotten and unsafe to use. Contractor Jorge Escamilla and his crew came to the rescue by replacing the stairs and the landing, including posts with inlaid accents of thin bent wood painted in contrasting colors. A spindle design matching the original woodwork on the front porch was also added under the stair handrails so that the stairs flowed seamlessly into the porch. Gone were the thin metal rails in the previous purple-painted house that were used as handrails.

Missy and Dave did have one piece of good luck. They discovered two decorative wooden screen doors tucked away beside the house that may have been original to the home. Repaired and painted in the attractive green color scheme and enhanced with gold leaf, the doors add another touch of sophistication and whimsy to this gorgeous Marcuse & Rimmel home.



Some of the original plaster pieces were missing and had to be recreated.

Gold leaf highlights and brings attention to much of the trim details.



The front staircase was rotted and completely worn so it had to be ripped out and replaced.

The restoration of the new staircase incorporated the addition of wooden handrails and spindles mimicking the originals found on the porch and top portion of the staircase as the model.



Gold leaf details.





1607 Paru Street has always delighted passers-by with its witch's hat corner window and craftsman cottage details. Built in 1904, it was pristine and untouched when Matt and Jen began the process of planning for their addition.

Today's passers-by might not even notice that the second story is a recent addition. It follows the rooflines of the original house and keeps a low-profile, in spite of increasing the home by nearly 800 s.f. of living space.



1607 Paru Street

Story by Donna Toutjian Fletcher

Award Recipients: Jennifer Bullock and Matthew Humphrey, Owners; Angie Klein, Architect; Hutchcraft Construction, Contractor

Woody Minor, one of Alameda's favorite architectural historians, describes 1607 Paru Street as a "delightful blend . . . of Colonial Revival . . . with Arts and Crafts rusticity and Queen Anne whimsy."

It was precisely this Queen Anne whimsy and rustic simplicity that attracted current owners Matthew Humphrey and Jennifer Bullock when they purchased the 2 bedroom, one-level home in 2006. They loved the distinctive witch's hat Bay window seat in the living room, the wide welcoming front porch set back from the street, the antique fireplace with mismatched bricks in the cozy dining room—and the many Craftsman details throughout the house. Everything about the house said, this is home!

So, it's not surprising that when they decided to build an addition, they were passionate about preserving the home's special qualities and features they had enjoyed for nearly 20 years.

As Jennifer Bullock describes it, "We wanted the new spaces to feel like the rest of the house. We wanted people to wonder, where does the old house end and the new house begin?"

We believe they succeeded! Their extraordinary commitment to their home's unique qualities is apparent in every design decision they made with their architect, Angie Klein, and contractor Bob Hutchinson, throughout the 27-month design and build process. The result is an exemplary project that skillfully and sensitively blends the new addition with the original structure—through proportion, scale, style, and unswerving attention to architectural details.

Although the impetus for adding to the house was simple—create an upstairs main suite so their sons could have their own rooms on the main level, and add a new family gathering space—the project eventually touched almost every room in the house, and increased the square footage from 1300 s.f. to 2100 s.f.

The biggest challenge was where to put the stairwell to the new second level. The obvious place was at the edge of the kitchen, which opened a myriad of options to improve the home. Should they take advantage of the opportunity to expand the kitchen (and add a desk for Jen?) They did!

Should they create a new back porch and deck to the garden? It made perfect sense! Should they improve the downstairs bathroom? Why not? Should they give the attic a floor and its own hidden door? They didn't need to, but they did!

And finally . . . Should they create a new foundation and basement to support the new addition? They had to! So they did!

Other sensitive details that made the "new" look like it had always been there:

- Preserving the peaks on the roof line and setting back the new one back to follow the existing roofline
- Adding a window seat in the main suite that matches the window seat in the living room
- Adding a Bay window to the main bedroom so the back of the house didn't read as a big blank box
- Using the same windows on the back and sides of the addition as on the front of the house
- Repeating the same board and batten wainscoting in the new stairwell that's in the nearby dining room
- Designing the stairwell with generous proportions so it feels like it was always there
- Putting new windows in custom casements that match the existing windows
- Matching trim moldings throughout the house
- Extending the laundry chute from the new second level to the new basement

AAPS is delighted to recognize not only the preservation of a beautiful, historically significant Alameda home, but the care, devotion, and dedication of its owners to realize their vision. You and your home are truly an inspiration!

3015 Gibbons Drive at 95 Years *Story by Kay Weinstein*

Award Recipients: Charles Varner and Gretchen Hoff-Varner, Owners; Angela Klein, Architect; Gary Whitehead, Senior Contract Manager, Buestad Construction; James Jaffe, Superintendent, Buestad Construction; Kimberly McGowan, Interior Designer

APS is giving this award for the historically sensitive addition to the residence at 3015 Gibbons Drive. This Art Deco home was built in 1928 at a cost of \$7,000, yet the architect is unknown. The original building permit states that the owner and builder were Karl S. Frederickson. He was a Swedish immigrant, living in Oakland, who built around ten specification homes in Fernside. This is one of the most impressive examples. It has comfortable proportions, charming details, and a corner location on one of Alameda's most beautiful tree-lined streets.

3015 Gibbons Drive has also been well-maintained through the years. The Hoff Varners fell in love with its public spaces; the diagonal walkway up to the castle-like entrance, leading into the living room to the right, and the dining room to the left. When they purchased this split-level house in 2019, their goal was an extensive remodel inside, while retaining the original layout and character. Along with their professional team, they have achieved resounding success. Respect for architectural integrity, consistency of design, quality of materials, love of color, and attention to detail are abundant throughout this home.

In 2019 this home was gray with white trim inside and out. The owners have chosen richer, saturated colors for the exterior and interior downstairs, with serene and lighter colors for the interior upstairs. There are many lovely greens, blues and grays. The heating/cooling and electrical systems were updated, and modern light fixtures that blend with a historic home were selected. All door knobs were replaced with heavy crystal door knobs that are perfect. Quality is the word for this addition and restoration.

On the first floor, the kitchen and bathroom were updated for function without altering the layout. The octagonal breakfast nook, featuring original leaded glass windows and cabinet doors, was

also preserved. A bedroom was converted into a family room with the addition of wide pocket doors, while preserving the wainscoting. A half-staircase leads up to the second floor, where a bedroom for their nine-year-old son, and a bedroom for their thirteen-year-old daughter were each preserved. (A bathroom that had been upgraded in 2010 was unchanged.)

A narrow half staircase leading up to the original attic was widened for access to an exciting third floor addition. This floor now contains a primary bedroom, a primary bathroom, an office/guest room, a walk-in closet with a window seat and washer/dryer, and storage. The roof was raised, dormer windows were added, as well as half-timbering on the exterior walls. Charles' favorite room is the office, with a view of the Fruitvale Bridge. Gretchen's favorite is the primary bathroom, with a soaking tub and windows that are directly above the breakfast nook. She describes it as "our own urban tree house."

Returning to the first floor, the renovation continues. Near the kitchen, a half staircase leads down to the upgraded hospitality space. Next to the attached garage is a versatile large room with a washer/dryer, sink, refrigerator and freezer along a side wall. In one corner near the patio is a full bathroom. French doors lead outdoors to the covered patio that has been improved with four skylights, solar panels, heat lamps and a ceiling fan. This patio leads to the existing swimming pool. Outdoor lighting that is historically authentic and dark sky compliant completes the backyard area.

This stunning addition has resulted in four floors of beautiful living space. The owners and their dream team achieved their common goals of maintaining the home's historical value and charm while introducing modern aesthetics and contemporary conveniences. Architect Angela Klein worked closely with the City through the long design, planning and permitting process. Construction began in June 2022. Manager Gary Whitehead and Superintendent James Jaffe, of Buestad Construction, Inc., met their one-year timeline for completion. Interior designer Kimberly McGowan sprinkled the family's personalities and tastes throughout this high quality home. The Hoff Varners view this renovation as a gift to the house for its 100th birthday, and we couldn't agree more. We are pleased to present them with a bronze plaque to be displayed on their home.

Left: The primary bathroom addition on top of the octagonal breakfast nook is bound by exterior half-timbering.



The 1928 split-level house before the renovation. Top-of-mind for the homeowners were respect for architectural integrity, consistency of design and quality of materials.



The roof was raised, dormer windows incorporated and half-timbering on the exterior walls in keeping with the original architectural design were added. However, by not expanding the entry and front room, the house retains its original look and creates the illusion that it remains unchanged.



The many unsightly aluminum framed windows and peeling paint on the exterior detracted from the fine features of this Colonial Revival home.



Custom made wood sash windows and an updated paint scheme enhanced the street appeal prior to sale.

1200 Regent Street Renovation

Story by Karen Lithgow

Award Recipients: Michael Rossi, Owner; Rick Mestrich and Ken Shelby, Russo Windows & Door, Window Manufacturer; Amy on Design, Amy West, Designer; Jorge Escamilla, Escamilla Construction, Contractor; Karen Lithgow, Project Organizer



A sophisticated color scheme, remodeled kitchen and bathroom, new hardware and refinished floors created a beautiful interior.

The story of this house begins with a sad event with the passing of Anne Rossi, my friend Mike Rossi's mother who I knew to be a kind and fun-loving woman who lived and raised her family here in Alameda. Anne lived in her three bedroom Colonial Revival at 1200 Regent for many years and filled it with the mementos important to her over the years. When she passed, Mike contacted me about selling the house in mid-2022.

I had not yet seen the inside of the house, but remembered it was on a sunny East End corner with a pleasing shape and a detached garage. The garage figures into the story because Mike and my husband Alex used Anne's garage to store the classic Cadillac convertible that they owned together and took turns driving around town. I also remembered that the house was sporting some unattractive aluminum framed windows that I hoped could be replaced one day with the type of wood windows that would have been original to the home.

So, once I saw the inside of the house, it was apparent that much remodeling would be needed to create the move-in ready condition in demand by today's home buyers including interior and exterior painting and a new kitchen and bathroom. The wood floors needed to be refinished and new light fixtures and hardware were needed throughout. And, of course, the unsightly aluminum windows needed to be replaced. Once the inspections had been done, it was clear that bringing every part of the house up to like-new condition along with the remodeling was going to exceed any type of reasonable budget. So, with the help of my expert designer Amy West and expert contractor Jorge Escamilla, we created a wish list of projects that we knew would add value to the home. There was a lot of work to be done, and a very long wish list!

Looming large budget-wise on this project wish list was the replacement of the aluminum windows with custom wood units. Russo Windows & Doors is the local company that I have worked with in the past and knew that they could get the job done for a reasonable cost. We asked for estimates for all of the windows; of which there were many, and hoped that the budget would include at least the front, dining room and kitchen windows. The only original window we wanted to keep was the leaded glass window I found at the back of the entryway closet. Amy came up with a way to remove the closet and finish off the framing of that area with minimal work. She also figured out

that putting in a shorter kitchen window, the same height as the window next to it, would allow a continuous counter along that side of the kitchen.

The problem with remodeling some rooms and not all of them, or replacing some windows and not all, is that what you don't get to looks terrible by contrast. We also wanted to have the house on the market as soon as possible as the threat of interest rate rises was cooling buyer demand. I also needed to identify which were the projects most likely to add value and which were nice to have done from a historic home preservationist's perspective. Luckily, Mike dug deep and decided to have all of the wish list projects done; including replacement of ALL of the aluminum framed windows with proper wood-framed alternatives. Russo was great at manufacturing a set of beautiful wood-framed windows that operate with sash balancers. They also supplied some expert help on the installation allowing Jorge's crew to continue focusing on the many other projects throughout the home. Several problems had to be overcome during the window replacement process including irregular-shaped frames, very large and heavy windows that needed to be lifted into place from the outside, and timing delays brought on by difficulties getting the glass inserts.

Once all of the fine-looking remodeling work was done, the house furnished with beautiful staging, and lovely photos taken, it was time to show the house to the public. Everyone loved the remodeling work that was done, and I had the good fortune of meeting the family that purchased the home when they came back for a second look. While some work was still needed on the house, we all felt good that the home had been restored to much of its original glory and would be appreciated and cared for by its new owners.

2350 Saratoga Street Revitalized

Story by Kay Weinstein

Award Recipients:

Alameda Point Redevelopers; Marcy Wong, Partner, Marcy Wong Donn Logan Architects; Tai-Ran Tseng, Project Architect; Mark Hulbert, Preservation Architect

APS is giving this award for the adaptive reuse of 2350 Saratoga Street, historically known as Naval Air Station Building 8. The Alameda Naval Air Station was built during World War II in the style Moderne, and has national, state, and city landmark status. During the war, this massive building was the Oakland Naval Supply Depot, and employed over 8,000 civilians and 2,000 naval personnel. It would take a patient and dedicated team almost a decade to transform this empty building into Store House Lofts, the successful commercial/live/work space that it is today.

In 2015 Jonah Hendrickson of Alameda Point Redevelopers began negotiating with the City to lease this property for redevelopment. In 2016, the long planning and funding process began. A tax credit from the National Park Service was received, and the State Office of Preservation was consulted. Marcy Wong Donn Logan Architects had previously worked on the adaptive reuse of Pier 70 in San Francisco and Craneway Pavilion in Richmond, and they were brought on board. Preservation architect, Mark Hulbert, also joined the team.

An early proposal was for a commercial kitchen on the first floor, with live/work spaces on the second and third floors, but this combination was considered too risky by investors. Another plan called for the addition of fourth and fifth floors, but the heights were rejected. After many revisions, the three floor plan (with a roof deck) was established, yet funding was still not secure. As a back-up plan, the redevelopers completed one unit, and then a second one on top of the first. Finally, their bank agreed to fund one third of the project at a time, and allowed Alameda Point Redevelopers to act as their own general contractor.

Construction began in early 2021, and was completed on budget in the summer of 2022. This first third of the project, known as Phase 1, contains 73 out of 200 planned units, which are now



Originally built during World War II, much of Building 8's historical details were preserved inside and out when it was transformed into a commercial, live-work space which will house up to 200 units.



December 1944 : Civilian workers gathered on the third anniversary of the Oakland Naval Supply Depot. At the time it employed more than 8,000 civilians and 2,000 naval personnel. Image: Oakland Tribune.

90% leased. It comprises the first, second and third floors of the western section of the building and features a restaurant and taproom. Phase 2 will be the middle section of the building, and Phase 3 will be the eastern section. Negotiations are now underway to complete Phase 2 and Phase 3, and we are eager to see the result.

This project has been a challenging adaptation of an all-concrete building designed for heavy naval warehousing into a viable commercial, working and living environment. It is a very deep building; the need to bring light into the interior was accomplished by a 50 square foot center courtyard. The building was sandblasted to reveal the original concrete, notably on the many columns, and the

concrete floors were polished. Historic guidelines, such as for painting the exterior, were honored throughout this building.

This building is ADA compliant, and there are many historic details that have been preserved. The main entryway has been kept, and the wooden handrails refinished. Roll doors on the loading dock have been retained. Industrial steel sash windows have been reglazed. Plexiglass has been placed over the original elevator. A large freight elevator in the center of the building has been refurbished. (Phase 1 has a new eight foot square elevator, and Phase 3 will have one also.)

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2350 Saratoga Street..continued from page 6

An interesting original feature of the building is the parachute loft, measuring 40 by 40 feet by two and one half stories! This large space was converted into a mezzanine on the first floor, and a spiral staircase from the second to the third floor. A smaller historic detail is the vault that was preserved. The door to the vault was lost during removal of debris before renovation, yet a matching door was found in a building next door slated to be demolished. Twenty-five years since Alameda Air Station was closed, Building 8 has been brought back to life and it is teeming.



The original design of the building was preserved: from the modern overhang above the loading dock and the roll up doors, to the industrial steel sash windows that were reglazed.



Ladies and Gents: Dress Up for the 2023 Home Tour!



These young people added to their docent experience with budget-wise vintage-ish clothes, according to Denise Brady, Alameda costumier and historic preservation pioneer. Image: Scott Brady.

Get in the spirit with clothing that bespeaks an era in history. Enliven the day for legions of guests on **SEPTEMBER 17, 2023** as a docent or a tour assistant. Play dress-up to highlight historic homes around Franklin Park. Encourage visitors and homefolk alike to revere the places of yesteryear.

Costumed docents and assistants help educate people to the value of heritage neighborhoods, best expressed by renovation and preservation of vintage homes. Plus getting in costume is fun, and that is catching!

For more information visit: Alameda-legacy-home-tour.org

Want to help at the tour and need clothing advice? All volunteers will be invited to Denise Brady's fashion show and workshop this summer; details will be announced in the next issue of *Alameda Preservation Press* and posted online.

Denise is a clothing expert, a historic preservation pioneer, and the first "Queen Victoria" on the Island. Join our decorated docents and assistants, sign up today! **Call, text or email Denise Brady: 510-469-6324** dbrady001@aol.com



You, too, can bedeck yourself and add to the experience for little money, at a summer workshop for home tour volunteers. Source: AAPS archives.



1979 Photo: The original Craftsman bungalow retained much of its early charm.



2022 Photo: A sensitive addition duplicated the charm while allowing the family to expand.

A Delightful Addition for a Charming Bungalow 1610 Encinal Avenue

Story by Jerri Holan

**Award Recipients: Ryan and Julia Shafer, Owners;
Kirk Peterson, Kirk Peterson Architects;
Spencer Wolfe, Wolfe Remodeling Inc.**

Measuring just over 1,000 square feet, the shingled craftsman bungalow at 1610 Encinal was charming, cozy and comfortable. Built in 1906, it had 2 bedrooms and 1 bath and featured a large, flared hip roof with carved rafter tails, double-hung divided-lite windows, and a porch post with unique brackets.

Ryan Shafer and his wife Julia loved the front of their home but decided it was finally time to add a Principal Suite. The house was just too small for their family of four. They wanted to preserve the bungalow's intimate qualities and historic character so they selected an Architect known for traditional building design, Kirk Peterson and Associates from Oakland. The elegant addition was designed and constructed between 2017 and 2018 and Spencer Wolfe of Wolfe Inc. (also from Oakland) was the skilled Contractor who orchestrated all the pieces under a new roof.

Kirk's design goal was to make the rear addition look like it had always been there. He added new space to the rear of the house and then added a second story. His inspiration came from other bungalows of the same era in Alameda



The owners' son helped with the foundation work.

and his design features a stair tower with a flared hip roof that's just a bit taller than the new second-floor roof behind it. Kirk intentionally kept the second-floor ridge low so as not to upstage the modest first story. By terracing the new roofs and retaining the flare and slope of the old roof, the Architect reinforced the home's original humble Craftsman character without overwhelming it. According to Kirk, the most challenging part of this design was making sure the two-story addition remained subservient to the historic, one-story home.

The addition continued the use of the home's historic finishes: shingles on the walls and roof (the original home also received new roof and wall shingles); new

rafters carved to match the old rafter tails; and new double-hung, divided-lite windows matched the early openings. One exception to the new windows was a stained glass window the Owner found on Park Street which was incorporated into the stairwell (it's the small window on upper left side of stair tower).

On the inside, the same approach was used. All the new interior finishes and casework matched existing finishes and the new kitchen features quartzite counters and shaker style cabinets. Classic colors were used to highlight the traditional craftsmanship.

In general, the owners are very pleased with their modest addition and the architect is satisfied with his successful new stair tower. The contractor? He's glad everyone's happy but he's very happy the new roof hasn't leaked after all this rain.....

Gold Stars All Around

Story and images by Conchita Perales

Who would've thought that gilding, or applying gold leaf to a surface, is a decorative art that just about anyone can do? You don't need to know how to paint, sculpt or come up with an idea from scratch. All it takes is an expert like Bob Farrar to teach you the steps, a little patience, and of course the materials, which are quite easy to find: small brushes, a jar of glue, a few sheets of 23 karat gold leaf and a dry, clean surface to apply it to.

We had so much fun at the hands-on gold leaf workshop led by Bob on March 25th. Sitting around long tables, twenty of us enjoyed the sunny afternoon at The Frank Bette Center for the Arts, as he guided us through the delicate and engaging process of gilding.

Bob's creative energy permeated the group. He shared his love for Alameda's architecture, colors and design, along with his hands-on experience working with gold leaf. Bob has applied it to a number of Marcuse & Remmel built homes, including his own.

Time flew by as we tried our hand at applying the delicate and flimsy gold leaf to wooden stars, letters, and trim. The lively group, which included folks from Alameda and around the Bay, not only gained the knowledge of the gilding process but also the confidence to start a gold leaf project of their own.



A mirror positioned above the table reflected Bob's hands during every step of the gilding process, allowing everyone to see unobstructed no matter where they were seated in the room. Image: Elizabeth Farrar.



Marva Caldwell shows the process of gently smoothing out the gold leaf with her fingers.

The 23 karat gold leaf is so thin it can flake and blow away, but once attached to its tacky surface it will last for a very long time.

Marva applies glue and once it's tacky it's ready for the gold leaf!



Sozdar Sullivan (above), Gloria Yoshida (left) and Lisa Baker (below) had a most enjoyable time at the gilding workshop.



**A special thank you to
Liz Farrar and Marva Caldwell!**

TRAVELOGUE



An illustrated architectural travel story inspired by places visited and experiences encountered.

Fall Colors

by Matt Reid

Last autumn, at the tail end of peak foliage color, we spent several days in Massachusetts to explore history and attend the Head of the Charles rowing regatta. We ventured as far west as Lexington to track Paul Revere's ride, with a pit stop at Thoreau's reproduction cabin at Walden Pond; as far south as the New Bedford Whaling Museum; and as far north as the 19th-century textile mills of the Lowell National Historical Park. Of particular note was our first day, where we began at the Saugus Iron Works, considered the first successful iron works in the New World, meandered through the delightful seaside town of Marblehead, and concluded our visit in Salem.

After a quick breakfast in Cambridge on a crisp October morning, we braved Boston's notoriously aggressive drivers and potholes, and ventured into the suburbs. The Saugus Ironworks were originally constructed between 1646 and 1670, much of it by Scots forced into indentured servitude after losing at the Battle of Dunbar in 1650. What we see today is a reproduction completed in 1954 by the same architectural firm that created Colonial Williamsburg. The process of iron making is painstakingly detailed in museum exhibits, from firing gabbro to remove impurities from bog ore, to forging casted pig iron into wrought iron.

Next, we drove part of the Essex Coastal Scenic Byway, 90 miles of winding roads along the Massachusetts north shore, from Lynn to Salisbury. Townships in this part of the country are contiguous urban spaces, with little distinction beyond road signs that you've left one and entered another. After the modest towns of Lynn and Swampscott, we arrived in Marblehead; considered the birthplace of the US Navy, and today a tony seaside village. The Marblehead



Saugus Iron Works:
Forge and Slitting Mill. ➔

Marblehead:
Old Town House. ⬇



Marblehead: FL Woods for nautical
themed apparel and goods. ⬆

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TRAVELOGUE...*continued from page 10.*

Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), encompasses 2300 acres and includes 988 closely-grouped contributing buildings, predominantly from the Georgian period (1710-1785). Our favorite was the Old Town House sheathed in clapboard, with pedimented entry, and quoins on each corner which dates to 1727. After picking up a nautical-themed shirt at FL Woods Clothing and Goods, we continued on our journey to neighboring Salem, MA.

Despite the natural tourism gravity of witches, and the proximity to Halloween, we weren't in Salem to see witches, but rather America's first National Historic Site—the Salem Maritime National Historic Site, established in 1938. The Massachusetts Bay Colony's first town, and only port not to be closed by the British during the Revolutionary War, Salem produced custom duties by 1800 that amounted to 1/6 of the total federal budget. While the National Historic Site consists of seven buildings, two wharves, and one historic foundation on nine acres of waterfront, another 261 contributing structures in the vicinity were added as a district to the NRHP in 1976, two of which were added to the NHS.

Our favorite was the Custom House, also known as "Scale House" since a vast array of scales were kept there, to determine customs due. Nearby is the House of the Seven Gables, immortalized in Nathaniel Hawthorne's 1851 novel and added to the NHRP in 1972 as a district of eight buildings. Its main house dates back to 1668.

From the orange fire of ironwork to the dark brown gables and pitched roof at Salem, our autumnal cycle was complete.

Salem: Derby Wharf, with "Friendship of Salem" (1797) at dock. →



Salem: Custom House, aka "Scale House." ↓



Salem: House of the Seven Gables. ↓



Fall colors at Walden Pond.





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AAPS SCHEDULE of EVENTS 2023

•
JUNE 11

26th Annual Preservation Awards
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Home of Truth
1300 Grand Street

•
SEPTEMBER 17

Legacy Home Tour
10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Franklin Park

THANK YOU JANET!



Long-time AAPS board member Janet Gibson is retiring this year from her board position. Janet has been a passionate supporter of AAPS over the years and was instrumental in facilitating our collaboration with other city organizations to further our objectives. We will miss Janet's enthusiasm on our board but look forward to seeing her at our AAPS events.



On April 15th, Brenden Sullivan and Dodi Kelleher (pictured) hosted an AAPS booth during the Alameda Recreation and Parks Department's Spring Shindig at the Alameda Point Gym.

The Shindig drew hundreds from the community to take part in family fun and activities, as well as visit the many booths representing local businesses and organizations.

The AAPS booth attracted a lot of interest and inquiries, especially regarding this September's 50th Anniversary Legacy Home Tour.