



QUOGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Founded 1947

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"The Olde News"

Fall/Winter 2013

Homes for the Holidays

This is our third Holiday House Tour and we are as excited as we were for the first one. The tour is Saturday, December 14th, from two to six o'clock. Each house has its own appeal whether it is one

hundred years or less than ten years old. Invitations will be in the mail early November. Patron tickets are \$125 which includes the tour and cocktail party. Tickets for the tour alone are \$50; tickets for

the cocktail party alone are \$40, and for the tour and party, \$85. For more information, go to www.quoguehistory.org/house-tour, or call 631-996-2404.



Once part of a large estate built in the 1890s by the man who eventually became President of Brooks Brothers, the windmill cottage was staff quarters for the chauffeur and gardeners, and there were, as well, large storage rooms and space below for three or four cars. At his death in 1920, the estate was sold to a man named Follmer. There is no available information about the Follmer family. The records show that circa 1940-41 the Follmer estate was purchased by Elston E. and Alice D. Pearce. The Pearces spent the next four years lovingly planting, landscaping, creating gardens, reshingling, fixing woodwork inside and out and during WWII they put in a victory Garden where there had been a tennis court. They made the interior as lovely as the exterior. English walnut paneling was installed in the den, handpainted wallpapers from France adorned the walls of the dining room overlooking Penniman's Creek. There were fireplaces downstairs and in most bedrooms. The Pearces named their home "Cedarmar". They

The Worthington House

filled the library with valuable books, furnished main rooms with antiques and enjoyed the summer seasons with their many friends for years to come. In late 1947 the estate was sold to Bill and Marian Harlowe. Tragically, six months later this beautiful big old house burned right down to the ground – it burned all night reported Fire Chief, Dick

Beckwith. Marian and Fred Brotherton bought the property in the early 1950s and divided it; the boathouse was moved up from the waterfront and became the present guest cottage. These structures were repaired and rented for many years until 1997, when the lot with the windmill house and cottage was bought by Ralph Worthington.

The McChesney House "The Old Revolution"

This marvelous house was built circa 1730 as a simple shepherd's cottage. An addition was added in 1790. Around 1910 it was called the Tea Shop at the Sign of the Blue Moon. At one time, it was believed to be part of the Foster family properties. The current owners have lovingly restored many parts of the house. They took a very old house, respected what was wonderful and historic, and at the same time created a living space that fits a modern lifestyle. They wanted a contractor who understood historic construction and who had great imagination. Their answer was Sacha Ames who changed the roofline, put in dormers, enlarged the dining room and added some rooms. During renovations, evidence of the original post and beam construction was revealed in the smoke stained (from fireplace) beams, there were the original beams supported by crude struts and later reinforced by milled struts, and in another room, were the original hand hewn red oak beams.

The grounds are beautiful. The former owners had the foresight to hire Alice Recknagel Ireys "one of the most prominent landscape architects of the second half of the 20th century ...". Her projects can be seen at both the Brooklyn and New York Botanical Gardens. Here the landscaping is truly remarkable. There is an allee of crab-apple trees, a lush hydrangea garden, and she solved the problem of the house being so close to the highway by installing a natural berm.

They say it is the oldest house in Quogue. It is still lived in and loved.



Letter from the Co-Chairs

The Historical Society has again had a busy and productive summer season. On July 14, we sponsored a new education program, July 14, 1776: "Williamsburg Comes to Quogue" Life in the Times of the Revolutionary War, a family event on the Village Green attended by several hundred residents. Our thanks to the Pine Tree Foundation, which generously provided funding. On August 11, we hosted the 39th Annual Art Show & Sale, one of Quogue's most cherished traditions, also on the Village Green. This year, the Art Show was preceded the prior evening by a talk on today's art market and cocktail party. On August 17, following three weeks of art lessons, the annual Children's Art Show was held at the Quogue Library. Since 1980, the Children's Art Lessons and Art Show prizes have been supported in part by the Counselman/ Oxholm Fund.

Two new exhibitions opened at the Pond House, Through the Lens of George Bradford Brainerd: Quogue, ca. 1875 and Quawcannantucke: Early Settlement. If you haven't had a

chance to view these, the Pond House will be open Saturdays, 11am to 2pm, through the fall and winter. See our Calendar for special Exhibition Talks in November and December. We want to thank the Society's dedicated volunteers who helped with these events and served as docents at the Pond House and Schoolhouse this summer.

In addition, we are pleased to report that a Steering Committee on Preservation in Quogue has been formed and is working to apply for the creation of one or more Historic Districts for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Committee, which includes Board members of the Historical Society, the Mayor, and other interested residents, believes, as we hope you do, that the Village's significant historic resources deserve recognition. The QHS provided the services of our talented summer intern, Caroline Liegey, to assist in developing the research data required. This project was the subject of a lengthy front page article in the

October 3 edition of the Southampton Press, and Southampton Town Historian Zach Studenroth, who has been retained to assist in the preparation and filing of the application, gave a presentation about the Historic District proposal at an open meeting at the Village Hall on Saturday, October 12. To learn more about the National Register Historic District project, please visit the QHS website at www.quoguehistory.org/preservation.

Finally, we would like to welcome three new members of the QHS Board of Directors - Ambrose Carr III, Melissa Cook, and Bob Murray - and express our appreciation for the service to those who have left the Board in the past several months - Marsha Ambler, Stuart Disston, Laurie Hallen, Cecelia Lazarescu, Tom McCormick, Donna Sessa, Kelso Sutton, and Noah Walley.

Thank you for continued support of the Historical Society. We hope to see you at our Holiday House Tour on Saturday, December 14.

Chester Murray
Peter J. Rothenberg

Did You Know? Two of the World's Largest Tugboat Companies Have Lines in Quogue

The Moran and McAllister tugboats have been nudging ships to and from their berths alongshore and far out to sea in all sorts of weather since the mid-1800s. These Irish dynasties began when 17-year-old Michael Moran left Kill Lara, County West Meath, in 1850 and came to New York where he found work as a mule driver on the Erie Canal. Within five years he had gravitated to New York City, bought part ownership in a tug, and by 1860 had founded the Moran Towing and Transportation Company. In 1864, Captain James McAllister, a young seaman emigrated from County Antrim to New York where he bought a small sail lighter and began carrying freight between ships and piers. That original Greenpoint Lighterage Company evolved into McAllister Brothers, Inc. Captain Brian A. McAllister is chairman of the company. Brian and his wife Rosemary live on Quiogue and representing the 5th generation, are their sons, President

Buckley McAllister and Chief Financial Officer Eric McAllister.

In 1965 when McAllister Towing acquired the Dalzell Towing Line they added 14 tugboats and a cadre of captains and docking pilots who were widely acknowledged to be the best in the business. Briggs and Bobbie Dalzell lived in Quogue at the time.

Moran and McAllister companies emerged as the dominant tugboat lines at the beginning of the 21st century. The rivalry has been close, however, the McAllisters say "Moran beat us out many times." Not anymore. Today McAllister Towing's unsurpassed ship docking and towing services is the only family-owned tugboat business on the east coast with its origins in the 1860s. Moran Towing was bought out in 1997 by shipping financiers, but Edmond J. Moran, Jr. continues to work as a senior vice president for the company.

Robert Lyle Baird met Margaret Moran (1898-1958), daughter of Thomas F. Moran and sister of Edmond

J., in the summer of 1918 at a boarding house in East Quogue. They fell in love just as America was entering the Great War. Robert enlisted and was shipped out to Europe with the promise that they would marry on his return. They were married circa 1921 and purchased a house at 46 Shinnecock Road where they summered until the 1950s when the house was sold. Their son, Robert J. and his family of 12 children lived in the big house (built by Abram Post in the 1890s) next to the Library until late 1990s. A member of the 5th generation, Cathleen Moran Vermylen, Thomas Moran's great-granddaughter and great-niece of Margaret Moran Baird, works next door at the Library. Andrew H. Baird, grandson of Margaret Moran Baird is still connected to the waterworld, protecting shellfish on the East End. You can check him out at www.hungrynaturalist.com

A decade after the Baird/Moran wedding, Miss Jane Burden and Gerard

Continued on page 3

The Byrne Home

This Quogo Neck Lane property was long owned by retired sugar executive, Trowbridge Callaway Jr., graduate of the Gunnery School and Harvard, and his wife fashion editor and documentarian, Diana Stokes Calloway. The property was sold to Richard O'R Dowling in the late 1980s. Mr. Dowling owned the Marshmere estate across Quogo Neck Lane,, which was the residence of Rear Admiral Alfred Thayer Mahan, author of "The Influence of Sea Power Upon History: 1660-1783." Gerry and Liz Byrne, residents of Quogue since 1977, purchased the property, an acre of



Tugboat Companies ... continued from page 2

McAllister married and moved to Quogue where the Burdens had already established a business and summer home. Sometime in the 1960s Jane and Gerard built the family compound on Penniman Point Road where Jered Ann (Missy) McAllister still lives with her family, the 5th and 6th generations.

When WWII broke out, Gerard and his brothers, James P. and Anthony J., were busy towing, loading ships with supplies for overseas, helping to salvage sinking ships at sea and building ships designed to locate and attack enemy submarines.

In early 1944, Admiral Edmond J. Moran was designated by the Allied High Command to oversee the preparation for D-Day. His seaman's



vacant land from Mr. Dowling's widow, Janet Sands, that same year. A home designed by Eastport Architect, William Heine, was built by James Scully Contracting in 1999. The land includes a canal that now houses a floating dock. Mr. Byrne is a media and entertainment executive. He was a

Marine Officer in Vietnam in 1968 and 1969 and continues to support initiatives and programs for veterans. His wife Liz was a leading fashion mannequin for many of America's top designers. The home is 3500 sq. ft. It has four bedrooms and five baths, and a great view of Quantuck Bay!

The Quogue Club at Hallock House

Known as one of Quogue's first real hotels, the Hallock House, on Quogue Street, grew from a modest farmhouse built in 1824 by the first Hallock. The family took in a few boarders who probably arrived by stagecoach; at the time, the stagecoach stop was across the street, in front of the Jessup Homestead (Weathervane). The Hallock House register, in the Society's collection, contains names of guests that stayed in the hotel in 1828.

In the 1840s, at the height of his career, Daniel Webster made

annual fall shooting trips to Quogue and Westhampton, staying at the Hallock House, then run by Orlando Hallock.

The Hallock House thrived during the Boarding House Era. In 1871, the building was renovated and enlarged by John Dayton Hallock, accommodating 45 guests. In 1889, he built a private cottage for his family and, in 1893, with the growing success of his business, built another cottage to rent. These additional cottages were built to the rear on Hallock property, which ran down to the canal, on both sides of Quogo Neck Lane.

More recently, as the Inn at Quogue, the Hallock House was a restaurant, as well as the only surviving hotel in Quogue. In 2012, a group of local residents purchased the Hallock House and embarked on an extensive restoration that has returned the building to its appearance of a century ago, including restoration of its elegant porch. The Hallock House will reopen shortly as a dining membership club, as well as a hotel with 14 renovated and redesigned rooms and suites. The new interior has been designed by the noted decorator Alexa Hampton.

expertise was crucial to supervising the sea-going tugs and barges towing megaton concrete caissons to the beaches at Normandy. There they filled them with water and sank them creating man-made harbors enabling supplies to reach the landing troops. Historians agree that the success of the D-Day invasion and liberation of Western Europe would not have been possible without the floating harbors. He returned to the family business in 1946 and retired in 1984 when his son, the 4th generation of the founding family, Thomas E., became Chairman.

Bruce McAllister, brother of Brian, (4th generation) was President of McAllister Towing from 1974 to 1979, and continues to represent McAllister Towing in Florida and in legal matters.



Today there is a Moran and a McAllister living side by side where their property lines meet on the Quogue canal.



A Tuscan Villa ... on Quogue

This terracotta colored Tuscan house built by the owners, Tara and Jeff Liddle, was completed in late 2005. Using traditional Tuscan materials, the house is stucco inside and out.

From the circular driveway, the stately façade of the house encourages you to adventure on. Then, opening the front door you step into rooms that are so reminiscent of Italianate décor you can save airfare because you are there. The sofas, chairs and tables reflect the elegant, sturdy furniture made for villas in Italy, but Mrs. Liddle had most of it made by local artisans, and bought many pieces from fine shops around the East End. Outside, lush plantings surround the house and grounds. One of their triumphs is the line of "cypress trees" by the pool. Cypress trees grow throughout Italy, but they do not grow on Long Island. However, they were part of the dream, so their award-winning landscape designer (for her work on the Central Park restoration), Patricia McCobb, brought in huge specimen Horn Beams and keeps them trimmed, shaped and groomed to look

like the old country cypresses.

The family celebrates Christmas for several weeks; it is their favorite holiday. And the swags of greenery, bowls of sweet smelling fruit, ornaments and trees throughout the house - and a big lighted one outside on the patio, reflect that joy. The kids are on vacation, Dad, the holiday chef, is preparing a turkey (or roasting a pig), and even Biggie the tiny dog is having his fun and everybody is in a merry mood.

You may have come to see the house, but you will take home the memory of a warm proud home and its bountiful holiday decorations.

Buon Natale!



Fall Calendar

Special Exhibitions

- Through the Lens of George Bradford Brainerd: Quogue, ca. 1875
- Quawcannantucke: Early Settlement
- Whaling in Quogue: From Shore to the South Seas

Events

Saturday, November 23, 11:30am

at the Pond House

Exhibition Talk:

- Whaling in Quogue: From Shore to the South Seas with Betsy McMahon, Teaching Volunteer at the American Museum of Natural History

Saturday, December 7, 11:30am

at the Pond House

Exhibition Talk:

- Through the Lens of George Bradford Brainerd: Quogue, ca. 1875 with QHS Curator Julie Greene

Saturdays, 11am-2:00pm

Pond House is open

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