



# QUOGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## QUOGUE HISTORIC DISTRICT NEARS APPROVAL

We are very pleased to report that the proposed Historic District for the Village of Quogue will be considered (and, we expect, approved) by the New York State Board for Historic Preservation at its next meeting on December 3, 2015. The Historic District, sponsored by the Quogue Historical Society in conjunction with the Steering Committee for Preservation in Quogue, contains a remarkable 251 "contributing" properties - that is, properties that have historical significance (see map below).

Once approved, the State Historic Preservation Office will forward the application to the National Park Service for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. As we hope you will agree, this listing represents a long-overdue recognition of the significant number and concentration of 18th, 19th, and early 20th century structures that are an integral part of the charm and character of our Village.

House-proud owners of "contributing" properties will be able to purchase and display plaques

stating that their properties are located in a Historic District and listed on the National Register. The Historical Society will arrange for the design and procurement of the plaques from a supplier approved by the National Park Service.

The creation of the Historic District will be the culmination of more than two years of work by the Historical Society and the Steering Committee, with the able assistance of our consultant, Zach Studenroth, Town Historian of the Town of Southampton.

The members of the Steering Committee, in addition to co-chairs Chester Murray and Peter Rothenberg, Pi Gardiner and Robert Murray representing the Historical Society, are Lynda Confessore, Paul Dietche, Joy Flynn, Nancy Mullan, Bruce Peiffer, Janko Rasic, Mayor Peter Sartorius and Donna Sessa. We are grateful to all of them (as well as our 2013 intern, Caroline Liegey, and Stephanie Wagner of the Village Office) for their efforts in bringing this exciting project to the verge of completion.

## 2015 Holiday House Tour Saturday, December 12

The Quogue Historical Society will host its Holiday House Tour on Saturday, December 12, from 2 pm to 6 pm. This year's tour features five outstanding homes (described below) showing a wide variety of architectural styles and periods.

### THE BARN

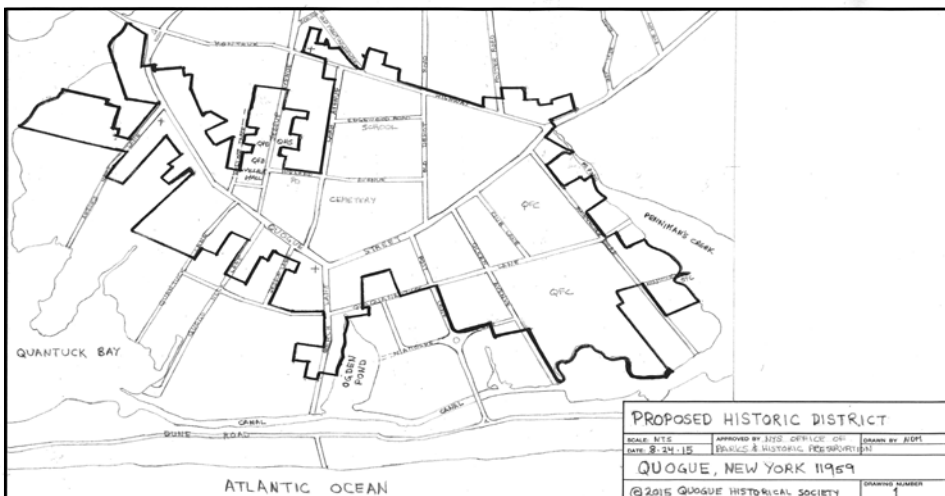
Mary Ann Casati & Geoff Judge  
6 Heatherwood Lane



Although the history known about this house and property is one of the most interesting in Quogue, it is the house today that is most rewarding. It was the original Hallock Homestead and then there were more owners, including the Penniman, Herrick, McLean, and Murray families. The barn was built c. 1902 with a three-stall horse stable, living quarters for the caretaker and a large open space on the first floor for hay and space for weekend visitors to park their carriages. There was a cow barn a little further down the lane, now demolished, and some trees have been taken down by recent hurricanes so today the Judges have a good glimpse of Shinnecock Bay.

The Judges bought the barn and property in 1987. There was no insulation, no plumbing and no electricity; 18-inch tall

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## **The Barn** *Continued from page 1*

grass covered much of the property. During renovations, the couple camped out in one upstairs room sleeping on leaky air mattresses; they had one working bathroom, bringing in a long hose for water to wash dishes in Rubbermaid tubs, and cooked meals on a Weber grill. Mr. Judge's sister and sister-in-law, Jennifer Judge and Ethelind Coblin, were the architects who turned this magnificent barn and stables into living quarters for a growing family. It was a dark place but the architects deftly cut open spaces upstairs, down and around to let in lots of light without disturbing the integrity of the classic barn structure.

They made one of the old stables into the kitchen, on the left as you enter. The big old table there is from a boys' boarding school in Ireland. The original stall doors are still in place there and an old Sessions clock above the sink still keeps time, at least for a few days before needing a rewind. Coming into the living room the dining table seats 14 and is lighted by two hanging copper lamps. The 35' x 50' room, which retains its original floors, is gracefully punctuated by American antiques, including the two lamps straddling a camelback sofa, many acquired from estate sales and local antique dealers over the years. Abstract paintings on the walls were all done by Mr. Judge's grandfather, Lucien Perona. The house is alive with the sound of music and two pianos – one in the entry and one in the living room. On one side of the room is a window arrangement inviting you to sit and ponder. But the heart of this room is the intriguing old-brick fireplace built behind the chimney surround designed to let in light coming from the tall window hanging over the back stairs. These stairs were the original entrance to the upstairs living quarters of the estate's caretaker. You may walk behind the fireplace to see the stairs which go up to bedrooms and down to an outside deck.

Off the living room the old tack room is now a charming guest room. The room next door is the cheery family room which still has the original floor-to-ceiling sliding barn doors. The small-paned breakfront in the laundry room is another salvage from the old tack room.

All of the downstairs rooms and surrounding decks are open to the tour.

## **THE TUDOR HOUSE**

13 Ocean Avenue



This property was originally owned by Henry Gardiner (1789-1867) and was sold by his family in 1906 to James Kellogg Burnham. The Burnham family built this house in 1928 and sold it in 1937 to Ralph Baldwin, Mayor of Quogue from 1940-42 and again from 1946 to 1956. Mr. Baldwin was also the President of the Quogue Field Club from 1935 to 1939 and wrote a book on the early history of the Club. The house, one of the few Tudor-style homes in the area, is believed to have been designed by Grosvenor Atterbury, a prominent designer of Tudor-style homes in the early twentieth century, even though no record of the building plans or the architect remains in the Village archives.

One of the most unusual features of the original house was an indoor swimming pool. It is said that Mrs. Baldwin maintained her figure by swimming every day. It is also said that, during the Hurricane of 1938, many of the residents of Dune Road came over the Ocean Avenue bridge to seek shelter in the house. The house itself survived the Great Hurricane with barely a scratch. The Baldwins had no children and when Mr. Baldwin died in 1961, he left the house to his caretaker.

The following year, the house was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Baier Lustgarten. Mr. Lustgarten was a well-known horticulturist who owned a chain of nurseries along the East Coast. Mr. Lustgarten built the rustic pavilion in the rear of the house out of antique beams from New England and collected many of the statues that remain on the property. When Mr. Lustgarten died, his widow hired a young Ed Hollander to design a formal garden in tribute to her late husband. While Mr. Lustgarten never had time to create a garden of his own he did manage

to propagate a dogwood in honor of his wife: the *Cornus Kousa* Elizabeth Lustgarten, a small weeping dogwood. Two Elizabeth Lustgartens continue to flourish in the rear of the house along with many other mature specimens on the property.

The current resident purchased the home from the Lustgarten estate late in 2009. A multi-year renovation has restored this magnificent house to its 1920s elegance. The builder, Hamilton Hoge of Southampton, located old bricks in Illinois which matched the originals and which were used to build the extension and new pool house. The original 1928 roof tile supplier, Ludowici Tile, made new roof tiles from the original molds. To the momentary dismay of the family children, the swimming pool on the main floor was replaced by two guest bedrooms and an outdoor swimming pool and pool house were added. Ed Hollander returned to update the formal gardens for family living.

Upon entering the house, the first thing to grab your eye in the original living room is the leaded glass floor-to-ceiling window and in front of it is a beautiful pale antique Charles M. Stieff baby grand piano. The piano as well as the fireplace and all accessories are original to the house.

The current owner enlarged the adjoining limestone sunroom to ballroom size and imported a Gothic mantel from England to create a unique space for family celebrations. The beams in the pavilion, library and dining room are all original and have been restored. The Lustgartens travelled extensively and collected elephant figures as "good luck." The current owner has continued this tradition by installing a custom elephant weathervane on the pavilion roof.

The original kitchen, located in what is now the butler's pantry, was moved to the rear of the house and quadrupled in size. All windows have been replaced to look like originals but have thermal glass. The house is green -- with solar panels, a geothermal heating system and even soy insulation in a nod to modern energy efficiency.

The current family hopes to host many Christmases and other family celebrations at the house for many years to come.

## THE MUSIC HOUSE

Marianne and Frank Decker  
19 Post Lane



The house is in three adjoining sections, wrapping around three sides of a large deck with a swimming pool in the center. The central part was completed in 1987. The greenhouse is on the east end and the music room is on the west. Large windows look out on the deck from every room, making the outside a very real part of the interior. The curved walls and wall niches with recessed lighting are distinctive features of the modern architecture of the house.

Paint colors enhance displays throughout the house, reflecting the owners' love of southwestern Pueblo and African art. The large, freestanding bookcase and cabinets in the music room, and the bookshelves in the library leading to the greenhouse, feature the color "adobe orange" -- a striking color reflecting hues of sand, pottery and the Indian art of the Southwest.

The design of the interior, with central skylight, is the perfect backdrop for examples of American folk art, representing American toys, American Indian Kachina dolls and art, Hawaiian scrimshaw, African face masks and carvings. Woven items, featuring old ivory, were made by and purchased in Alaska from a family of Inuits. In front of the fireplace is a magnificent antique hooked rug -- black, with motifs of flowers and birds. A Tiffany silver coffee and tea service, a gift to Frank Decker's great grandparents on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary, sits on a fine 1840 maple chest of drawers. A "plant stand" with original blue milk paint, and an 18th century rocking chair are loved by all eight Decker grandchildren. An unusual collection of original Harper's Weekly colored prints from the 1880s surround the room, showing Brooklyn Heights, the building of the Brooklyn Bridge, harbor scenes, skaters in Central Park, and more.

The music room has allowed Marianne and Frank the perfect location for their 1913 Model M Steinway piano. At 102 years old, it continues to be in perfect condition. Marianne is a professional organist and active member of The American Guild of Organists, NYC Chapter.

Marianne and Frank lived in New York and Brooklyn from 1969 to late 2009. Frank is a retired lawyer, historian and author, having recently published Brooklyn's Plymouth Church in the Civil War Era: A Ministry of Freedom. He is working on a next book.

Marianne's father's family spent summers in Quogue in the 1920s and 1930s and her ancestors lived in Quogue. She is descended from at least nine of the original families that settled the North and South Forks of Long Island: Young, Hallock, Horton, Wells, Tuthill, Mapes, Terry, Cooper and Corwin. Her ancestors Frederick and Hannah (née Tuthill) Hallock are buried in the Quogue Cemetery. There is a framed cross-stitch sampler hanging outside the kitchen, made by Mary Terry (born in 1823), daughter of James Terry (born 1772) and Hannah (born 1778, née Cooper).

## THE DIAMOND HOUSE

Susan and Joel Leitner  
30 Dune Road



This modern house by the sea was built in 1960. The original building plans were filed by Abraham Geller in the style of Ulrich Franzen. The house has undergone a master restoration overseen by the offices of Austin Patterson Disston architects. The facade, with its tall casement windows and off-center red door, is a wonderful evocation of abstract expressionism, a look which reduces building lines to simple shapes and surfaces to simple colors and textures.

Once inside, the diamond structure is replaced with a vaulted ceiling

with extended lines that resemble a sea gull in flight. On the ocean side of the house by the deck is the walkway to the beach built on what is called Devil's Dune which, at 25' to 30' high, is the tallest dune in Quogue.

There are two rooms at ground level where the ramp to the upstairs living area begins. The ocean view from the living room is spectacular and looks out over the protective, grassy dune to the horizon where the sea and sky meet. In addition to the exterior walls, everything in the house has been restored to its original state, including sofas, lamps, tables, table tops, sculpture over the fireplace, and even the wall-size painting by Norman Bluhm. There are eight rooms on this floor, all of which are open to tour goers.

Mrs. Leitner's decorations will celebrate both Christmas and Hannukah. She also designed the property's landscaping.

## THE STUART DISSTON HOUSE

12 Assups Neck Lane



The architect of this house, Stuart Lyman Disston, was born to do something sublimely poetic. He is the fourth generation of an artistic family in Quogue and there is a fifth generation right behind him. His grandmother, Emily Turner Lyman, was a greatly admired Paris-trained painter, and his mother, Joan Larson, is an accomplished watercolorist, very popular in Quogue. His siblings, cousins, niece, aunt, and daughter are successful artists in their fields. Hardly anyone in Quogue does not own a Larson/Peters painting.

Finished in 2012, this modern summer house is situated on a secluded lot on Assups Neck Lane about a half block from the Church

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**Stuart Disston** *Continued from page 3*

of the Atonement. From its rooftop terrace you can see many views of Quantuck Bay. This brave new home is composed of a series of stacked rectangular volumes loosely forming an L-shape design. Clad in tongue-and-groove horizontal cedar and punctuated by square and rectangular windows, the 3,400 square-foot house features glass doors that slide into the wall on the ground level. All of the public spaces – living room, dining room, family room and kitchen – flow seamlessly into the ipe (eepay) wood terrace and lap pool.

Upstairs there are three bedrooms, the library and a second-floor roof garden. Each room has access to the rooftop terrace. The house is extremely well insulated using ground source heat pumps and solar panels as some of the elements that provide the house with sustainable and efficient energy.

Mr. Disston lives here with his fiancée, Bobbi Brown.

*We are very grateful to our friend and former director Bobbie Patterson for her hard work in preparing these house descriptions.*

**Quogue Historical Society**

P.O. Box 1207  
Quogue, NY 11959-1207

*Directors*

Chester Murray  
*Co-chair*

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*Co-chair*

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**SUMMER 2015 EVENTS**

**Book Launch  
For "Voices of Quogue"**



*Author Meredith Murray speaks at Memorial Day week-end book launch for the new QHS publication, "Voices of Quogue".*

**Miss Lizabeth Recreates a  
19th Century School Day**



*Miss Lizabeth (board member Alison Strong) welcomes young visitors for a presentation on a typical school day in the 1822 Schoolhouse.*



**CHILDREN'S ART  
PROGRAM**

*Children's Art Program co-chairs Kathy Lomas and Alexis Durham with Blake and Zoey Rudolph and their work.*

**EXHIBITIONS AT THE POND HOUSE**

114 Jessup Avenue

Fall / Winter Hours: Saturdays, 11 am to 2 pm

*(The 1822 Schoolhouse is closed.)*

**MAIN FLOOR**

Whaling in Quogue: From Shore to the South Seas

19th Century Figural Glass Flasks and Bottles

Through the Lens of George Bradford Brainerd: Quogue, ca. 1875

Admiral Alfred T. Mahan: The Pen That Launched a Thousand Ships

**LOWER LEVEL**

Quawquannantucke: Early Settlement

Boarding Houses, the Heyday: 1880-1910

Historic Jessup Avenue: A Tribute

Highlights from the Collection