



QUOGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Patricia Driver Shuttleworth

Pat Shuttleworth died November first, a week shy of her 83rd birthday. She left us to be with Ted, her beloved husband. Pat left the legacy of legacies, the Quogue Historical Society. She was not only the captain of this ship, she was the keel and the wind behind its sails. Her world was her husband, her three children and everything that was of historic interest in the village of Quogue. With Katharine Post and Aileen Maury she was in at the birth of the Historical Committee of the Library, later the Historical Society. In those days there was no heat in the library and she remembered many times they worked on gathering artifacts, cataloging them, and setting up exhibitions wearing sweaters and an overcoat. Pat Driver and Ted Shuttleworth were married on June 17th, 1949. They were a life-long team; he photographing the village as it existed and making the slides of historic pictures for presentations, she inspiring and helping to write several books which have chronicled the history of Quogue for posterity. Ted was a sailor, he loved boats and because he loved them, Pat was his willing crew on both his motor and sail boats. She played the piano for her own great pleasure and the enjoyment of others, and was a world-class gardener. During her 34 years as an active member, she was an officer, sat on the board and chaired many programs for the Westhampton Garden Club. Later, she was the garden club's historian. No one knows for sure, but say that she may have been the one to suggest planting a garden by the schoolhouse museum behind the li-

brary. Many days you could find her tending them. She had many ideas to sustain the garden club and the historical committee. She had the vision to have an identity for the QHS which resulted in the classic logo above. She was an artist and very active in the Society's annual Art Show. Her painting of the library rests on the front desk.

Pat's gift is that we know the history of Quogue, that the village is still a village often standing still in the 20th century because people have learned to appreciate its history and enough of them want to keep it that way. She was eager to have people remember and keep safe our history; she said America was built on small refuges. Anything and everything you are aware of about old Quogue, the original settlers, farming, hay gathering, land purchases, sheep and cows grazing in the fields, came from Pat's desire to know it, see its value to the community, to work with others to document it, and save it for the centuries. She grew up in Montclair, New Jersey, but spent every summer with her family at their house on Beach Road in Westhampton Beach. On September 21st, 1938, she was among the group of boys and girls who were invited to lunch at Mrs. Greene's house on the beach. That afternoon, the famous hurricane of '38 came roaring up the coast and the children were in its path. As the downstairs walls of the house were being carried away, they were evacuated to a stone house nearby - Pat said the grown-ups broke up furniture to build a fire in the empty house, "then they wrapped us in rugs and towels and put us all in one big bed and told each of us to pray, so I said, 'now I lay me down to sleep'...." They were all rescued by boat the next morning. There are two books about the Hurricane of '38, written by Pat and other survivors.

She did everything effortlessly. She used to make up wonderful, clever stories, write them in a little book, illustrate them with charming figures, then flutter the pages quickly to animate the characters.

Lifelong friends say she was a very proper young lady, straight as an arrow; she did the right thing and she did it right. Rest in Peace Patricia Driver Shuttleworth.

HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR 2011

Again this year we have five beautiful homes for the Holiday Tour on Saturday, December 17th from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. Invitations have been mailed. If you did not receive an invitation, please call the Society at 996-2404, or stop in at the Pond House for information and directions. The cocktail party is 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

THE CONFORT HOUSE

The Historic House of 2111



This richly detailed, classic Long Island shingle-style house is only ten years old, yet maintains its own integrity sitting between two of the oldest houses in the village, the Post House built in 1734, and the Page family house on the corner at Quaquanantuck from late 1890s. Designed by Stuart Disston and constructed by Sacha Ames, there is an aura of continuity in the young homestead. It was built on property that was once the gardens of the Page family. In early 1970s, Mlou and Clayton Du Bosque purchased the land and put up a long, low slung, one story, prefab house. The current owners lived in this house for two years and then tore it down to build their traditional Quogue cottage. One of the features of the new house is the switchback staircase. The dining room with its coffered ceiling, (note the rope moulding and stars), the "man's" mahogany paneled study in the octagonally-shaped tower off the entry, and the overall impeccable design of the house, have graced the cover of Traditional Home magazine and been the subject of many coffee table books.

REINOSO HOUSE DUNE ROAD



The most wonderful thing about this house is that if the original owner could come back, he would think he had never left. Except for the kitchen, it is as he built it in 1928. The living room and dining room walls, ceilings and floors, built of North Carolina pine, have retained the patina of the original dark green stain and the rooms envelop you in their own historic reverie. This house, tucked behind the dunes, was the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. George Wilhelm Merck of Merck Pharmaceuticals. Sundune, as they called it, was the anchor to four other cottages they built on the beach and across Dune Road to the canal side. One of the original houses is still there. In 1941 Sundune was sold for \$7,500, furnished.

The current owners have lived here since 1978 and have made some changes to the kitchen, a bathroom, and the old porch, but have not touched the matching built-in, glass-front cupboards on each side of the living room fireplace, built to exhibit the Merck family's shell collection. Each little treasure, exotic or common, is in its original trace of beach sand on the shelves, untouched for 83 years. The furnishings are contemporary and, now, cabinets from the kitchen hang in the bar area, and an original door out to the porch works handsomely as the bar top. On the wall is a pen and ink drawing, original to the house. Out on top of their dune is their beach cabana. Any season, even with cold winter winds coming in from the ocean, the owners could be in the cabana watching the waves, a rising moon and checking the natural rotation of the planet, but inside their house, time stands still.

BAYVIEW DRIVE

Looking like a ship being blown off course coming into port, this house is purposely situated at an angle to take advantage of the view of the creek and canal anchoring the property. From the waterside the house looks like an ocean liner coming full steam at you, with three huge decks on

the prow, topped off with a widow's walk and observation deck where a crow's nest would be. The current owners said that "from the upper decks and bridge in the living room one has a serene feeling of being on a boat somewhere between Quogue and heaven." They said that after many years of visiting friends, they knew they wanted to be in Quogue and fell for this house within the day of their first look at it. It was Christmas time 2009.

This boat-house was built in 1973 by former mayor, George Motz. At the height of the disco craze, 1976, he put in a disco. When that craze died in 1981 the disco was reincarnated into a sports bar entertaining many players from the NBA and NFL. (The man of the house today is a team physician with the N.Y. Giants, so ghosts of parties past will survive the turnover.) Over the years, the library, U-shaped upper den, large upper balcony and the half-round screened porch have added to the comfort of the house. The hatch doors by the porch are authentic, from a de-commissioned Navy submarine lying shallow in New Orleans. One departure from all things nautical is the trotting horse and sulky weather-vane, which was installed in memory of the senior Mr. Motz, who was a co-founder of Roosevelt Raceway.



P.S. The house is young, but many historic Native Indian artifacts were unearthed from the site, including several clay pots and a projectile point estimated by a paleontologist to be hundreds of years old.

MULLAN-DEMERJIAN HOUSE

Built in 1903, the party house residence was designed by George H. Skidmore of Riverhead in the Queen Anne style. It may be the only house in Quogue with a Sunroom, Conservatory, and a Gazebo. The original owners' son had been shell-shocked in WWI. When he came home, the doctor's therapy advice was that he do something very physical that summer. He



built the Gazebo. Inside, the house has all the original bathrooms with claw-foot bathtubs, leaded-glass windows and lovely big living room and fireplaces. The interior is a little bit country, a little bit French, a little bit English, nothing contemporary, a mix of antiques, inherited furniture, and travel acquisitions all arranged comfortably for good conversation.

CROWE HOUSE



One of the grande dames of Quogue, this house was built in 1886 by newlyweds Lucy Post Young and William Joseph Young. They named it Bonnyfield. Their son, Howell Post Young, and his wife, Gibson Bain Young, lived in it until the 1980s when Anne Bobst Highley (Bobst Library) bought the red house with black shutters. It is believed that it was she who painted it white, as it is today. An architectural treasure of this house is the porch with the gazebo-like extension at one end. The current owners bought it in 1985 and have done some restoration, but the integrity and comfort of its noble walls have not changed in 125 years. The owners feel privileged to be part of its history.

One of the sons in the family painted the name, Bonnyfield, on a board and nailed it above the shed in back of the house. Because he wanted to. A feeling of Christmas past and Christmas now begins when you open the front gate.

THE POND HOUSE HAS THREE MINI EXHIBITS

Boarding Houses, The Heyday:
1880-1910

Quawcanantucke, Early Settlement
Whaling

THE MURRAY HOUSE

Quogue has always attracted prominent men and women who find a refuge here, living a relatively simple existence in big houses by the sea. In the 1920s, Ellen Van Buren Morris, the granddaughter of President Martin Van Buren, and the grandmother of Lili Whitmer, summered here. The Duchess of Richelieu came here in the 1930s, bought a nice piece of property on Club Lane through to Ocean Avenue. She created a unique home in the shape of a U from four out buildings including a cow shed, ice house, two small barns, and timbers from the Old Mill in Westhampton, built in 1746. At one end she put in a bedroom (cow shed) and kitchen (ice house) and in main barn, she put in a wide, pink brick Dutch oven design fire place after one she saw in the American Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, backed up in the dining room with another of a different design, also 12' wide. At that time you could see daylight through all the roofs. She was Eleanor Douglas Wise, a beautiful socialite from Baltimore, who went to Paris to study voice, gave recitals to French veterans of WWI, there met and married the Duke de Richelieu, and lived with him at the Chateau du Haut Buisson (near Paris) when she wasn't in Quogue or at her town house in New York City (it exists today). The Duke never saw the Duchess's refuge on Club Lane.



Duchess de Richelieu returned to Paris in 1938. (She travelled so much in those days some suspected she was a spy). From that time (1938) until 1956 no one had cut the grass. But, Anneke and Norman Felske could see their dream project through the high growth and wanted to own it. They bought it directly from her, negotiating over transatlantic telephone for many months. She came back to Quogue once in 1958 to visit the young married couple who had put on a new roof, paneled the main room, made bedrooms and bath in the other U corner and sort-of updated the kitchen, all approved of by the Duchess.

The current owners have taken the bones of the barns into another dimension bordering dream territory. In 2005, they undertook a complete restoration of the house. Their Great Room, one of the oldest structures in Quogue, is made from all the Old Mill lumber, originally her 20 x 40 living room. They still have the original fireplaces, and hand-hewn beams, and connected the old saltbox garage (for her car and chauffeur) to the main house, restored the diamond windows and added a new kitchen that is in keeping with the original layout of 1936. They have masterfully transformed the rustic look into a charming country elegance.

OUR LOGO NOW FORTY



Daphne Shuttleworth, daughter of Pat and Ted Shuttleworth, is the artist behind the image. She told us that sometime in the 1970s her mother and Aileen Maury were the heart and soul of preserving Quogue's history, and sat on the Library Board representing the Historical Association. The two spent their summers doing whatever was needed to keep the Schoolhouse Museum a historically interesting and educational place. In those days, it was always referred to as the Museum.

At the time, Daphne was working in the city as a graphic designer for CBS Inc. Her mother asked her to design a logo for the budding Historical Society and to use the Schoolhouse as a visual symbol to represent the historical interests of the village. Daphne hand sketched several renderings of the one-room schoolhouse inside a circle, like a classic medallion, and chose a typeface to spell out the name Quogue Historical Society. "I particularly liked the 'Q' in the typeface," she said. (Daphne thinks the type is Goudy) Pat and Aileen studied all of the sketches and chose the one they thought was the best and strongest. Daphne said, "if you look closely you will see that I drew the door as being slightly open. One reason for that is that it never used to shut all the way and the other is that it is also a symbol of the Society being open to all."

The Schoolhouse was built in 1822, after school districts were first formed in New York in 1813. It is a plain structure, but has an entrance hall and arched ceiling which were unusual features then. The building has been moved several times, but in 1893 when a larger, more modern school was put

up in Quogue, this one-room building was abandoned at the side of the road. A year later, Abram Post bought it from the village and moved it to his property next to the library. In 1948 George and Richard Post gave it back to the village and moved it to its present location. (Their mother, Katharine Post, had been collecting artifacts from her friends and others in the village which were stored and later curated for exhibition in the Schoolhouse).

Aileen and Pat were dedicated to the Schoolhouse Museum. They set up classroom furniture, farm implements, kitchen and household articles, toys, seashells, all strictly from Quogue, to exhibit life in the 1800s. The beginning collection included many photos of Old Quogue, maps, photograph albums, Indian artifacts, histories of the early hotels and boarding houses. And, a special exhibit each summer. One theme was "Childhood in Early Quogue."

Pat wrote that in 1975 they were able to restore the building, putting in a workable foundation with crawl space, plus a supporting girder under the floor. During the next few years, the schoolhouse got a new roof, new wood shingles, and the side walls were treated with a preservative.

Membership categories were \$3 regular, \$5 sustaining and \$50 patrons. Membership increased steadily. In 1979 they recorded 80 members with \$650 in dues.

GEORGE HADDAD in his 2-cylinder plane ready to photo storm-devastated beaches. He was the worshipped unofficial



photographer for the historical committee of the library. He was unique for the purposes of visually recording village history. He was a pilot!

And he had an airplane! With his Rolliflex camera, he took hundreds of aerial pictures and hundreds more from the ground. Chris Haddad, his daughter, recently gave the Society many scrapbooks of her father's perfectly focused pictures, so clear you can easily identify streets and buildings around the village. They are now digitized and archived in safe keeping at the Pond House.

This article was edited by Pat Shuttleworth a few weeks before she died.

ANTIQUITY

One of the four remaining oldest homes in Quogue, Antiquity was built in 1734 by Deacon Thomas Cooper on the site at 58 Quogue Street. His family lived there for a hundred years when it was sold to John F. Foster. When Mr. Foster died, his daughter, Sophia, became mistress of the house. She married the Reverend Samuel Herrick and their only child, Margaret Foster Herrick, lived on the property until she died at about 100 years. Some time in the early 1900s, Mary Howell took it over and ran it as a boarding house. After the heyday of boarding houses became history, Miss Howell moved the structure to Quantuck Lane, where it now sits. Mayor Thelma Georgeson lived in Antiquity and Concha Georgeson Payne, Trustee Kim Payne's mother, lived in it for several years. Now, a developer has bought the house and property and he will raze this historic 20' x 40' home, if we cannot find another place for it; just a plot of, not a lot of land. The families of the original settlers of Quogue and their descendants have lived in the house continuously for 277 years.



Wish List

*A gently-used, or new, laptop with an elephant's memory to assist our archivist
as we catalogue and digitize our valuable historic collections.
Please call 631.996.2404*



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