

Port Townsend, Washington

WESTERN WASHINGTON'S BEAUTIFUL SEASIDE DESTINATION OF VICTORIAN HOMES, BED & BREAKFASTS AND MORE



Apple Pickin' at the Peach House ~ 6.1976

This was one of my very first paintings - probably among the first dozen pieces I created in the 1970s and the initial piece in my Port Townsend Collection. The subject was a simple Carpenter's Gothic Victorian, the same two-story cottage that I painted again as "Painting the Peach House" years later. It was by a trip to Port Townsend's Annual Tour of Historic Homes that I made with my sister Marilee when she was dating someone from this community. Simple and without perspective, I thought that I did a pretty good job of capturing the character of this pretty place.



Blue Bedroom B&B ~ 10.1986

I painted this pretty two-story Queen Anne-style home twice - once with the snowy, winter B&B inn theme here and another honoring Thanksgiving with a harvest celebration. The house was built for J.B. Hogg at the turn of the century. He was a respected engineer in the young seaport community of Port Townsend which was once slated to become the capitol of Washington State (instead of Olympia). When it was initially constructed, the cottage had an open air second story porch, but in later years this was enclosed - probably to create an addition bedroom. Gingerbread-style decorative trim and a distinctive front porch railing made the residence stand out among others on its street. Later it was sold and the building served as a rectory for Roman Catholic priests during the 1950s.

Cozy Consulate B&B ~ 4.2001

This artwork celebrates the Frank Hastings House, built in 1889 at 313 Walker Street. A "must see" for visitors to Port Townsend, when I painted this artwork, it was welcoming guests as the "Old Consulate Inn." A favorite room then was in the cupola as it enjoyed a expansive view of the water from all the windows overlooking it. When the house was owned by C.A. Olsen, it came to be known as the "German Consulate" for August Duddenhauser, who served as the German Consul and boarded there. This three-story is a fine example of Queen Anne-style architecture. I've pictured myself in the window watching my husband Doug putter on the front porch, decorating it with pots of red geraniums.

Decorating the G.W. Downs House ~ 4.2006

The George W. Downs House was a confection - the perfect setting for artwork celebrating this most festive time of year! George Downs arrived in the harbor town in 1881 and soon became Port Townsend's very successful lumber baron. He and his wife raised three daughters, Sarah, Cordelia and Cassandra in this handsome home, which was beautifully embellished with ornate stain glass windows - including a large one of Saint Gabriel from a church in Tacoma. The house was altered a bit over the years, but by and large, it retained its original grace and elegance. I pictured my husband Doug and me decorating the mansion with garlands and lights for the holidays. Highlight - Cassandra Downs lived in this elegant residence well into the 1960s.

Gleason Green Goddess ~ 6.2006

It was time for a fun summer picnic complete with flags unfurled and all the traditional fixin's - from watermelon to beef burgers to chocolate layer cake! I pictured my husband and me with our friends celebrating with our pals the Ebners and Herberts at this unique historic Port Townsend home. Dentist Dr. Gleason built it in the early 1900s at 706 Taft Street and adorned his residence with a decorative turret and distinctive arched front picture windows. The interior featured a creative use of wood throughout both stories, including built-in china cabinets. The structure was patterned after a similar residence in Boston where Dr. Gleason lived before moving to pretty seaside community of Port Townsend.



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Happy Times at the Hill House ~ 5.2006

This pretty two-story house, originally constructed for J.J. Hunt in 1872 at 611 Polk Street, became home ten years later to Robert C. Hill and his wife, Elizabeth. Active in local community affairs, Robert Hill was elected mayor of the town in 1885 and also was instrumental in establishing the First National Bank of Port Townsend. This piece is a fun summer painting I created with a picnic theme - complete with "Old Glory" billowing in the breeze. I filled the artwork with good friends about to enjoy an old fashioned feast of watermelon and other traditional favorites. Our kitties Andy and Sophie were quite an armful for my husband Doug in the front window.



Harvest Celebration at the Hogg House ~ 11.2003

This painting featured the J.B. Hogg House and was created with an autumn and Thanksgiving theme. This was my second painting of the home. The decorative two-story grey-shingled home was full of quaint personality - one of the prettier Victorians for which Port Townsend was known. Each year, this Puget Sound town took great pride in hosting a well-attended tour of its beautiful landmark Victorians. Cameras in hand, visitors arrived from all over the Pacific Northwest to wander the neighborhoods, walk through the interiors and snap pictures of the beautifully restored residences. The perfect setting for a family feast, I pictured my husband Doug and me in the bay window, enjoying a quick holiday hug before our guests arrived for a traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings!



Manresa Castle in May ~ 3.2010

Originally known as the Eisenbeis Castle, it was named for Charles Eisenbeis, Port Townsend's first mayor and a leading local businessman. The regal four-story castle was built in 1892 on 7th and Sheridan Street and was inspired by castles on the Rhine where Eisenbeis had lived before coming to the United States. The castle originally had 30 rooms that enjoyed spectacular views of Puget Sound. Beautifully enhanced by gorgeous hand-carved oak woodwork and vintage chandeliers, the castle was surrounded by stunning grounds and flower gardens. When I painted this piece, it was serving guests as a very popular inn and fine restaurant.



Marriage at the Starrett Mansion ~ 8.2006

This was a lovely setting for a wedding-themed painting! The famed Starrett Mansion (StarrettMansion.com) was one of the finest examples of Victorian architecture in the United States. This beautiful three-story was built at 744 Clay Street for only \$6,000 in 1889 at 744 Clay Street by George Starrett as a second anniversary gift for his wife, Ann. Unique to the home was the tower, free-floating staircase, and interior "widow's walk," (so that the wife who waited for her husband to return from sea could watch and wait in comfort). The Smithsonian Institute believed that the two-tiered free-floating staircase was the last one of its kind in the country. Highlight - The ceiling of the tower featured the "Fresco of the Four Seasons" created by Seattle artist Otto Chapman. It was also designed to serve as a solar calendar.

The Pink Palace ~ 4.1986

The Albert C. Adams House was a turreted three-story pink Victorian mansion constructed in 1889 - although history had it that Adams never actually lived there. He had it built for real estate speculation and lost it six years later to foreclosure. Even though this pretty, gingerbread-style place had a nebulous beginning, the Victorian was much-loved over many years. I took creative license with this painting, an earlier effort completed in true "Primitive" style. I added willow trees, a "dotted Swiss lawn" and perfect rippling waves on an imaginary pond where my friend John Olah paddled his pooch Scruff around the pond. Kites, banners and a rainbow-colored windsock blew in the breeze. Completed partly as a self-portrait, I pictured myself in the foreground nuzzling my sister Marilee's Siamese kitty Ty. This painting was an overview of favorite personal memories of 1986.



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Pretty in Pink ~ 12.1993

This ornate feminine two-story cottage located on Clay Street was built in 1889 for Emma Barthrop upon the death of her husband. The residence was a perfect shining example of Italianate Villa architecture. This portrait of it was completed as a special Christmas gift for my good friend Jennifer Jasper who worked with me for nearly a dozen years. I pictured her on the front lawn of the cottage with Mary Anne, one of her dearest friends - and myself as the industrious baker in the front window. My big black cat did duty as the "official greeter" on the front sidewalk.



Pulling Kite Strings at the L.H. Pontius House ~ 2.2002

This three-story grand the L.H. Pontius House was shingle-constructed and located on Lincoln Street. It was built in the late 1890s by one of Port Townsend's early businessmen. Not a great deal was known about Pontius, but he must have been very successful as his home was quite large and expansive - a testament to his wealth at the time. This theme of this portrait of the Pontiu House was the celebration of the occasional windy days of spring - and therefore kite flying. It pictured my husband Doug braving the elements with our niece and nephew Kelly and Michael Barton. I painted myself in the attic studio taking a break to cheer on the kite flyers.



Puttering at the Peach House ~ 7.2006

This pretty two-story darling peach Victorian frame house was always one of my favorites. This two-story cottage was located in the seaside community of Port Townsend - a destination famous for the dozens of historic Victorians there. This portrait was my second effort at painting the setting. I completed the first one, "Apple Pickin' at the Peach House" decades ago in 1978. I'm pictured in the front yard painting a portrait of the cottage while my husband Doug watered the garden. I added several birdhouse and took a little bit of poetic license with the seaside background when I brought the seashore in much closer to the home than it actually was.



Pussycat Palace ~ 1.2005

I thought that this was such an unusually pretty cottage, I painted it twice - once as "Pretty in Pink" with a summer pastel theme and this Valentine's Day inspired piece. The ornate, little two-story house located at 921 Clay Street in Port Townsend was built in 1889 by his wife Emma Barthrop upon the death of her husband George. His parents were early business people there and Emma managed their bookstore and variety shop. This decorative home with beautiful leaded glass windows replaced their earlier residence and was a shining example of Italianate Villa styling - thus the "Palace" title of this artwork. Painted with a cottage rose theme and embellished with Valentine windmills, this artwork featured our two Burmese-Siamese mix kitties Andy and Sophie lounging in the oak tree.

Seagull Serenade ~ 10.1999

Once the home of Captain Winfield S. Mann, this gingerbread-style charming one story Victorian cottage came by its diminutive size honestly - the captain was at sea so frequently, he required a pint-sized residence! Built in 1889 at 827 Pierce Street, this house originally contained only five rooms. This remarkable residence featured superiorly crafted window moldings, ceiling medallions and four-paneled doors. I painted this artwork with a spring gardening theme, picturing myself with a trowel in my hand and a bevy of friendly, noisy seagulls for company. This residence overlooked the Port Townsend harbor.



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Skating Serenade ~ 12.2000

I worked on this ambitious snow scene for over a decade - years after seeing this beautiful three-story Victorian on the Tour of Historic Homes in Port Townsend with my sister Marilee. I fell in love with the "Old Consulate Inn" (OldConsulateInn.com), also known as the Frank Hastings House, and built this entire winter painting around it. I added a few imaginary buildings and other special details to this piece - like the railroad tracks, a tiny charming depot, the pristine white steepled church and a covered bridge. I filled the pond with skaters and the sleigh with happy riders slicing merrily through the snow. Snowmen dotted the landscape spelling fun for everyone in the scene. Several years later I created a portrait of just the scarlet Victorian "Cozy Consulate B&B" with a springtime gardening theme.



Wacky Witches Ball ~ 8.2004

This seasonal-themed painting celebrated October 31st, the spookiest holiday of the year. It featured four wacky witches and their companion black cats brewing up a deliciously wicked time throughout the vintage mansion. The scene featured over a dozen jack-o-lanterns in every size, shape and expression - plus a banner waving from the rooftop welcoming all witches to the ball. The moon shone as a tiny sliver in the midnight sky, barely lighting the bats circling the mansion. This residence was located just around the corner from the famous Frank Hastings House (German Consulate) which served guests as the Old Consulate Inn. What made this home remarkable was the unique mansard roof cupola on the otherwise rather simple shingled cottage.

Wylie House Autumn Welcome ~ 7.2006

This pretty little Victorian Queen Anne-style home just sparkled with imaginative detail and trim - from its second-story porch and French doors to the inviting bay windows on the first floor. It was built in 1889 on 1406 Garfield Street for the Henry Wylie family who sadly lost Mrs. Wylie soon after the residence was finished. The family moved almost immediately out of the area back to Illinois. The house looked quite small from the curb but housed a parlor, sitting room, kitchen, dining room and enclosed porch - all on the first floor with several bedrooms on the second floor. This artwork celebrates the autumn and the annual task of raking the season's brilliant colored leaves. The reward for all the hard work? An "al-fresco" lunch.



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