

Spokane Valley, Washington

FAMILY AND HISTORIC LANDMARK HOMES AND SETTINGS FROM PICTURESQUE ARBOR CREST CELLARS IN THIS SUBURBAN AREA EAST OF SPOKANE



(Americana Fine Artwork Titles Listed in Alphabetical Order)

The Barton Snow Fort ~ 1992, 1993, 1995, 1996 @ 2014

This artwork was an ongoing labor of love for me which created periodic gifts for my youngest sister Peggy Simpson Barton - and the final gift of the original painting in January 2014.

She married her husband Jeff in the early 1970s and moved to the San Francisco area where he had accepted a job after college with Standard Oil. They lived there for several years and then moved to Honolulu, Oahu. After over a decade away from the mainland, Jeff finally returned to Spokane to take over his family's car dealership and to the Simpson family's delight, Peggy was back living in Washington State.

The couple selected an architect who designed and built a striking contemporary three-story home with a panoramic view of the Spokane Valley. In a few short years, their first child was born and the family began growing. After Michael arrived, daughter Kelly, another son Mark and finally their youngest daughter Brooklynn was born.

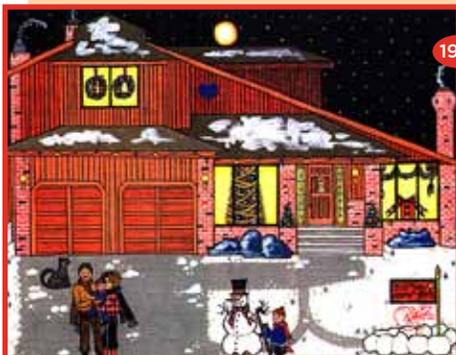
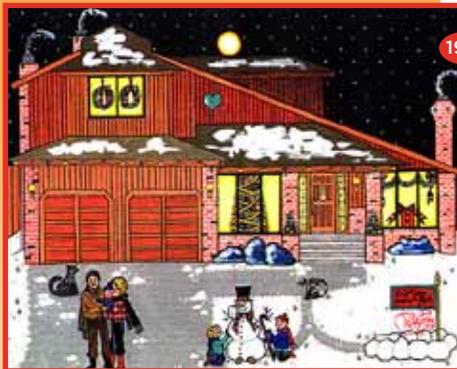
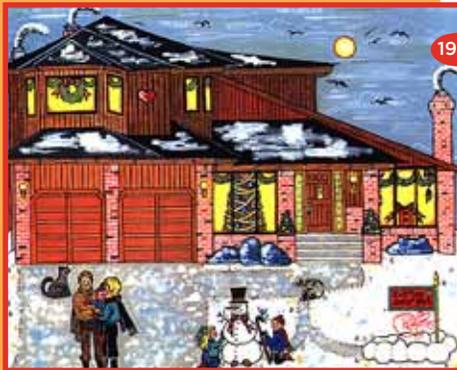
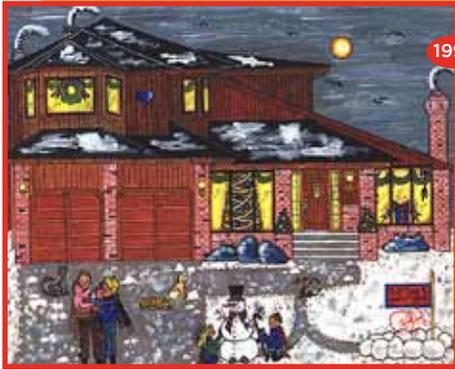
In addition to children, several family pets found their way into revisions of this artwork - Andy and Rascal (their cock-a-poo's), Cocoa and Honeybee (cocker spaniels), Pepper and Tabasco (Shih Tzus), Zoe the calico cat - plus a couple of little cage orange snakes.

Rather than have the final revision of this piece look something like a large menagerie, taking the focus away from the portrait of the family in the foreground, I left the pets "inside" the house. The newest member of the final revision was Mikaila, who married their oldest son Michael in August 2012.

I did my best to keep up with this constantly changing household as well as alterations to the house itself. The 1995 artwork showed a revision to the second floor as another bedroom was added for their son Mark.

I painted clouds in some of these, stars in others and a crisp January sky in the final artwork. The season was always winter and most renditions had either a thick cover or a dusting of snow. The first four featured a festively decorated Christmas tree in the front window. There was always a fort (thus the title) and a friendly snowman in the scene.

In January 2014, Peggy celebrated an important milestone birthday, so it seemed like the perfect opportunity to finally give her the original painting. My mother and I took her out to a special lunch and my gift of the artwork was a welcome surprise. I also created a small print of the scene for each of her children.



Patti Simpson Ward



Spokane Valley, Washington

FAMILY AND HISTORIC LANDMARK HOMES AND SETTINGS FROM PICTURESQUE ARBOR CREST CELLARS IN THIS SUBURBAN AREA EAST OF SPOKANE



Bowditch Street Badminton Match ~ 8.1986

I painted this piece as a special Christmas gift for my parents Sally and Joe Simpson in 1986. It pictured my mother's favorite of several family residences, our mid-century modern-style home in suburban Spokane Valley. She loved the home's contemporary open feel and the huge picture windows lined up across the front of the house. More often than not, our home was the setting of neighborhood gatherings of families and friends. This artwork pictured a beautiful summer evening with all eight of us Simpsons enjoying a badminton match. Golden retriever Chum and cock-a-poo Andy were shown on the front lawn. Our family lived in this house from about 1962 until well into the 1980s when my parents purchased a condominium in Mountain View Estates near a lot in the Northwood neighborhood where my sister Peggy and her husband Jeff planned to build their home.

Christmas in Kokomo ~ 12.1987

The Doohans were in every way part of our Simpson family once we moved to the Kokomo suburban development in the early 1960s east of Spokane, Washington. When Mike was employed by Boise-Cascade in the 1960s and sent to Spokane, he and his wife Winnie knew they wanted to stay. Meeting my parents and becoming members of their Catholic parish, a lifelong friendship began. Mike purchased a local company that made sportswear, K & L Manufacturing which ultimately employed all of my sisters and brothers with part-time summer jobs during college. My lawyer father Joe handled the company's legal matters. The four Doohan kids Joe, Earl, Maura and Megan grew up with us and spent so much time at our Hayden Lake cabin that folks thought the place was theirs. Later on after my dad passed away, Mike gave me away at the wedding when Doug married me in 2000. Winnie was my mother's best friend and we all mourned her loss in 2000 when cancer took her - coincidentally on my birthday. I completed this piece as a special Christmas gift in 1987 to thank the Doohans for all the wonderful years of friendship. *Highlight* - Mary Doohan, wife of oldest son Joe, has been a huge supporter and wonderful help to me over the years with her very kind patronage, research assistance and more.

Cliff House at Arbor Crest ~ 2.2012

The handsome, Florentine-style three-story Cliff House overlooks the Spokane Valley. It was designed and built by Royal Newton Riblet in 1924. An inventor and mechanical genius, Riblet's estate was filled with marvels for its time like his garage with its mechanical door. He also installed a waterfall that recycled water back to the top of the falls and a life-size chess game on his grounds. The property currently houses the Arbor Crest Winery and is also home to several handsome basaltic rock out-buildings. *Highlight* - When Riblet was living there, the cement factory far below on the riverside spewed harmful dust into the air, deteriorating his mansion's facade. He sued - and the attorneys who won the first ever case of its kind were associates James Winton and my father Joseph A. Simpson.

Fine Fall Finish ~ 9.2010

I finished this "neighborhood" painting as a special thank-you gift for our contractors who encountered one overwhelming problem after another (and solved them) in our six-week renovation, which grew into a six-month project. I was able to select digitally each of their homes and make cards as well as presenting them with framed prints when the job was finished.

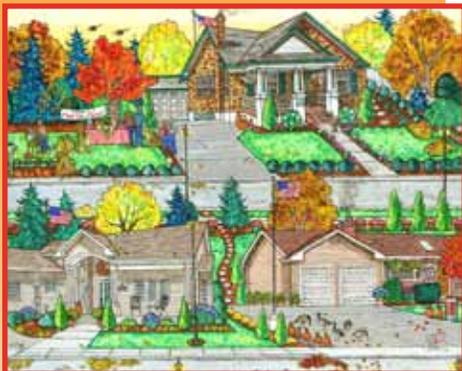
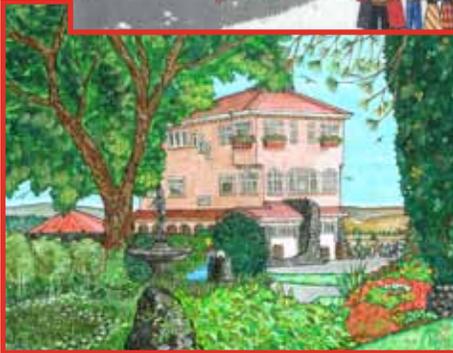
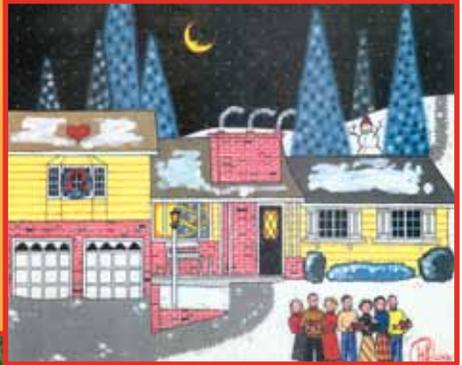
DOUG & PATTI WARD CRAFTSMAN - This was our home as it looked after its ambitious renovation. I pictured Doug and me to the left with picnic fare.

LANCE & BETH ELLIOT HOUSE - Lance and Beth were shown seated with their little Yorkie. When I completed the artwork, Lance was still recovering from a bad fall sustained in the middle of our job.

CHRIS & RICK GARRETT HOUSE - Pictured just to the left of us are Chris and her husband Rick Garrett (Rick installed our new gutters and recommended his wife and Lance for our remodeling project). Their two golden retrievers flanked the couple in this scene.

Fine Fall Finish (Detail of East Valley Home) ~ 10.2010

I completed a large "neighborhood" painting as a special thank-you gift for our contractors who encountered one overwhelming problem after another (and solved them) in the six-week renovation that morphed into a six-month project. I was able to select digitally the artwork of the two contractors' homes and make cards as well as presenting them with framed prints when the job was finished. This was the Chris Garret home. Her husband Rick installed our new gutter system just after we purchased our bungalow and later recommended his wife and Lance Elliot for our larger upcoming renovation.



Patti Simpson Ward



Spokane Valley, Washington

FAMILY AND HISTORIC LANDMARK HOMES AND SETTINGS FROM PICTURESQUE ARBOR CREST CELLARS IN THIS SUBURBAN AREA EAST OF SPOKANE



Fine Fall Finish (Detail of North Valley Home) ~ 10.2010

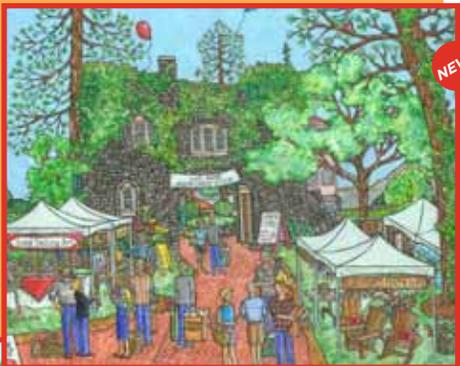
This detail of a larger "neighborhood" painting portrayed one of three uniquely different Spokane homes. I completed this artwork as a surprise gift for Lance Elliott and Chris Garrett to share it with them at the completion of our large renovation project. They were the partner contractors of Elliott Construction who so diligently and beautifully restored our place in the South Hill neighborhood near Manito Park. This detail focused on the charming Lance and Beth Elliott home, a pretty brick rambler located in heart of north Spokane Valley.



NEW!

Flexible Flyers in the Valley ~ 8.2016

This Spokane Valley white brick Colonial home was built in 1940 for the Henry family on Boone Avenue on a large, gently sloping lot. Interestingly, its design was slightly asymmetrical as the left side of it was larger in width than the right. In 1957, Joe and Rita Moran purchased the residence where they would raise their family of five children (L-R Georgia, Kurt, Joey, Kathy and Marty) for nearly 20 years. The property included an orchard to the left, an outdoor "living room" with white wrought iron furniture beneath the giant willow (note the lovely statue of the Blessed Mother) and a swimming pool behind the house - the setting for many warm weather gatherings with family and friends. I gave this artwork a mid-1960s holiday theme, picturing the kids ready to enjoy the frosty afternoon sledding down a nearby slope. (Vintage photograph courtesy of Moran daughters Kathy Denenny and Georgia Ferguson.)



NEW!

Gathering at the Gatehouse (Arbor Crest Winery) ~ 5.2016

This arched basaltic rock gatehouse on the campus of Arbor Crest Winery has always been the signature welcoming structure leading to the handsome Florentine-style mansion known as the Cliff House. The estate was the home of Royal Riblet who built Cliff House in 1924. The gatehouse was just one of several stone out-buildings on the property. Another was the structure where folks waited to board the tram that carried them down the hillside to the valley below. Riblet was a famous mechanical genius, best remembered for inventing the chair lift, which upgraded the experience of snow skiers everywhere. Now the home of Arbor Crest Winery, this piece portrayed the Art & Glass Fest, the much anticipated annual summer art event hosted on the grounds of the property. Highlight - When I met the owner of the property in 2015, Mr. Milke shared that the stone arch once served as the servants' quarters.

Millwood's Rosebush Cottage on Marquette Street ~ 5.2013

This Tudor-influenced Norman Revival cottage was built in 1923 by the general manager of the Inland Empire Paper Company. Waldo Rosebush had spent time in France during World War I where he discovered the prototype for this finely detailed, beautifully crafted cottage in the Argonne Forest. He purchased the plans from the French owner and built his home a short distance from the main thoroughfare through Millwood, aptly named Argonne. In 1936, Rosebush left the mill to work with the army in Alaska and the Pacific, ultimately retiring to Appleton, Wisconsin. However, he loved his charming cottage so much that he kept it as his official residence, returning annually to visit friends and vote in Spokane's local elections until he died in 1961. *Highlight* - An underground tunnel connected the home and garage.



Springtime Comes to Simpson Street ~ 1.2016

This large 16x20-inch painting of an imaginary neighborhood honored five homes that I lived in and loved throughout the years.

Lincoln Street House - My parents, Sally and Joe lounged in the back yard while grandparents Charles and Jessie watched my sister Marilee and me.

Bernard Street House - Easter Sunday with our family in outfits sewn by Sally (Peggy, Marilee, me in jumpers, John in a suit.) Cousin Jim on the porch.

21st Avenue House - Sally, Joe and I on the deck with picnic fare, Marilee and Peggy by the bikes, and Bill, Bob and John with dogs Chum and Andy.

221st Place NE House, Sammamish - The Wards - Doug and I seated, Leah with Connor and Sean Davies behind us, Matt with Addison and Heidi to the right and Kevin, Taryn and Austin to the far right.

18th Avenue House - Sally Mom helped with roses and bedding plants, while I "planted" a kiss on husband, Doug back from a golf game. My siblings and their sweethearts joined us for a visit.



NEW!

Patti Simpson Ward



Spokane Valley, Washington

FAMILY AND HISTORIC LANDMARK HOMES AND
SETTINGS FROM PICTURESQUE ARBOR CREST CELLARS
IN THIS SUBURBAN AREA EAST OF SPOKANE



Springtime Comes to Simpson Street (Detail of 21st Avenue House) ~ 1.2016

This is a detail of a large painting of an imaginary neighborhood picturing homes I've lived in and loved over the years. It's also my third painting of this house. I painted the original in March 2007, but altered it to add our granddaughter Addison and grandson Austin Lee and to show the changes made to our 304 property. When Bernard Street on Spokane's South Hill was widened into an arterial, my parents pack up us kids and headed to the suburban Spokane Valley, east of the city at the foot of Tower Mountain. Our new neighborhood was filled with playmates of all ages - I have kept in touch with many of the friends that I made then. This piece pictured my brothers Bob (with our dogs, Chum and Andy), Bill and John in the foreground. Sisters Marilee and Peggy had just returned from a bike ride. I'm pictured on the deck my folks Sally and Joe helping prepare dinner "al fresco."

Patti Simpson Ward

