



**SAGADAHOC  
PRESERVATION, INC.**  
P.O. Box 322  
Bath, ME 04530.



Est. 1971

[www.sagadahocpreservation.org](http://www.sagadahocpreservation.org)  
[info@sagadahocpreservation.org](mailto:info@sagadahocpreservation.org)

*Winter Spring 2019*

**Officers:**

*Terms expiring 2019*  
President, Tim Brosnihan  
Vice President, Sandy Whiteley  
Treasurer, Jacqueline Berry  
Secretary, Rick Bisson  
Past Pres, Larry Bartlett

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*Terms expiring 2019*  
Peter Murphy  
Rebecca Roche  
Alicia Romac

**Trustees:**

*Terms expiring 2020*  
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Martha Bourque  
Nathanael Doak  
Curtis Henderson  
Peter Murphy  
Jane Pratt  
Rebecca Roche

**Trustees:**

*Terms expiring 2021*  
Judy Barrington  
Jane Pratt  
Emma Sieh

*Finance Committee Chair:* Paul Skydell    *WSC Rental Coordinator:* Debby Hayden, Tel: 729-9707

**SAGADAHOC PRESERVATION, INC.**

*For one year's membership, clip and send to:  
SPI, P.O. Box 322, Bath, ME 04530. Please make  
checks payable to Sagadahoc Preservation, Inc.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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[www.sagadahocpreservation.org](http://www.sagadahocpreservation.org)  
[info@sagadahocpreservation.org](mailto:info@sagadahocpreservation.org)    Tel: 207-443-2174

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Single                   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Nonprofit       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Family                   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Business        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Patron and up            | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 Sponsor and up |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal                       | <input type="checkbox"/> New Member           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sanctuary Fund Donation _____ |   |

I wish to volunteer:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation          | <input type="checkbox"/> Education            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Development           | <input type="checkbox"/> Development          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Street Center  | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> House & Walking Tours | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/Publicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> House Plaque Research | <input type="checkbox"/> Website              |



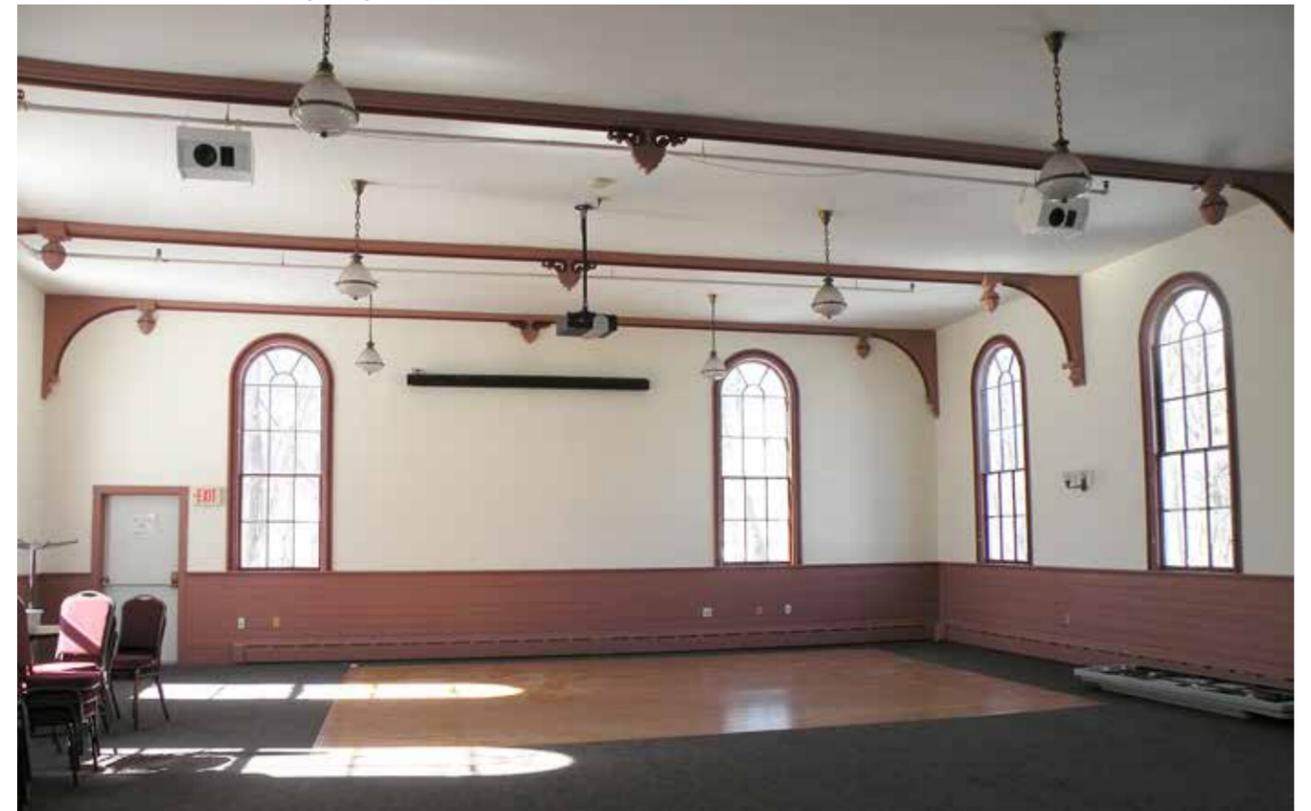
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*The* **SPI**  
Newsletter

**SAGADAHOC PRESERVATION, INC.**  
P.O. Box 322, Bath, Maine 04530  
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*Winter Spring 2019*

*Face Lift for the Di Francis Events Room*



Long overdue, the Diane Curtis Francis room was just painted in February. The room has been a steady money maker over the years, but prospective brides were now turning to other venues. Bath painter John Ater had given us an estimate in January and stated that he only had time in mid February to paint the room. Unfortunately it was not a matter of just paint. Over the years, the plaster had cracked and chipped, paint had peeled, baseboard radiators had rusted and window sills needed caulking as well as paint. The price was \$7000. We had no time to have a planned fund raising. All of our money was being poured into the steeple and the sanctuary, but thanks go to Trustee Curtis Henderson by finding anonymous donors at the last minute. There was a desire to brighten the walls so a new paint color was chosen. Out goes the old pink and in comes "Marscopone" a Moore cream paint that brightens the room and is compatible with the repainted Victorian rose wainscotting. Please go to page 2 to see how you can help us defray the cost of the paint..

*Our Spring Lecture Series first event is in the newly painted room on March 10th. See color insert page!*

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** by *Tim Brosnihan*

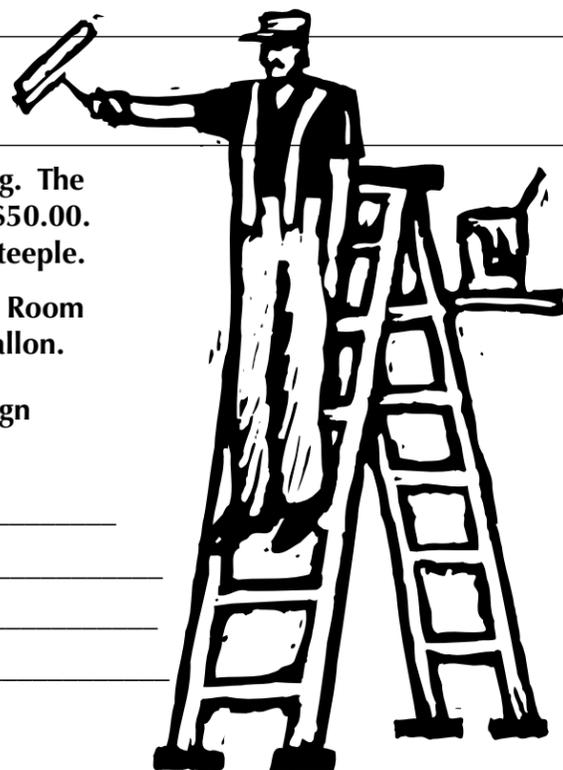


*SPI is a true community institution; all that we plan and accomplish is driven by a group of dedicated volunteers who care deeply about the region's architectural legacy and work tirelessly to ensure that it is preserved and appreciated. Care of our own buildings, the 1843 Winter Street Church and its adjoining 1864 Parish Hall, gives us the opportunity to practice what we preach and model the best preservation practices. Over the last year the Winter Street Church has needed a great deal of attention. Thanks to a generous outpouring of community support, we have been able to give the building a new roof and to repair deteriorated woodwork on the steeple. We hope to commence painting the steeple in the spring, and would gratefully accept donations to help return this central element of Bath's skyline to its former glory.*

*We have a busy year of outreach planned for 2019. Our annual lecture series will kick off this March with a talk by Farnsworth Curator Michael Komanecky on Bath's own John Adams Jackson, a nineteenth-century sculptor. Over the next few months members of our Education Committee will fan out to visit 4<sup>th</sup>-grade classrooms, opening students' eyes to the architecture around them and hopefully grooming the next generation of preservationists. Meanwhile our Preservation Committee is hard at work processing an avalanche of new orders for house plaques. Does this up-tick in house plaque requests represent growing local interest in preservation? We can only hope! I invite you to keep an eye on Sagadahoc Preservation's offerings over the coming year and to attend an event in our freshly repaired and painted meeting room in the Parish Hall.*

TIM

**Buy a Bucket of Paint Campaign.**



**Help us put the finishing coat of paint on the steeple this spring. The average gallon of restoration white exterior paint costs about \$50.00. It takes 40-45 gallons of paint (primer included) to cover the steeple.**

**Or you could help to defray the cost of painting the Di Francis Room in February. That was 16 gallons of interior paint at \$45 per gallon.**

**Yes, I would like to support SPI's Buy a bucket of Paint Campaign and am enclosing my check for \_\_\_\_\_gallons of paint.**

**Please accept my donation of \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address \_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please donate on line at: [www.sagadahocpreservation.org](http://www.sagadahocpreservation.org) or mail a check to: P.O. Box 322, Bath, ME 04530,**



**1463 Washington Street, Ray Doss and Molly Bell**

This early cape style home has a large chimney, quoins, a pedimented side entrance, and small attic side windows. It could very well be the oldest building in Sagadahoc County. The land it is on was part of an original land grant of 400 acres that stretched to the New Meadows River. It is also documented that it was part of the only Revolutionary War altercation in Bath. At the time of the tour the house was undergoing restoration of its numerous fireplaces by Richard Irons one of Maine's finest historic brick and stone masons. Les Fossel of Restoration Resources was also on hand to point out early details and also to describe the crazy quilt of changes made by numerous owners over the years.

**The Brick Project, Washington Park and Lambert's Tavern (Drive-by only)**

In recognition of the 100th anniversary of two housing projects near the 2018's House Tour route, SPI is honored two of the three projects built to house workers and families who came to work in the Bath shipyards dedicated to the World War One war effort. Between 1916 and 1918 the population of Bath doubled in size, even though there were more than 500 men who left Bath to join the armed services. Tour goers were asked to drive by both projects and Lambert's Tavern on their way to or from King's Dock at 1463 Washington Street. Lambert's Tavern on High Street was the only other site along with Kings Spar Dock at 1463 Washington Street that was associated with the Revolutionary War in Bath.

**SPI Events and Winter Street Happenings**



Last August, Hyde School students volunteered to paint the fire escape stairs at the rear of the Parish Hall. Because it was pressure treated wood, we could not paint the stairs at the time they were installed. Thanks to SPI Trustee Jane Pratt, who works at Hyde School, for organizing this painting party.



A black and white photo does not do justice to this sturdy canvas shopping bag. It is a lovely cream color with dark red handles and side trim. It has a roomy side pocket for extras as well. We still have a few left to sell at \$12.00 each. Stop by our office, open on Wednesday mornings from 10-12 noon, and we will sell you one or two. If you can't make it on that morning, we will have the bags for sale at our events including lectures and the annual house tour.

As it is always nice to get our logo out in the community especially on such a useful item, the Development Committee welcomes your ideas regarding other items that we might offer for sale.

Contact us at [info@sagadahocpreservation.org](mailto:info@sagadahocpreservation.org)



**823 Washington Street, Eric Wagner**

Built by Wm. Hodgkins, Jr. sometime between 1802 and 1805 as a one story tavern, elements can still be seen in the basement of the current house. Col. Joshua Wingate added the second story sometime after 1812 transforming the building into a classic Federal style with a five bayed facade, low hipped roof and four chimneys that once served eight fireplaces. Thomas Robinson owned the house from 1821 to 1869. He and his wife added a French marble surround to the living room fireplace and topped it with a huge French mirror that is now in the front hallway. James Dunton added the glassed in porch on the south side and the glassed in front entrance.



**888 Middle Street, Charles Spliedt and Jude Smith**

This house was built in 1843 in the Greek Revival Style by John B. Swanton who also built the Swedenborgian Church next door. He had seven children and a live in-staff of servants. The pedimented gable end faces the street and is supported visually by two wide corner pilasters. The doorway is on the side to accommodate the grand mahogany staircase. An old favorite of past house tours, it is now a B & B. Charles and Jude have redecorated from top to bottom, added two more bathrooms, and added a handsome deck on the rear. The blending of old and contemporary furnishings and art lend a clean and fresh look to a classic design.



**928 Middle Street, kdb Dominguez, Wilderland**

This house nestled close to River Road is a transitional Federal style home with strong Greek Revival trim. A descendant of Ebenezer Preble, William G. Preble and his wife Susan Kenniston Preble built their homestead between 1857 and 1858. Open throughout, this property also includes a large barn and a fully equipped workshop. The current owners have converted rooms on the second floor into a master bedroom with a panoramic view over the fields to the Kennebec River.



**964 Washington Street, Eric and Heather Staeben**

Built in 1848 for the John G. Richardson family, It is a true example of the Carpenter Gothic Style of Architecture built in wood rather than stone. The sharp angle of the extended front gable with attached carved bargeboards (gingerbread) recalls the architecture of the Middle Ages. The use of board and batten siding also forces the eye upwards to the peak of the roof with its trefoil window just below.



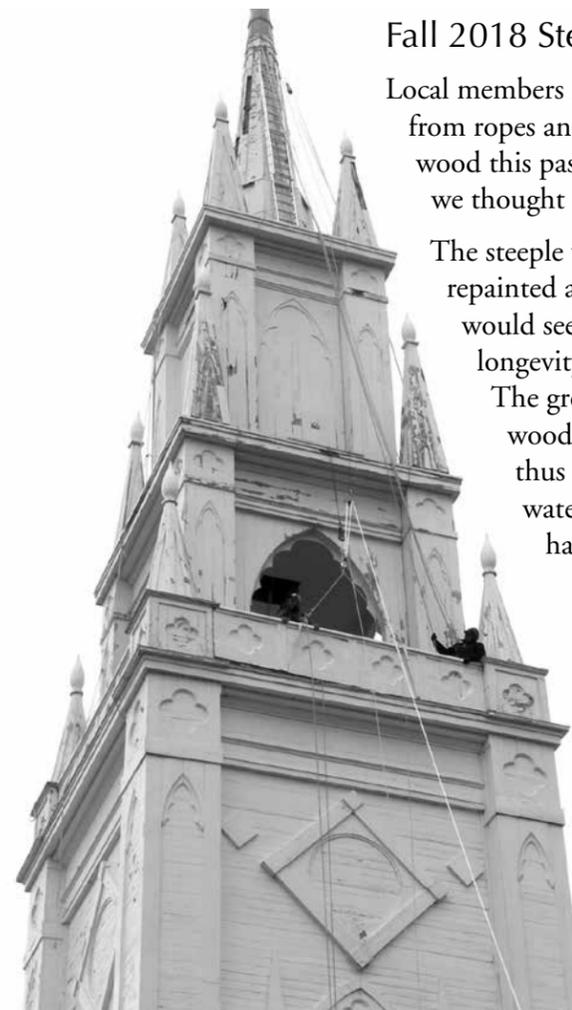
**967 Middle Street, George Clary and Dean Swarhout**

This “new” townhouse was built from surplus Federal government funds in 1837 for town meetings and other non-religious gatherings, replacing the local meeting house built in 1757 in Nequasset. It was used regularly until 1951. Elements of the federal style can be seen on the double door facade. Inside there is a unique form of raised seating similar to a theater. There was also an exhibit of blown glass by Woolwich native Ben Coombs who had recently moved his business by Casco Bay Glass Works back to Nequasset Road .



**1080 Washington Street, Rick Kessler & Pamela Cox**

Prominent ship builder Stephen Larabee, built this house in 1852. The house was designed by Bath born Francis Fassett, a noted Maine architect. It is a fine example of the wooden Italianate style constructed around an earlier 18th c. house. Larabee’s shipyard carpenters built the magnificent interior features such as the black walnut staircase, interior moldings and shutters, plus the double front doors. The new owners have restored the house both inside and outside, from landscaping, window preservation, the addition of a Kennebec Kitchen and so much more. The library was redesigned with new floor to ceiling bookcases that replicated the adjacent dining room molding.



Fall 2018 Steeple Repair

Local members may have noticed that several men seemed have been suspended from ropes and rappelling up and down the steeple with large pieces of wood this past fall. When we contracted to paint and repair the steeple, we thought it was just minor repairs and mostly paint. WRONG!

The steeple which had been replaced in the mid 1980’s and then repainted and recaulked in 2009 was literally falling apart again. It would seem that today’s pine is not 19th century pine in strength or longevity. The old wood of the original steeple had lasted 150 years. The growth rings on today’s wood are much further apart. The wood is much younger when harvested and cut into boards and thus less resilient. Compounded with the mandatory use of water-based paint rather than oil-based paint, we find ourselves having to paint and repair far more often than expected.

In the photo to the left, Maine Steeple Jacks from Boothbay are hauling very heavy replacement pieces up to the bell tower section of the steeple. Each piece is made of mahogany and one large section weighed over 600 pounds. The cost of all this is \$59, 815. A final coat of paint will be added this spring. We also hope to have the steeple windows with the pointed arches repaired and/or rebuilt. The Davenport Foundation donated \$4,000 to help us with this project but we need contributions from others to help pay down the loans taken out to keep our historic landmark building in good condition. If you want help save our beautiful steeple, please donate on line at:

www.sagadahocpreservation.org  
or mail a check to: P.O. Box 322, Bath, ME 04530,

Welcome New Trustees

We have been fortunate in having museum/preservation professionals join us as trustees at the annual meeting in October of 2018. They are:

**Emma Sieh**, who is on our Development Committee, has been working extensively in museum collections and exhibits from Washington State Heritage Museum to Maine Maritime Museum. She has a Masters in Museum Studies, with a focus on collections and exhibition development. and interned at an Australian exhibition design company, and continues to work for them as an independent contractor on various projects around the world. Since moving to Maine in 2017, she has worked at the Maine Maritime Museum (MMM) and now works full time at Museum L-A in Lewiston as their Collections and Exhibits Coordinator, managing all collections and storage spaces. She also curates and installs exhibits in their gallery and creates exhibit related programming.

**Catherine Harris** has recently moved to Bath with her husband and young daughter. She has a masters in Folk Studies/Historic Preservation from Western Kentucky University. Her professional bio runs to three pages of work with museums and historical societies all along the East Coast from the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation to the Shelburne Museum, Shelburne, Vermont. She is currently an independent museum consultant focusing on interpreter docent program management, training, evaluation, interpretive planning and implementation, and visitor services/engagement. Catherine is on the Preservation Committee and we look forward to her help and sage advice.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING AWARD

Tom Johnson  
Cosmopolitan Club  
894 Washington Street, Bath

The Cosmopolitan Club's tenure at 894 Washington was 103 years, certainly enough time to make the house historic, but it is also a superb classic Greek Revival design complete with a columned porch on two sides and it sits overlooking City Park. We are not sure who built the house, but it was erected for Dr. Israel Putnam in 1841. He was first mentioned in the History of Bath as the boarding physician to check on quarantined vessels from the West Indies. He also established a small hospital in the Crooker house on High Street after a small pox scare. He was the moderator of the group of men who decided to change the Town of Bath to a city in 1845. He was also Mayor of Bath for seven terms. In later years you could always find him on various city committees.



Tom Johnson has a long and distinguished career in Preservation in Maine. I believe he may have been the first President of Maine Preservation years ago when it was Citizens for Maine Preservation. I do not have Tom's whole curriculum vitae, but I do know he was with York Historical Society in York, Maine and was a curator at the Shaker Museum in Canterbury N.H. before becoming Director of the Victoria Mansion In Portland, ME. I have heard that he has restored more than a few old homes over the years. In other words he is the perfect person for the job of restoring 894 Washington Street. SPI's award is for the exterior. It looks so good with refreshing new paint and needed repairs. We know Tom has plans for the interior and that will come in good time. We just want to say thank you for Bath, for the Historic District and for helping Michele Ober and the Cosmopolitan Club find an appreciative owner.

FRIEND OF PRESERVATION AWARD

Michele Ober  
Last President of the Cosmopolitan Club,  
894 Washington Street, Bath

SPI has two awards tonight for the Dr. Israel Putnam House/Cosmopolitan Club at 894 Washington Street. Usually the Friend of Preservation award is last, but if it weren't for Michele there might not have been a residential award to give for this property. We all know how painful it has been to finally decide that the Cosmopolitan Club needed to be disbanded. It had been an active women's club since 1915 when the old Israel Putnam house was purchased. There were few places at the time where young single women could board. The Club also offered opportunities of companionship, and activities as well as a place to live while working in the many businesses in Bath. Down through the years it was a haven for young women and the keeper of several events such as the Morse High Senior Tea and the Strawberry Shortcake festival. However, membership continued to decline and the old house needed more and more repairs. As President of the club, Michele worked with the members to come up with several ways to prolong the life of the club as well as restore the building. There were several "brainstorming evenings" with many non-profits and other interested people in Bath. Michele asked SPI to assist with guidance on preservation of the building. SPI trustee Tim Brosnihan agreed to help as he had professional experience with maintaining historic homes for public use. Last winter the decision was made to disband the club, sell the house and disperse any remaining monies to other non-profits. Michelle contacted Maine Preservation and their Preserve and Sell Program that allows owners to set up protective covenants on historic buildings and to market them through Maine Preservation. Kellher Williams realtor Rick Bisson, was to market the house. He is also a trustee for SPI and a trustee of Maine Preservation. As soon as it was listed, Tom Johnson, director of the Victoria Mansion Museum in Portland made an offer that Michele accepted for the Club. He would abide by the covenants and restore the building both inside and out.

Thank you Michele for having the foresight to protect this classic Greek Revival house and to pick just the right person to do the restoration.

COMMERCIAL/PUBLIC BUILDING AWARD

Bath Brewing Company (The Klippel or Povich Building)  
141 Front Street, Bath  
Michael Therriault, Terry Geaghan  
and Mollie Jellison, Manager

This building on the east side of Front Street started out life in 1845 as a clothing store and was known as the Harvey Block. Some time in the 1860's the upper stories were damaged by fire. Thomas Harward purchased the store in 1866 and erected another story over the earlier Greek Revival granite remains on the ground floor. The new façade has four tall windows with rounded tops that are indicative of the Italianate Style. It was also known later as the Klippel Block and then the Povich Block as one clothing store replaced another. One can still see the Povich name spelled out on the side in gold lettering. In recent years, we knew it as Brick Store Antiques where you could always find a "Must Have" item and good cheer at Christmas Time. Well now it is the Bath Brewing Company and it is full of good cheer and food to eat most every day of the week. We also understand that you are now brewing your own beer on site as of this past week.

SPI is giving you our Commercial Building Award because you have succeeded in creating a Restaurant and Brew Pub in a historic building in Bath's Downtown with out changing the original brick exterior. This is an example of adaptive reuse at it's best. Exposing the brick inside and opening up the second floor with that long staircase that opens to another large space framed by those four large façade windows is a design plus. Thank You Mollie. We understand that you are responsible for much of the interior design. Terry, your Marine History expertise is perfect for the Brewery's nautical theme including an outstanding logo. It is so appropriate for the area. SPI thanks all of you who contributed to this project.



RESIDENTIAL BUILDING AWARD

Steve and Marie Perry  
Colonel Pendelton Edgecomb House  
118 North Bath Road, Bath

This imposing five-bayed Federal style farmhouse with connected ells and sheds, sits snugly on the hillside curve of North Bath Road overlooking fields and the Kennebec River. It was built around 1794 by Colonel Pendleton Edgecomb for his wife Margaret Main of Woolwich and their eventual family of seven children. Called "Mount Edgecomb" by the Colonel in honor of his ancestral English home, it was built with wood harvested on the property. Five generations of Edgecombs occupied the old farm for 130 years, selling it in 1924 to the James Gillies family who lived there for 40 years. They upgraded the home they called "Fairhaven" with the addition of central heating, an ell with large fireplace to the north, a panelled den, new bathrooms and kitchen improvements. The next owner, George Miller, who bought the house the late 1960's, replaced the original façade of clapboards with shingles. It was then sold to a series of Bed and Breakfast owners and was called "Fairhaven Inn". Again, numerous changes were made to accommodate guests. Steve Perry, a returning Bath native, and his wife Marie bought the house in 2013 and have been working on it ever since. They have completely stripped, painted and repaired the interior; put in new flooring and large walk in closets, had a Kennebec Kitchen installed and have done massive repairs to the exterior and the landscape. The house has been properly insulated and is ready for another 200 years of living.

The Perrys house was on the 2017 SPI House Tour and this past spring they were given annual residential Landscape Awards by the Bath Forestry committee. The award tonight is for their thoughtful renovations and their continued stewardship of a fine old Bath home.

