

ART AT THE
MYSTIC & NOANK LIBRARY
AN INFORMAL WALKING TOUR



ITEMS IN OUR ART COLLECTION WERE GIVEN TO US BY THE ARTISTS, BY FAMILY MEMBERS AND BY LOCAL RESIDENTS, ALL OF WHOM BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT TO SHARE THE BEAUTY IN THIS WORLD AND THAT ART AND LITERATURE COMPLEMENT EACH OTHER.



MYSTIC & NOANK LIBRARY
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ART AT THE MYSTIC & NOANK LIBRARY:
A WALKING TOUR

First Floor ~ Entry Area

1. Ahead to left, over new fiction display: Yngve Edward Soderberg, watercolor of a lobsterman returning home.



2. On the pier wall beside the Circulation Desk:
Kenneth Bates, "Bones of the Earth." Oil on canvas.
Landscape of trees and rocks. Mr. Bates lived on Grove Avenue in Mystic.

3. Far back of Circulation Desk: H. Lee Hirsche, "Collage." Large black and white landscape in ink and netting, signed HLH.

4. Above bookcase behind Circulation Desk: Attributed to Herbert Stoops, 5 trees, small oil on wood in wide grey frame.



5. Over armchair near DVD collection:
Harvey Fuller, "Night Shift." (1942). Watercolor of workers leaving Electric Boat shipyard during World War II.

First Floor ~ Old Building (1893) (Pass under arch to right.)

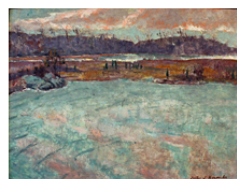
6a. On soffit above arch: Ellery Thompson, "Two-masted gaff-rigged Ship." Oil. Gift of the Friends of the Library.

6b. On soffit above Circulation Desk: James Mitchell, "Nuclear Power Joins the Fleet." Print.

7. On pier: Y. E. Soderberg, "Charles W. Morgan, Mystic, Conn." Etching.

8. On West wall behind patron computers, in a row left to right:
a. G. Gesner, "Bindloss Pond." Oil on wood with dark grey frame; landscape of islands with trees reflecting in water; view across to red and white buildings.

b. Lester J. Boronda, "Towards Money Point." Oil on board. View of property on Masons Island.



c. In 19th century frame: landscape with two figures, one in red jacket.

(Now turn and look down the room towards the East.)



To your left, above club chair:

9. P. Ryder, "Portrait of Captain Elihu Spicer." Capt. Spicer is our Library's founder. He gave the land to the villages of Mystic and Noank (see plaque above fireplace upstairs), and started building the Library but did not live to see the work completed, a task fulfilled by his sister, Sarah Dickinson, and shipping partner Captain Clifford Mallory.

(To your right, on South wall, from West to East)

10. Charlotte Fuller Eastman, "Industrial Landscape." Oil on wood. She was a Noank artist.

11. George Lambert: "Church". Oil on board.

(Straight ahead, on East wall)

12. "The Cottrell Children." Unsigned portrait attributed to Orland Hand Bears of Sag Harbor, Long Island, ca 1852. In this large (49.5 x 45") painting we see the youngest three of the twelve children of Joseph Cottrell (1797-1865) and Fanny Stanton Cottrell (1807-1865). They are (viewer's left to right) Emma Elizabeth (1844-1900), Ida Louise (1847-1878), and Franklin Denison, the little boy with the whip (1850-1852). An older brother, Charles H. (1842-1904), married Georgiana Crary (1844-1919), whose portrait, along with those of her paternal grandparents, you will see upstairs.



13. In the teen area to your right of the Cottrell painting, in the Southeast corner, hang two large bright expressionist paintings by Eugene Witmer, "Beach at 6 am," and "Jazz Fugue."

Stairwell 1893

The staircase itself is worthy of note: the walls have their original marble revetment in three courses, the lowest of Tennessee marble, the wide central zone of Pink Numidian, and the upper band of Red Numidian, both of the latter from North Africa. The stair treads are dark slate with pale green inclusions, and the floors are Italian mosaic work.

14. Marble statue of a child with book inscribed “Evangelium” (= the Gospel)

15. Two photographs:

- a. Marion G. Allyn and Charles B. Allyn, 1912.
- b. Lilian and Marion Gallup, 1880s.

16. Above them: Galed Gesner, “Rhythm.” A Harlem jazz singer entertains a local audience, including redheaded Franny Wood and, looking out at the bottom right corner, the artist himself.



17. Higher up along the stairs are portraits of Captain and Mrs. Joseph Cottrell (the former Fanny Stanton), parents of the three children in the group portrait in the room below. Mrs. Cottrell wears a white lace coif, collar and cuffs and holds a book.

Second Floor ~ Old Building

This magnificent room is crowned by an oak ceiling that resembles an inverted ship’s hull, recalling Captain Spicer’s maritime activities. On axis with the door, straight ahead on the East wall is a fireplace over which a gold-leaf inscription on wood reads: “Elihu Spicer gave this Library to the people.” “Large was his bounty and his soul sincere.” – the last line being a quotation from Thomas Gray’s “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard.”

18. To your immediate left hang four reprint maps of: a. New England from Boston Harbor, b. New England Indians, c. Conn, and parts adjacent in 1777 & d. Old Homes and Homesites of Groton Ct.

19. To your immediate right is a small side room with the Local History collection, dedicated to former Library Director Joanna Case, who is shown with Emily, our long-time library cat. There are also three framed groups of

old Mystic photographs, maps and postcards of the Library, and a plan of Benedict Arnold's campaign against New London.

Returning to the main room, at your right stands a tall case clock by Howard Miller inscribed "Tempus Fugit." Gift of Roberta Donahue and David Snediker.

(On the walls, circling the room counterclockwise, are:)

On South wall: Crary portraits signed by A. I. G., for A. Giles of George Street, Minorities, London, England.



20. Between first row of stacks: portrait of Mrs. Catherine Burrows Crary (1790-1873), holding her parrot. Landscape with harbor behind her.

21. Portrait of her husband, Captain Jesse Crary (1789-1849), who was active in the War of 1812. He wears a pinkie ring on his right hand. View of sea



above his right elbow.

(The son of this couple, Captain George Burrows Crary, married his first cousin Catherine Burrows Latham, and they are the parents of Georgiana Crary who married Charles H. Cottrell, an older brother of the three small children in the group portrait downstairs.)

22. Next stack bay: print, "View of Mystic River and Mystic Bridge, Conn. 1879"

23. Above alcove to viewer's left of fireplace hang portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Gurdon Gates on loan from the Mystic River Historical Society.

24. In alcove:

- a. Cross-stitch image of Emily on black even-weave fabric with gold thread highlights by Charlotte Sechrist of Kilgore, Texas.
- b. "Emily." Oil on board signed L. Lowry 4/01.

25. In magazine-newspaper area:

- a. Interior Renovation 2010 plaque
- b. Ruth Maine Goldsmith bequest plaque.

26. Above Millstone desk: painting of the Connecticut State Flag signed Geo. E. Tingley, Mystic Conn. 1898.

New Building ~ Second Floor

27. Brinkerhof Lee, "Watch Hill Light." Watercolor.

28. Herbert Stoops, portrait of Miss Georgia Fulton. Oil on canvas. She was the last teacher at the one-room schoolhouse on Masons Island, now at the Smithsonian Museum.



29. To left of Director's office: watercolor of boat propped up on land, building lower on hill, two piers into water beyond. No visible signature. Note on back in Joanna Case's hand: "Noank circa 1897" Gift of James Haley.

30. On pier: Carolyn Bentley of Noank, "Floral Print," a small circular painting of three crocus flowers



31. Small portrait of a young girl believed to be Georgiana Cray (1844 - 1919). It may also be the work of A. Giles, painted when Georgiana accompanied her grandparents to London. She would grow up to marry Charles H. Cottrell, older brother of the three children in the group portrait downstairs.

32. Garret Price, "Garden Club Ladies of Mystic," inscribed to Peg Henderson by the artist. No date. It may have been used by *The New Yorker* magazine. Artist's letter on back.

33. To left of elevator: Timothy Mockler of Noank, "Lighthouse at Morgan Point, Noank." Three chairs for watching boats on the Sound.



34. On door of Director's office: Shield-shaped wooden letterbox with dragons. Gift of Bill Ames

35. Wall clock by Richard Arms, Jr. in honor of Nancy McLoughlin, as part of the Centennial Celebration.

36. Robert Stewart, "US Sloop of War Hartford," ship model in case.

Along East wall, above club chairs:

37. and 38. Edward Ryan, "Houses on Mason's Island #1 and #2," two paintings, oil on board.

39. Jessica Jones, "Sketching Group in Noank."

40. Harve Stein, "The New Home," Original illustration for book of the same name.



41. Otto Liebig, photograph of press, quill, spectacles.

42. Carolyn DeFord Penniman after HVW, "Seascape." Oil.

43. Sean Elliott, photographs of Emily.

44. Elizabeth Brast, painting of Emily.

45. Sally Caldwell Fisher "Noank Harbor." Print, 1986.

46. Next to Fire Door: Sally Caldwell Fisher, "May Day Festival, Mystic," Print 28/300 The Mystic Garland Dancers are featured.

Staff Room

47. & 48. Edgar Ruckle, 2 watercolors "Noank Shipyard Dinghy Rack," and "Fords Obsters."

Director's Office Clockwise from the left

49. Ruth Sussler, "View of the Library." Pastel, n.d. Gift of Jackwyn Durrschmidt.

50. James A. Corma, "Library Street Façade." Pen and ink, 1995.

51. Elizabeth Brast, "Elm Street Façade." Print, 1994

52. Deborah McClaren, "Library Street Facade." Pen and ink, 2004.

53. Robert Cale, "Outlaw in Back of the Island." Print, n.d.

54. Otto Liebig, "Fishing Boats." Photograph, n.d.

Children's Room ~ First Floor, New Building

1. To your left Small quilted panel depicting a cat.
2. Michelle Cady, "Mystic & Noank Library," watercolor.
3. Pamela Zagarenski, "Labyrinth," oil on canvas. Caldecott Honor Medalist Pamela Zagarenski is a brilliant painter of many worlds. As well as illustrating picture books, she creates sculptures and large paintings.
4. & 6. Pamela Zagarenski, Two "Heart People." Large cloth sculptures originally displayed in the window of Whyevernot (a downtown shop) during the Valentine season.
5. (between #4 and #6) Harvey Fuller, "Thousand and One Nights."
7. Edward Comrie, two hooked rugs, a. Panda and b. sickle moon. The late Mr. Comrie was a good friend of the Children's Room. He and his wife, Ramona, gave the land for the addition to the Library.
8. Behind the Circulation Desk, V.H.T. Dean, "Library Cats," Print dated April, 1990.
9. On the East wall, Pamela Zagarenski, two large oil paintings on canvas.
10. Between the stacks, Judith Westcott, "Lincoln Collage."



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