



ANNUAL CHATHAM HOUSE TOUR 2026 GUIDE BOOK

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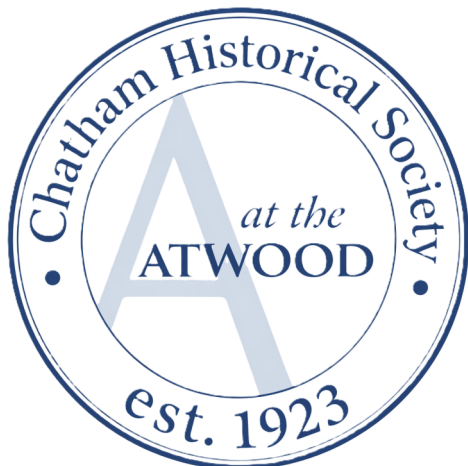
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01 63 Old Harbor Rd

02 43 Seaview St

03 59 Seaview St

04 11 Library Ln

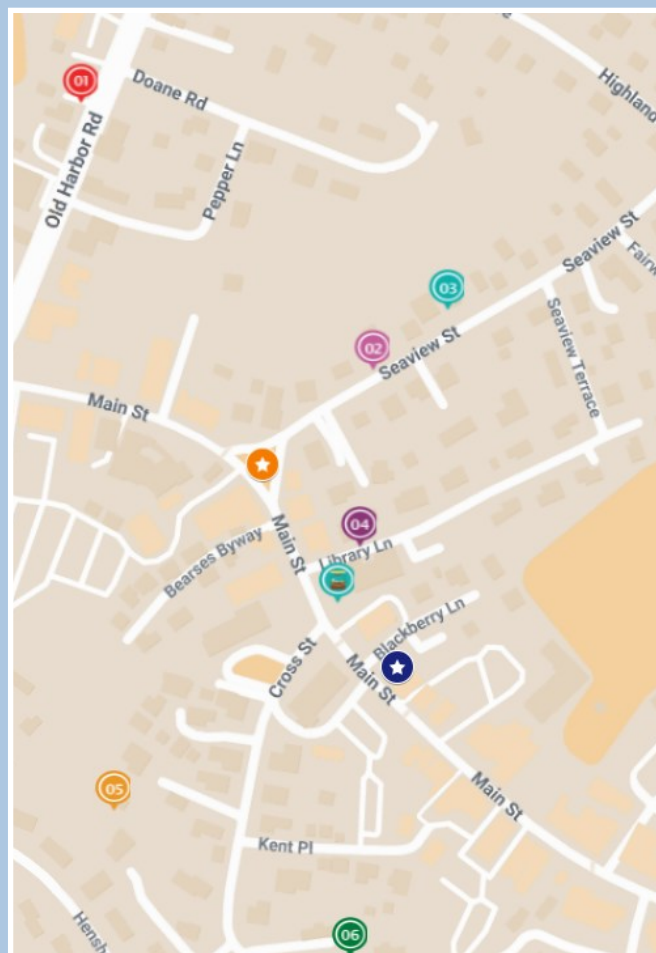
Lemonade Stand

05 50 Cross St

06 15 Shattuck Pl

Sears Monument

Mayo House



1. 63 Old Harbor Road

2. 43 Seaview Street

3. 59 Seaview Street

4. 11 Library Lane

5. 50 Cross Street

6. 15 Shattuck Place

Bonus Locations:

- Lemonade Stand on the lawn of Eldredge Library on Main Street
- The Mayo House on Main St. (one of the oldest houses in Chatham) is open for tours
- Sears Monument

Google maps version available here:
chathamhistoricalsociety.org/housetourmap/

Thank you for signing up for the Annual House Tour in support of the Atwood Museum, home of the Chatham Historical Society!

Please refer to the map on the previous page for addresses and locations of the homes and bonus locations. You can also find a digital map in your email or at the link provided.

If you bought tickets for multiple people, please send this document to anyone who will be attending with you.

Procedure:

We recommend beginning at either house #1 (63 Old Harbor Road) or house #6 (15 Shattuck Place) and working your way through the list. **This is designed as a walking tour**, and all houses are within walking distance of each other and of Main Street. If you have physical limitations, you are welcome to have someone drive you between houses, but please note that there are streets with NO street parking. **Please be considerate of neighbors and do not park in front of driveways, block in cars, or use private parking lots that are not listed below.**

When arriving at your first home, please give the name that the reservation is under to one of our docents. They will check you off our list and provide you with blue protective booties and a wristband. Booties must always be worn when inside the homes. You will take the booties with you throughout the tour to reuse at each house. We also ask that you wear your wristband throughout the day to show that you have checked in when you arrive at other houses.

When inside the homes, please be respectful of the owners and do not touch any of their belongings or venture outside the boundaries of the available rooms. Any room that is off-limits will be blocked off from access. **NO PHOTOGRAPHS ARE PERMITTED INSIDE THE HOMES.**

In the event of heavy rain, the tour will be canceled. We will reach out via email to inform you of any weather-related changes.

Parking information:

- **Please carpool!**
- Parking is available at the following locations:
 - Holy Redeemer Church at 57 Highland Ave.
 - St. Martin's Lodge at 52 Old Harbor Road
 - Municipal Lot behind the Orpheum Theater
 - Street Parking on Main Street
 - Atwood Museum (10 minute walk from house #5)

Thank you again for your support and we hope you enjoy the Annual House Tour. If you have any additional questions, please reach out to us via email at atwoodreservations@gmail.com or phone at

(508) 945-2493

House 1: 63 Old Harbor Rd

Between 1849 and 1853 Joel Sparrow purchased two parcels on Old Harbor Road, one from Esther Howes, and one from Bathsheba Howes. Sparrow built the one- and one-half story Greek Revival during that period of time and lived there with his wife Mary until 1911. The house was then sold to Captain Hezekiah F. Doane who then sold it again in 1913 to Harriett L. Loveland. In 1921 Loveland granted the property to Charles and Julia Devine. Two additional generations of the Devine family owned the house until 1986 when it was sold to John W. McCarte. In 1995 the property was sold and held in trust by the Lento family.

The Sparrow house is clad with cedar shake shingle. The main entry is on the east elevation on a hipped roof porch with tree square columns. Adjacent to the entry door is a single double hung window and above the porch are a pair of six over six double hung windows in the half story gable end. Deep eaves are supported by corner boards that frame the house. An ell projects from the north elevation with two double hung windows in the facade.



The current owners purchased the home in 2020 with the goal to restore and preserve the overall historic character of this quintessential antique Chatham cottage. The original scale and structure of the house have been maintained and the footprint of the house is as it was originally built in the 1850's. Minimal changes include: removing the deep porch on the gable facade replacing it with a narrow porch across the gable end and the ell, replacing an asphalt roof with red cedar shingles, replacing the two windows in the gable half story with a single window, replacing all windows with wood true divided lights, replacing vinyl shutters with true hurricane shutters, and centering the entry door on the new porch. In order to utilize the original interior space, shed dormers were added to the south elevation of the gable end portion of the house, and front and back dormers were added to the ell on the north.

In addition to the restoration of the 1850's home, the owners also rebuilt the adjacent building at 65 Old Harbor Road. This was originally built as a garage in the 1920's and was later converted to two apartments. It was determined that this building was not of historical significance and because it was in considerable disrepair it could not be saved. A new structure was built to match the lines and size of the original, maintaining the composition of the two buildings on this property. The footprint of this structure was moved five feet further from the property line with the abutting neighbor.

(Information courtesy of the Chatham Preservation Awards.)

House 2: 43 Seaview St.

Seaview street branched off from the town center in the 19th century, as Chatham Village continued to grow. Many homes on this street were built during this time. This homestead belonged to Captain Benjamin Franklin Eldredge (born 1813; died 1890) who purchased it in 1877 from Levi Harding. He devoted his later years to running it as a working farm raising corn, strawberries and vegetables. The present dwelling dates from 1775 and was moved to this Seaview St. in the late 1800's.

Cap't B.F. Eldredge bequeathed the property to his son, Marcus Eldredge whose primary residence was in Cambridge MA. Marcus and his wife visited infrequently and he later ran afoul of the law by neglecting to pay his tax bill of \$2.26. The Town of Chatham tax collector auctioned "land and buildings thereon" in 1900. The buyer was Isaac Small of Brewster with a high bid of \$17.

(Information courtesy of Baysie Wightman)





House 3: 59 Seaview St.

Nestled in the heart of Chatham, this delightful three-story home offers the perfect blend of location, character, and charm. Just a short stroll from Chatham's beloved shops, beaches, golf courses, restaurants, and local attractions, it provides an ideal home base for enjoying all the best the town has to offer.

Originally owned by a free-spirited world traveler, former nursery school teacher, and self-described hippie, this one-of-a-kind home reflects a lifetime of curiosity, creativity, and joy. Every room has been thoughtfully curated with a sense of playfulness and whimsy, creating spaces that feel both welcoming and inspiring.

Throughout the home, you'll find an eclectic collection of artwork and handcrafted pieces sourced from local artisans and makers, celebrating the creativity and craftsmanship of the Cape. Charming details, colorful touches, and unexpected treasures around every corner give the home a warm personality that is impossible to replicate.

Be sure not to miss out on the desk in the second floor office, which is made from the wood of JFK's sailboat.

House 4: 11 Library Lane

Perched atop a knoll overlooking Main St. sits the majestic Victorian house at 11 Library Lane. The original residence was built in 1820 by Cap't Richard Sears and was one of town's most impressive residences. Known as "Squire" Sears, he was the largest landowner in the area and his family homestead farm is the current site of Chatham Bars Inn.

In 1881, as the Gilded Age was unfolding, the property was purchased by Danial Webster Nickerson, a well-known master of transporting cargo up and down the Atlantic coastline. Cap't Nickerson soon realized he needed more room for his many guests visiting Chatham. He commissioned Boston David E. Edwards to rebuild the residence making sure much of the original architecture was maintained. The Victorian influence, present throughout, was the work of Boston architect George M. Harding, who was also a Chatham resident.

At the turn of the century, the residence was run as a guest house to accommodate the increasing number of visitors to Chatham during the summer months. It was later purchased by Elnathan Kelley and named "The Chestnut Inn." Mr. Kelley also ran a restaurant next door called "The Green Dragon Restaurant" (now "The Captain Table"). During World War I, the guest house and restaurant catered to men stationed at the now defunct Naval Air Station in Chatham Port.

In 1938, the Harry Blackman family bought both the inn and the restaurant. They chose the convert the house back to a residence and devote their attention to the restaurant, renamed "Blackman's Restaurant." They developed a reputation for good home cooking and lines often formed outside the entrance.

The Blackmans sold the property in 1959 to the McKewan family who reopened the property as the "The Town House." They sold the restaurant to the Haven's who opened it as "Haven's Captain Table."

Russell and Sven Peterson purchased the property in 1974 and renamed it "The Town House Inn." They dedicated themselves to restoring the guesthouse to the magnificence of Cap't Nickerson's time.





House 5: 50 Cross St.

A Cape Cod Summer House with Personality (and a Serious Ice Cream Problem)

This Cape Cod summer house started, fittingly, with a patch of land and a very good sense of location. Thirty-plus years ago, the owner Barbara picked a lot close to town—close enough that “going out” often means a walk for coffee, a bite to eat, or what might be the family’s most consistent tradition: ice cream.

The house has been quietly expanding ever since—As the three daughters had families of their own, so did the house, eventually accommodating a full cast of amazing son-in-laws, loving grandchildren, many funny friends and whoever else gets swept into summer.

At the center is Barbara—artist, collector, and someone who considers wall space a challenge rather than a limit. Her own work hangs alongside pieces picked up at galleries and the Chatham arts festival, creating a joyful mix where nothing takes itself too seriously, but everything feels intentional.

The family design philosophy is simple: color is good, humor is necessary, and if something makes you smile unexpectedly, it definitely stays. The result is a home that feels less like it was decorated and more like it was happily accumulated—over time, with love, laughter, and probably a stop for ice cream on the way back from town.



House 6: 15 Shattuck's Place

The home located at 15 Shattuck Place was originally a barn adjacent to 11 Shattuck Place. The house and barn were both moved from a lot near the corner of Bridge Street and Silverleaf Avenue, behind the lighthouse.

When David Howes purchased the two structures in 1872, he moved them to Shattuck Place in 1925. The barn had stood immediately behind the house with a significant amount of open land to its rear. When Eastward Homes purchased the entire property in December of 2012, the barn was moved back about 140 feet, but can still be seen from Shattuck Place. A non-historic shed and garage were removed, and a new foundation was installed. A 1 1/2 story addition was added to the side and rear of the barn to adapt the building to a residence. The historic features of the front of the barn were maintained. The barn and hayloft doors are original as is the hardware. There is now a kitchen and a guest bedroom suite on the first floor. In the addition, there is a dining room, powder room, and new master bedroom suite. The owners were able to keep the openness of the first floor by using a coffered ceiling to conceal supporting beams.

(Information courtesy of the Chatham Preservation Awards.)

Bonus Location: Mayo House

Information courtesy of the Chatham Conservation Foundation:

The Josiah Mayo House located at 540 Main Street is an excellent example of life on Main Street in the 1800s. It was built between 1818 and 1820 by Josiah Mayo, a Blacksmith by trade, who was Postmaster in Chatham for 40 years, Treasurer for 27 years and Selectman for two years. The house was occupied by members of the family until 1938. In 1974 it was purchased by Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank, and two years later it became the property of the Chatham Conservation Foundation. The CCF has restored the house. Many local residents and visitors tour the Mayo House each summer.



The Mayo House is open for tours during the hours of the House Tour. Make sure to swing by and see one of Chatham's oldest houses.

Bonus Location: Sears Monument

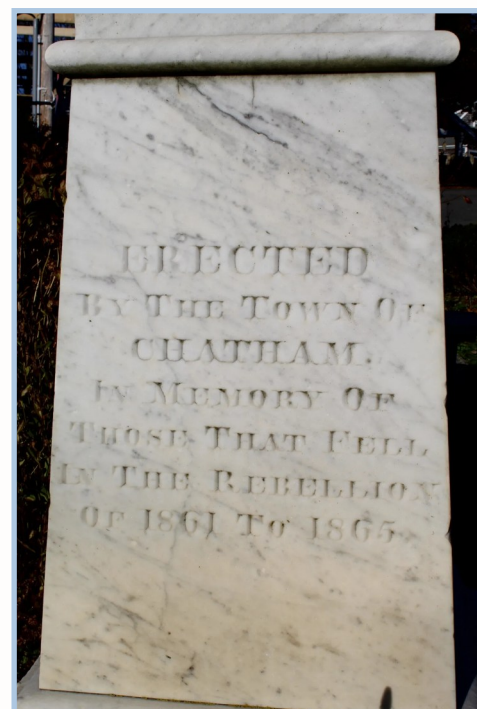
Information courtesy of Patrick Browne, published in the Atwood Museum's Cape Cod Chronicle column in 2020:

Sears Park is a small, attractively landscaped triangle in the center of scenic Chatham. In March 1867, the town voted unanimously to erect a soldiers' monument in front of the high school (a bit west on Main Street where the Chatham Community Center now stands). Why the site was changed is unclear. The simple marble obelisk was instead built at the junction of Main and Seaview Streets near the Universalist Church (now Episcopal) and adjacent to the town water pump (now gone). It was dedicated, according to the inscription, "in memory of those that fell in the Rebellion of 1861 to 1865."

Chatham sent 264 men to serve in the Army and six who served in the Navy for a total of 270. An additional 22 men from out of town were recruited and credited to Chatham. Thirteen Chatham men did not survive the war. Their names, dates and locations of death are recorded on the monument.

During the first year of the war, recruiting from Chatham was slow with only a few serving. This changed in July 1862 when the town voted to grant a \$200 bounty to each volunteer and \$4 per month to their families while they were away. This was common throughout Massachusetts, however most towns took such steps to offer bounties earlier in the war. With that vote, as well as Lincoln's call for 300,000 more volunteers in August 1862, enlistments from Chatham increased. The first significant group to volunteer consisted of 23 men who signed up in August 1862 with the 43rd Massachusetts Infantry. This unit was stationed in New Bern, North Carolina and saw only minor combat.

The largest group from Chatham, 29 men who signed up in December 1863, served with the 58th Massachusetts Infantry. A significant number of these men had served with the 43rd Massachusetts (which was a nine months unit) and reenlisted. The 58th Massachusetts served in the Overland Campaign in Virginia during the spring of 1864 and saw very heavy combat. In fact, all but one of Chatham's 13 war dead served with the 58th Massachusetts and died during the Overland Campaign. Put another way, of the 29 who joined the 58th Massachusetts, 12 did not survive. This represents a high casualty rate for that unit in a short span of time—a bit over a month from May to mid-June. It must have been shocking to lose a dozen members of the community so suddenly.



Bonus Location: Eldredge Library

Information courtesy of Eldredge Library:



The Eldredge Public Library (EPL) was a gift to the people of Chatham from one of its natives, Marcellus Eldredge, who was a successful businessman and legislator in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, yet retained close ties to his home town. In 1894 he purchased land on Main Street for \$1,000. Construction of the new library took a year and cost about \$30,000.

Architect Albion M. Marble of Fall River, a student of H. H. Richardson, designed the original 67' by 34' building in the Renaissance/Romanesque Revival Style, with Quincy granite foundation, red West Barnstable brick walls with pink mortar, Longmeadow brownstone trim, a slate roof with terra cotta cresting, and eyebrow dormers. The interior was finished with quartered oak wainscoting, a carved oak fireplace mantle, Italian marble mosaic in the vestibule, and two stained glass windows with solid medallion facsimiles of the marks of L. Giunta and Aldus, both early Italian book crafters.

Meanwhile, the EPL was legally established as a corporation "for the formation and maintenance of a public library in Chatham." Five men (including Marcellus Eldredge) and their successors were named as corporation members. The Library was dedicated in formal ceremonies on July 4, 1896, and opened to the public a week later.

The lawn of Eldredge Library will be the site of this year's lemonade stand. Please stop by for a refreshment during the tour. We will also be selling tickets to the tour.

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Thank you to our sponsors, committee, docents and volunteers:

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Julie Fleischmann

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Katherine Touafek

Baysie Wightman

And a huge thank you to the homeowners for their generosity!