Hello Friends,

In this second update for the 2021 Fresh Coat Initiative: Post Pandemic Spruce Up, I am happy to tell you that the Winkler Bakery exterior painting is complete, and we will move on to the Miksch House. The Blum House restoration continues with the work on the rear porch. The deterioration of this magnitude has been decades in the making (see pictures below), but our repairs increase the porch structure’s stability, and the wood rot of the exterior stairs has been removed as well (see photos below). The Blum House will be the future home to our new “Preservation & Woodcrafts Lab,” in which the rear porch will become an outdoor classroom space.

Mid-April, we are planning a "Jack of All Trades" painting week for Old Salem and MESDA staff. We each will take an element of the Main Street environment, scrape, prepare and paint.

More "before & after" photographs to come as we continue with the 2021 Fresh Coat Initiative.

Many thanks,
Frank Vagnone
President & CEO Old Salem Museums & Gardens and The Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts

(left to right) Blum House rear porch structure deterioration; Stair rot; Repaired stair; Repaired porch structure.

(left to right) Next up is Miksch House painting; Locations for "Jack of all Trades" staff painting week (handrails, street barriers, signposts, and fences)