

(Left to right) First Boys' School (c. 1794) was most recently restored and the piazza reconstructed in 2018. The gates to the piazza were constructed based upon historic records. By 2019, the large gates proved to be far to heavy and wide for the manner in which they were constructed, and they buckled and broke off the pintle. Our restoration team worked with the Historic Resources Commission to create a new design that alleviates the inherent problems of the last design. The expert repairs and restoration work were completed by craftsman Ben Masterson, with the logistical assistance of Erik Skarzynski, Director of Facilities, and his team. Anthony Mugnolo, Bill Tobiassen, and Blake Stevenson helped with the installation of the gates, and Blake made much of the hardware for them.

Hello Friends,

This first 2022 Fresh Coat Initiative update highlights some of the less obvious preservation work being completed. Often these small projects go unnoticed as larger, more public restorations are highlighted. In 2022 we plan to target these smaller projects that contribute to the larger restoration and preservation context. We will be working on the distinctive roofs, fences, steps, and ancillary constructions that combine to create the sense of place that is the Old Salem Historic District. These projects may seem small, but they will require a great deal of preservation thought and craftsman execution.

Many thanks,

Frank Vagnone

President & CEO Old Salem Museums & Gardens and The Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts



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Vogler Gun Shop (top row, c. 1831) normally sees a large number of visitors, but during the lockdown it has remained closed due to its small size. We have taken the opportunity to repair many of the access elements surrounding the building including repair to the fencing and steps. Miksch House (bottom row, c. 1771) back stair was deteriorating and in need of a full replacement. The expert repairs and restoration work were completed by craftsman Ben Masterson, with the logistical assistance of Erik Skarzynski, Director of Facilities, and his team.