

DEAR COTTAGE LIVING . . .

“We’ll give this cottage to anyone willing to move it”



Save this historic structure from the wrecking ball—with architect Hoyte Johnson’s vision, it just needs a new home

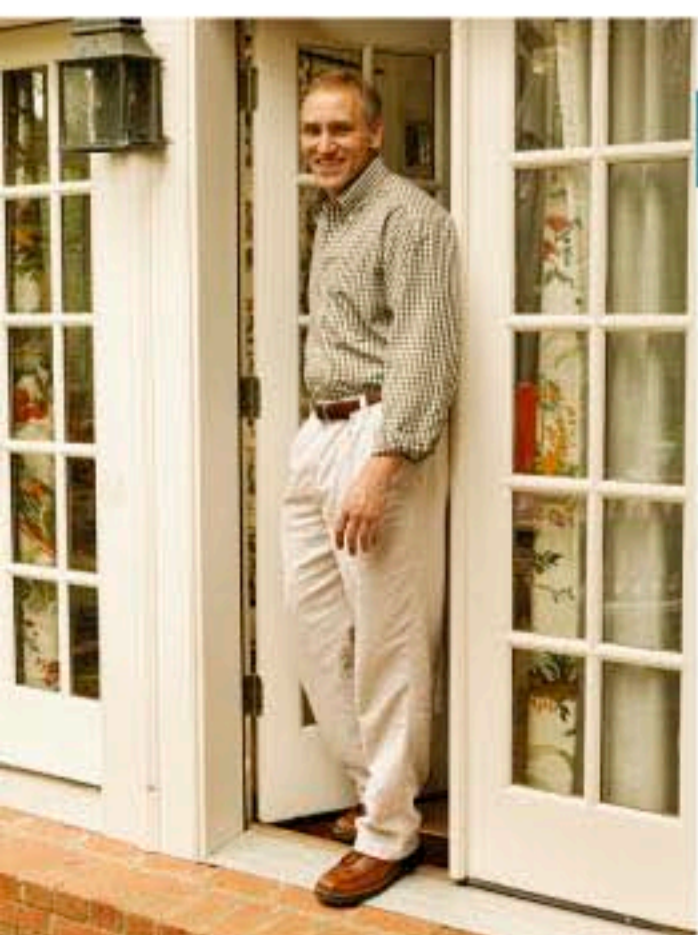
ONCE HOME TO A LONGTIME EDITOR/PUBLISHER OF THE *FRIDAY HARBOR JOURNAL*, the circa-1910 Virgil Frits House in Friday Harbor, Washington, may be headed for the obituaries. It’s scheduled for demolition, but the city will hold the wrecking ball if someone’s inspired to move it elsewhere. A reader’s interest “might be the difference between saving the cottage and its destruction,” says Sandy Strehlou, local historic preservation coordinator. Here is Hoyte’s advice for updating the cottage once it’s on a new lot: Rebuild the porch walls to match the existing wood siding and paint it all in coastal grays with native reddish brown sashes. Welcome visitors to an intimate garden space by adding a charming trellis, a loose stone terrace, and two steamer chairs. Create a neighborly entry with rounded stone steps, wicker rockers, delicate lanterns, and an oak front door. For more info on saving this cottage, call Sandy Strehlou at 360/378-2810.



Does your cottage need more curb appeal? For details on how we might come to the rescue, see page 151.



Take it from Hoyte



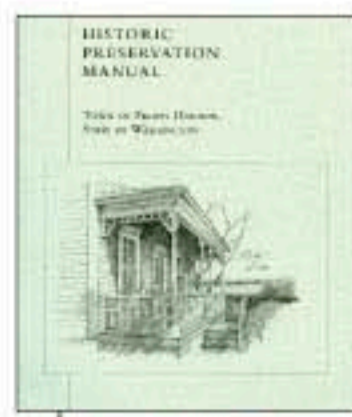
MAILBOX
“I couldn’t resist this old-fashioned mailbox and placed it on the arbor for a unique touch.”
Copper Steamer Trunk Mailbox (70010860) from Antique Hardware and Home; 800/422-9982 or antiquehardware.com



DOOR
“A secure-looking planked entry door will give a subtle nod to the nautical roots of this cottage.”
IWP Custom Estate Entrance Door (Model 1350) by JELD-WEN Windows & Doors; 877/535-3462 or jeld-wen.com



HANDRAIL
“A great accent, this wrought iron handrail juxtaposes the cottage’s horizontal vocabulary with that of the free-flowing lines of nature.”
Tree Branch Rail by Black Mountain Iron Works; 888/689-9021 or blackmountainiron.com



SAVING GRACEFULLY
“Before starting the restoration of a historic home, visit neighborhoods with houses from the same era as your cottage to familiarize yourself with the details and materials,” says Sandy. **The town of Friday Harbor publishes a “Historic Preservation Manual”** to guide restoration efforts. Check for similar resources in your town. ▢

PRODUCER: HOYTE JOHNSON; ILLUSTRATOR: MARK MCLAUGHLIN; PHOTOGRAPHER (PORTRAIT): ROBBIE CAPONETTO; WRITER: AMY BURKE