



### "This Old House"

When I read about the history of this house, I not only wanted to paint this on porcelain but also wanted to restore and capture the beauty of this lovely home.

This beautiful old two story home, built in 1902 in the city of Rome, Georgia has only had three owners in its life span. In 2004 it was sold to the Walburns and moved outside the city walls of Rome to the country, surrounded with peace and tranquility.

The painting of scenes and buildings requires a special touch, a vitality and recognition of a liveness.

A master painter of scenes, with whom I studied with, who was an excellent source of the "How To" in painting Architecture; experienced in capturing the essence of old buildings and houses, passed this on to me; the importance of history in all the seasons of Time.

Initially, it is important to choose the correct piece of porcelain. I, myself, like to use tiles. Tiles have a flat surface and are much easier to work with.

First clean and ready the porcelain. Next choose the subject and get several photos at different angles, so that you can view the subject from all perspectives. After creating your design, make a copy and use Saral, wax free paper to place your design onto the porcelain.

Next mix your pen oil with a very light color to keep your design in place. I use the color Smoke. Once the design is in place, it is ready to fire. 0-16

The second step is to master the roof focusing on the steep pitched roof and abrupt gables. This house is a gambrel roof style using slate type shingles. The gables consist of wood shingles. First step is painting the roof, use Rich Brown and light shades of Chestnut Brown. Each time this house is fired put a light coat of these color onto the roof so as not to build up too much paint. Now do the gables, I used a light apple green with a little touch of Chartreuse. Using these greens also in the trees and the shrubs with a hint of Navy Blue to bring the reflection of light thru the trees and shrubs. Do not forget to place your color on the lake and leave some highlights. The water around the edge of the lake needs Dark Rich Brown and the water itself, I used light shades of Dark Gray and not blue because lake water is a different color from ocean water. The grass should be a nice Autumn Green. Now the second fire. 0-17

On your third painting step, you need to make the roof look like metal shingles, using Dark Brown pen ink, and also do the gables with Light Brown ink to put in the wood shingles. This time I decided to paint my house with Raised Paste for Gold using a soft light coat and let dry over night. Add some Autumn Green to your trees, your shrubs and your grass, then put another coat on your roof and the gables and a touch of Black Green on the lake. Time to fire. 0-17

Fourth fire consist of touchups and attention to the shadows in all areas of the subject. With me I was not satisfied with the fourth fire so I gave her another coat of makeup. This time I added the "Ballerina" which has special meaning to the current owners of this home, Lee and Jackie Walburn. Another coat of Black Green on the lake and Dark Brown at the edge near the grass.

When this "Old House" was completed and ready for framing, I felt as if I had moved her again to another location. She not only came alive in my painting but she came alive within my heart.

**Submitted by Vera Ables Gandy, Porcelain Artist & Teacher of Atlanta, GA**