Holidays at Hagley

NOVEMBER 24 • HOLIDAYS AT HAGLEY BEGINS
DECEMBER 12, 14, 19, & 21 • HOLIDAY NIGHTS AT HAGLEY
JANUARY 20 • KID INVENTORS’ DAY
Dear Friends,

I have a new appreciation for all things gingerbread, especially as we get ready to enjoy Hagley’s sixth annual Gingerbread House contest. The perfect complement to our Holidays at Hagley “Treasures and Traditions” display, the gingerbread houses transform our barn into a holiday landscape. This issue of Hagley Magazine is filled with great ideas for family outings, even after the holidays, including activities for Black History Month in February and Women’s History Month in March. During Kid Inventors’ Day the Hagley Visitor Center will feature three floors of activities to inspire your creativity. What will you invent?

The business of business is always a focal point of the Hagley Library and this issue includes several articles about the important work being done in the library. The Hagley Prize, an annual award for the best book in business history, was awarded in 2023 to two books, Underwriters of the United States, by Hannah Farber, and Buying into Change: Mass Consumption, Dictatorship, and Democratization in Franco’s Spain, 1939-1982, by Alejandro J. Gómez del Moral. The library recently opened the papers of Penrose R. Hoopes, who was an inventor and engineer in Philadelphia. Hoopes invented numerous automatic machines, particularly those used in the production of hardware, clocks, paper, and rubber goods. The Hagley Library also holds a number of significant 20th-century design collections, including industrial designer Thomas Lamb whose work centered on Universal Design. Hagley’s Library Conservation Department prioritized the Lamb collection of artifacts for assessment, conservation, and rehousing this year. Read more about his fascinating collection and the “Wedge-Lock” handles he designed.

This past summer provided an opportunity for Hagley to put into practice our mission to inspire people to be innovative in their own lives. In August the United States Patent and Trademark Office hosted at Hagley a Women’s Entrepreneurship program on educating the next generation of innovators. We were thrilled to work with the USPTO and USPTO Director Kathi Vidal on the program.

Thank you for the support you’ve given to Hagley as donors, members, and friends. Please consider donating to Hagley this season at hagley.org/give to support the care for collections, maintaining the 235-acre site, and so we can offer programs to stimulate the mind and imagination. We couldn’t do the work we do without your generous support.
VISIT HAGLEY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON to experience Eleutherian Mills, the ancestral home of the du Pont family, decorated with festive lights, trees, and trinkets. This year’s theme, Treasures and Traditions, explores the stories of long-held and established du Pont family traditions, while also showcasing some of the museum’s most treasured du Pont family artifacts.

As the cold, winter weather encroaches upon us, we look forward to spending quality time with family and friends within our warm, comfortable homes. We give gifts, play games, and enjoy simple pleasures that only a fire, a good book, and a hot chocolate can provide. This season also allows us to take a moment to pause and gaze upon the small objects that may have been taken for granted in the warmer months.

While strolling through the home, you will encounter scenes of traditional du Pont family celebrations, including New Year’s Calling, a time-honored occasion of visiting family and friends on New Year’s Day and presenting small, handmade gifts. In the kitchen and dining room, a delicious Twelfth Night feast is being prepared and served. A Twelfth Night dessert, which has a silver bean or token baked inside, is waiting to proclaim the “King” of the evening as each slice is served.

In each room, you will come across charming displays of some of the smallest, yet most personally treasured, objects that the du Pont family used and held dear: a simple pocket watch, a painstakingly embellished piece of whitework, and, of course, the small toys that let a child’s imagination run wild. Sometimes, and especially during the holidays, it is the littlest things in life that give us the most pleasure.

On certain December weekdays you can enjoy an evening tour of the residence and take in the festive decorations. These tours sell out quickly, so be sure to book early!

On December 2, enjoy a visit with Santa and take a holiday photo. After your Santa visit, see the colorful entries in Hagley’s sixth annual Gingerbread House Contest.

Hagley will be open Christmas Eve Day, December 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and will be closed on Christmas Day, December 25.
THE HAGLEY CRAFT FAIR, held October 21 & 22, 2023, featured Emerging Crafters who are new to their craft—in business for fewer than five years—and reside in Delaware.

To assist in the development and success of these new artisans, tents and tables were supplied and space fees were waived. Their efforts were supported by the Delaware Division of the Arts.

Don’Tay Brady, from Newark, Delaware, created A Flicker of Daisy in 2023, and makes candles designed to “provide our customers with a touch of warmth and happiness.”

Also specializing in olfactory delights is Sixth Scents, from Wilmington, Delaware. Sixth Scents sells nontoxic, essential-oil-based perfumes in handblown Egyptian glass bottles.

The third Emerging Crafter was The Autumn Leaf Co., founded in August 2020 by Dierra Cooper. The Autumn Leaf Co. specializes in quality, 100% vegan, cruelty-free art supplies.
The Hagley Gingerbread House Contest is back for its sixth year with the theme “Treasures and Traditions.” Gingerbread houses designed by individuals, families, and community groups will focus on what family values, heirlooms, and heritage mean to them. Join in celebrating this year’s competitors by visiting their displays in the festively decorated Hagley Barn and voting for your favorites. The winners in each of the three competition categories earn $100 Amazon gift cards and a Hagley Membership—or complimentary admission passes for the winning community group.

Registration for the contest opened on October 1 and all houses must be dropped off to the Hagley Barn on either November 18 or 19. The displays and voting are open during regular museum hours from Thanksgiving Weekend through January 1. The winners of the contest will be announced on December 26 so there’s plenty of time to see the winning submissions during your holiday break. We look forward to seeing and sharing this year’s inspiring creations.

Gingerbread House Contest
November 24 through January 1 • 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Free with admission
Hagley.org/gingerbread
THE HAGLEY CAR SHOW featured hundreds of cars for visitors to view and featured “Bygone Brands,” cars from brands that no longer exist.
Winter Happenings

JANUARY: On January 20, Hagley celebrates the inventive spirit and creative potential of America’s youth with Kid Inventors’ Day programming. Located in the Nation of Inventors exhibition and the new DuPont Discovery Loft—all inside the Hagley Visitor Center—families will be inspired by past inventions and kids will be encouraged to create tomorrow’s innovations.

FEBRUARY: Hagley will introduce new programs for Black History Month exploring stories of innovations by people of color in Delaware and beyond. Hagley’s museum curatorial team has made exciting discoveries about the identities and stories of inventors represented in our unparalleled collection of patent models. These stories and more will be highlighted all month long through various programs and resources at the museum and online.

MARCH: To celebrate Women’s History Month, Hagley will highlight the contributions of women innovators throughout American history. From 19th-century inventors to pioneering 20th-century work in historic preservation to entrepreneurship in the 21st century, tours and special programs will shed light on the countless ways women innovators have shaped and continue to shape our nation.

Keep an eye on your inbox and Hagley’s social media channels for updates about exciting, thematic programs coming to Hagley this winter.
HAGLEY MUSEUM AND LIBRARY and the Business History Conference jointly offer an annual prize for the best book in business history, broadly defined. The prize has become known for recognizing innovative studies that have the potential to expand the boundaries of the business history discipline. In 2023 two books were so honored: Underwriters of the United States by Hannah Farber (University of North Carolina Press, 2021), and Buying into Change: Mass Consumption, Dictatorship, and Democratization in Franco’s Spain, 1939–1982 by Alejandro J. Gómez del Moral (University of Nebraska Press, 2021).

Underwriters of the United States traces how American maritime insurers used their position at the pinnacle of global trade to shape the formation of the United States. During the American Revolution, they helped the U.S. negotiate foreign loans, sell state debts, and establish a single national bank. Afterward, they increased their influence by lending money to the federal government and to its citizens. Even as federal and state governments began to encroach on their domain, maritime insurers adapted, preserving their autonomy and authority through extensive involvement in the formation of commercial law. Leveraging their claims to unmatched expertise, they operated free from government interference while simultaneously embedding themselves into the nation’s institutional fabric. Farber’s book received the Hagley Prize for the best book in business history in 2023.

Buying into Change examines how the development of a mass consumer society under the dictatorship of General Francisco Franco (1939–1975) set the stage for Spain’s transition to democracy. It does so by tracing the spread and social impact of new foreign-influenced department stores, of imported innovations such as modern mass advertising, and of consumer magazines that promoted foreign products. Spain’s new globally oriented commerce ultimately sold retailers and shoppers not just foreign ways of buying and selling but also subversive ideas. Imported 1960s fashions brought along countercultural notions on issues such as gender equality. And as Spaniards consumed more like their foreign neighbors, they increasingly viewed themselves as cosmopolitan and European and identified with liberal political conditions abroad, thus laying the social foundations for democratization and European integration.
During the winter months, Hagley’s exhibition, Nation of Inventors, will be open to members and other visitors. This must-see exhibition celebrates the American spirit of ingenuity by taking visitors on an interactive journey from the early years of the patent system, in the 1790s, through the “golden age” of American invention, in the late 1800s. The exhibition features more than 120 patent models from Hagley’s extensive collection.

The rest of the museum will be closed all of January, Tuesdays through Thursdays in February, and every Wednesday starting January 3. The closed areas will include the Powder Yard and the du Pont Residence and gardens.

“These closures give Hagley staff the opportunity to tackle projects that impact the visitor experience throughout the year,” said Museum & Audience Engagement Director Mike Adams. “Like Winterthur, Longwood Gardens, Nemours, and other large sites, Hagley will use these scheduled closures to address essential ongoing historic preservation and grounds maintenance that can be challenging—if not impossible—when the property is open for visitation.”

Hagley Members are welcome to walk the property on Wednesdays after checking in at the Visitor Center. Keep in mind that some projects may limit access to certain areas. Check the Hagley website and follow us on social media to stay up to date about hours of operation.

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The collection of Penrose Robinson Hoopes (1892-1976) is now open to the public at Hagley Museum and Library. This collection consists of materials from Hoopes’ career as an inventor and engineer in Philadelphia and includes blueprints, correspondence, mechanical drawings, and manuscript and bibliographic material. Hoopes specialized in the development of high-production automatic machinery, creating machines for businesses such as the Campbell Soup Company, the American Chicle Company, Johnson & Johnson, and the Ferracute Machine Company. He was also an avid horologist and authored Connecticut Clockmakers of the Eighteenth Century, as well as an extensive compilation catalog of materials on early American inventors and inventions.

Hoopes’ blueprint collection includes drawings of his machines for the Campbell Soup Company dating from the 1920s into the 1940s. Of note is the Diana Dicing Machine, which is the foundational machine for the Campbell chicken noodle soup that exists today. Also included are materials for the Ferracute Machine Company, who sold ballistics machines to the Soviet Union as a part of the Allied effort during World War II.

A particularly interesting part of the collection is the employee records and correspondence from World War II. Hoopes retained applications to the Selective Service Committee for his employees, and the documents track the changes in classification from deferment for necessary work to eventual drafting and active service. Hoopes maintained correspondence with several employees, and the letters offer personal insights into the lives of engineers engaged in the war.

Aside from materials related to his own work, Hoopes compiled extensive resources related to early American industry. The collection includes individual bibliographic entries for patents and works on inventors, as well as typed manuscript material for a volume Hoopes titled Technical Americana. This collection would serve any researcher interested as a resource for primary source material on twentieth century mechanical design and provides a reference point for eighteenth and nineteenth century engineering.

Begin your exploration of the Penrose R. Hoopes papers (Accession 1344) at findingaids.hagley.org.
Conserving Universal Design

Archival collections occasionally contain objects in addition to papers. Artifacts made on the path from idea to finished product offer glimpses into the thought processes of designers. This summer, conservation intern Eleanor Lieberman began a project to assess, conserve, and rehouse the sixty-eight boxes of objects in Hagley’s Thomas Lamb collection. These items paint a picture of meticulously designed and redesigned midcentury household items.

Lamb (1896-1988) grew up in New York City. As a teen, he studied human anatomy under a surgeon in exchange for drawing anatomical illustrations. He also worked at a textile design studio and studied painting at the Arts Student League. Through the 1920s, Lamb ran a textile studio that made handkerchiefs from designs he hand-painted. He later produced a series of whimsical children’s cartoons and merchandise under the label “Kiddyland.”

During the second World War, Lamb drew upon his anatomical background to develop a more ergonomic crutch, the Lamb Lim-Rest, which put as little pressure on the muscles of the hand as possible. Lamb also applies these principles to “Wedge-Lock” handles for cutlery, pots, pans, baggage, and surgical tools. Following maxims of the Universal Design movement, these handles were designed for a broad audience of many sized hands (left and right), took as little force to hold as possible, and enhanced comfort.

Lamb produced hundreds of prototypes before settling on final designs. The Lamb collection offers insight into his path from carved wooden handles to plaster molds, plaster casts, metal casts, and finally plastic finished products. He often applied clay to his wooden models to understand how different volumes would feel. An ad for his Cutco knife handles claims, “Your hand verifies what your eye has told you... the handle of flowing lines and perfect balance.”

The reworked handle models reveal another key point of Lamb’s practice: the real tool is the human hand, which the handle simply supports. Lamb understood that fatigue and frustration from using uncomfortable tools resulted in more injuries and long healing times. Lamb’s handles allow the hand to function as it wants to: “A handle might become an extension of the hand proper.”

Hagley’s Library Conservation Department prioritized the Lamb collection in 2023 because, after over half a century, many handles have degraded. Many factors – such as storage, humidity, temperature, and exposure to UV radiation – determine the rate polymers degrade. In the Lamb collection, some handles showed signs of discoloration and deformation that cannot be undone. When considering the principles of accessibility, usability, and beauty Lamb used to design his handles, the degradation points to another principle of design: durability. Lamb believed “the path of reconstruction of the world will follow the path of functionalism. Things can be practical and beautiful at the same time.”
THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS!
It is with their support that Hagley is able to offer events such as the Hagley Car Show, Summer Nights at Hagley, Fireworks at Hagley, Science Saturdays, and more. Visit hagley.org for the current events schedule.
Winter Teatime
Warm the cockles of your soul from our selection of Oliver Pluff teas and Spiced Wassails. Enjoy peppermint, Earl Grey, or a fine blend of gunpowder tea. Each envelope includes eight tea bags. For that special fuzzy warm feeling, Oliver Pluff also offers premixed bags to spice up your favorite red wine or farm stand cider. Don’t forget to add a nice Hagley mug to enjoy whatever your beverage choice.

Winter Concoctions
Looking for some new twists on your holiday libations? How about creating your own liquor infusions to impress friends? A blue floral gin from lavender? Garlic vodka? Find these recipes and more in Cocktail Botanica. You can also peruse the deck of Botanical Cocktail. Fifty assorted recipe cards will give you a botanical take on some old and new cocktail favorites. For the garden mixologist pick up our popular Drunken Botanist. This New York Times bestselling book explores all the plants, fruits, fungi and more that have been fermented and distilled, and includes more than fifty cocktail recipes.

DuPont Gardens of the Brandywine Valley
Enjoy all the gardens of the du Pont Family of museums in this beautifully photographed book Du Pont Gardens of the Brandywine Valley. Larry Lederman’s vivid photographs exquisitely capture the beauty and spirit of each garden, moving through the seasons and the day from dawn to dusk. An impressive celebration of du Pont contributions to American horticulture and landscape design, Du Pont Gardens of the Brandywine Valley is an important record that is a must-have for garden lovers, landscape designers, and horticulturists everywhere. You’ll be in the mood for spring when you open to Hagley’s featured section: “Garden: Lost and Found”.
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ACTIVITIES LISTED ARE INCLUDED WITH ADMISSION, FREE FOR HAGLEY MEMBERS, AND FREE FOR CHILDREN FIVE AND UNDER.

Science Saturdays - hagley.org/scisat for schedule and topics

PRESENTED BY YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT & TAYLOR LLP

Experiment and innovate with Hagley’s series of science activities.
Visitors use their creativity to make scientific discoveries.
Use Hagley’s main entrance.

NOVEMBER 10 – FRIDAY
Gingerbread Contest
Registration Deadline
It’s time to mix the icing, and buy the colorful candy! This year’s theme is “Treasures & Traditions.” Register today at hagley.org/gingerbread.

NOVEMBER 11 – SATURDAY – 1, 2, AND 3 pm
Veterans’ Day Cannon Firing
Have a blast during your visit to Hagley with a demonstration of our signal cannon! Be prepared, it may seem small, but really packs a punch! Cannon firings are weather-dependent. Use Hagley’s main entrance.

NOVEMBER 11 – SATURDAY – 11 am TO 3 pm
Science Saturday - Robotics Roundup
PRESENTED BY YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT & TAYLOR LLP
Find out how robots are built and programmed and visit with a local robotics team to test out their designs! Visitors of all ages are invited to discover solutions to science and engineering challenges at Science Saturday. This is a drop-in activity, feel free to join the fun at any time. Use Hagley’s main entrance.

NOVEMBER 16 – THURSDAY – 7 pm
Author Talk: Al Churella
Registration is free but required, visit hagley.org/churella for details.

NOVEMBER 24 TO JANUARY 1, 10 AM TO 4 PM
Holidays at Hagley
Celebrate the holiday season at Hagley with the theme, “Treasures & Traditions.” See Eleutherian Mills, wonder at the Gingerbread House Contest entries, visit Santa, and more! The museum will close at 2 p.m. on Christmas Eve (December 24) and will be closed all day Christmas Day (December 25). Use Hagley’s main entrance.
HOLIDAYS AT HAGLEY celebrates “The Little Things.” Find the names of these little things in the grid below.

**WORD LIST**

- BONSAI
- DOLLHOUSE
- EARRING
- GOLF
- KEY
- KITTEN
- LADYBUG
- MATCHBOX
- MODEL CAR
- MOUSE
- PAPERCLIP
- PENNY
- PUPPY
- PURSE
- RAILROAD
- TANGERINE
- THUMBTACK

**PHOTO PUZZLE ANSWERS:**

1) ADDITIONAL STACKED OWL
2) STAGE WREATH IS MISSING A HOLLY BERRY
3) ELEPHANT HAT IS DIFFERENT
4) ROOF BORDER ON RIGHT IS DIFFERENT
5) MOUSE’S HAT IS A DIFFERENT COLOR
6) RIGHT EDGE OF STAGE IS DIFFERENT
7) DUCK ADDED TO AUDIENCE FRONT LEFT
8) ROOF ALLIGATOR HAS TOO MANY EYES

**SPOT THE DIFFERENCES!** Can you find eight differences between the two pictures above?