

Glass Museum offers double dose of history

- [By SHARI FORBES For the Redlands Community News](#)
- Dec 2, 2021 Updated Dec 2, 2021



A showcase of cruets is from one lady's collection of 500.
Redlands Community News photo by Shari Forbes



Historical Glass Museum is housed in historic the Queen Ann modified-style home built by Jerome Seymour in 1903

Enter the Historical Glass Museum at 1157 North Orange St. in Redlands, and you are not only treating yourself to the largest collection of American-made glass west of the Mississippi River, but also to one of Redlands' best preserved historic homes.

Jerome Seymour built the Queen Ann modified-style home in 1903, and it still boasts the beautiful wooden doors from his planing mill and wood turning embellishments from the JDB Stillman Winery that was established in 1885 and torn down to make way for the University of Redlands.

Seymour was a woodworker and architect who moved to Redlands from West Virginia. He was one of the architects of the Morey Mansion on Terracina Boulevard. Seymour's daughter Emma Cryer lived in the house until her death in 1977.

Dixie and Doc Huckabee purchased the house with the intention of using it to showcase their glass collection. Other collectors joined in and formed the Historical Glass Foundation in 1976. Their goal: showcase the myriad types of glassware made in America from Colonial times to the 20th Century. After years of hard work and fundraising, the Foundation opened the Historical Glass Museum to the public in 1985.

In 1995 the Seymour House received a Heritage Award from the Redlands Area Historical Society, and in 2017 the Redlands Conservancy bestowed its Adaptive Reuse Award on the Museum.

All the glass items on display in the six rooms of the museum are donated. Displays include flint glass, early American pressed glass, Victorian art and colored glass, cut glass from the "Brilliant" period, and both machine-made and handmade glass from the Depression Era.

There are antique curiosities and oddities such as cut glass from Liberace's estate, automobile vases and an electric iron made entirely of glass due to shortage of metal during World War II.

Foundation President Stephen Barnett conducts tours and hosts periodic seminars.

A former clinical laboratory scientist with St. Bernardine Laboratories, Barnett became interested in glass blowing in 1986. In recent years, he has blown Christmas ornaments for local school fundraisers.

The museum is open on Saturdays and Sundays from noon until 4 p.m., or by appointment. Admission is free with a suggested donation of \$5 per person. Memberships are available in the Historical Glass Museum Foundation, a nonprofit organization. For further information email historicalglassmuseum4@gmail.com or visit the website at historicalglassmuseum.com.