

# The Huntress Prevails

FOR MANY MONTHS MANY OF OUR PRHS VOLUNTEERS and Susan Grissom, our Collections Manager, watched with fascination what was taking place in the landmark building near our museum. Here is the story of an amazing transformation.

By Susan D. Grissom

Jenny Wolf while taking a drive on a snowy March day in 2017, was just looking for a warehousing space and potential retail space for her interior design business, Jenny Wolf Interiors, a Manhattan based firm. She backed into the parking area of the old Samuel Parker building to admire the Inn, when she noticed a for sale sign. She instinctively knew this was the building she wanted and had the realtor there in minutes, unaware of what town she was in.

Jenny describes the painstaking year and a half long renovation as transformational.

The interior of the building had to be gutted as it was in such poor condition. It was a major



undertaking and a life altering process for her as it took a full restoration of new plumbing, electrical and all new finishes; as well as adding new framing, with steel beams and columns to support the structure. This life altering process was two

steps forward and two steps back. This new endeavor changed Jenny's life and her perspective

forever. It has been an amazing journey to invest in a historic building in a town where she didn't know anyone. Wolf says she has met the most amazing people along the way, which affirmed to her that the building chose her as much as she chose it.

Jenny, a transplanted southerner with roots in retail, named the store The Huntress because she is always on the hunt for unique finds all over the world. And every item has a story. This delightful steel magnolia has created a top-drawer boutique for interiors and the country home but also meets the individual needs with an eclectic selection of beauty items, fashion, jewelry, wellness,

art, books and things for the home.

Jenny has a unique family history in New York. Her great great grandfather had to take over the St. Regis hotel after Astor died on the Titanic, her maternal grandmother's family owned and operated the St. Regis and Ambassador hotels in New York City and were furniture retailers in South Carolina. Her father was President of Maison Blanche in New Orleans, the epicenter of home and fashion of its day. One can walk into this gorgeous feast for the eyes of a store and see the many influences she has cultivated.

Jenny has taken a lighthearted approach to most things in life, including this pandemic. When asked about her feelings of the current state of affairs she stated that she inherited her philosophy from her grandmother, who said "this too shall pass."

The Huntress NY opened in November with a soft opening and

she has enjoyed getting to know her warm and generous new community. And when the quarantine

hit NY, she experienced the kindness and caring of Pound Ridge people who have called to check

in, dropped off food and things for her and her children.

She says it is just like the Southern hospitality she grew up with.

Although the doors are technically closed, she is offering curbside, having FaceTime design and shopping concierge seven days a week. Jenny views the quarantine period which has created a worldwide pause, as

more of an opportunity to reflect on where things are. She looks at what is working and what is not. And as a businessperson one must learn to pivot, things are always changing and to move forward with these changes is a positive in her view,

