

History Sheet

In the 1860s, lumber baron Alexander Wentworth MacPherson built the original house for what would eventually become the Noyo Harbor Inn, on a bluff overlooking the Noyo River on a site near his existing lumber mill.

In September 1910, the house and most of the property surrounding it was sold by the Union Lumber Company to Harry and Annie Holmes. Later the Holmes purchased additional property to expand their homestead and the house was renovated and remodeled at various times between 1912-1920, according to photographic records. During this period, Norwegian ship builders used local hardwoods to create stunning design elements throughout the inn. Many of these architectural details survive today.

In the 1940s, with their children grown and their health declining, Harry and Annie sold to Louis and Alma Schlote, who needed to accommodate a large family consisting of children Thorne, Melba, Doris, Henry and a dog named Prince. During World War II, the magnanimous Scholtes provided room and board on their newly remodeled lower level to Coast Guard members stationed at Noyo Harbor. After the war ended, Mrs. Schlote rented the house out for wedding receptions and other social events, calling it "Casa Del Noyo." Her original sign is still on the property.

Upon the death of Louis Schlote, the property was sold and changed hands many times, serving at various points as a home, a bed and breakfast, a restaurant and a bar. By 1992 the property was a bed and breakfast known as Noyo River Lodge, which closed after a number of years.

In 2011 the property was purchased by Joseph Marino and renamed the Noyo Harbor Inn. From 2011 to 2017, the inn underwent extensive renovations. Local artisans worked with the finest indigenous materials to update the rooms to reflect spacious comfort while retaining all of the touches that give the craftsman-style building its inimitable charm. Noyo Harbor Inn officially reopened on Thanksgiving Day in 2017, reintroducing a historic gem that is as inviting as it is beautiful.

The inn has commanding views of Noyo Harbor and the Pacific Ocean beyond. The harbor is historic in its own right, as the only working harbor between San Francisco and Crescent City, California. It was the setting for some memorable movies including "The Russians are coming! The Russians are coming!" in 1966, 1987's "Overboard" and countless episodes of the beloved CBS television series, "Murder She Wrote."

Today the historic inn, which is reminiscent of a Greene and Greene home on a grand scale, provides warm hospitality and personal service to all who seek harbor there. It is also home to the inviting HarborView Bistro & Bar, the Spa @ Noyo and the Gardens @ Noyo.

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