

Good Enough to Eat

How to Make History with Cookies

By Christine Pinney

For the Structure, take:

5 sheets of ¼” thick plywood
glue, screen, hinges, and roller casters

For the Glue/Frosting, mix:

8 gallons of egg whites
75 pounds of powdered sugar
2 pounds of cocoa powder

Attach:

1500 graham crackers
85 gingersnap cookies
65 gingerbread cookies
10 pounds of gum drops
10 pounds of peppermints
75 Jolly Ranchers
80 feet of ribbon candy



You can make history right in your very own home! It’s easy to do. Assemble the list of ingredients above and you too can build your very own gingerbread house based on Bedford’s historic Job Lane house (ca. 1720).

Before you get started on your own reproduction, we recommend that you visit the Renaissance Boston Bedford Hotel lobby to study the model that Chef John Costello has painstakingly created. He worked with Chief engineer Kevin Grant and Banquet Chef Kari Lessard to build a sweet sensation. The 6 ft X 8 ft x 8 ft reproduction currently sits smack in the middle of the lobby of the hotel. Seeing it will inspire you in unspeakable ways. Your creation will surely be the centerpiece for your holiday celebration. Set aside a special room and approximately 55 hours to assemble it.

Guests and visitors to the hotel tell us:

“It’s just the kick I needed to get me into the holiday spirit.” – Larry Carlton, Bedford Rotarian

“I work at the reception desk. The smell of sweets is tempting and tantalizing. I just want to nibble on a shutter.” – MaryEllen

“I’m staying here on business and I just had to drive by the real Job Lane house to check it out. I must say they did a super job! Kudos to the team.” –John from San Jose.

“I’m a teacher at the Bedford Middle School. I want to bring my class to see the reproduction. We’re studying the Job Lane house and Bedford’s colonial architecture. I didn’t realize that such a tasty piece of history was right in town!”

The Real McCoy

Bedford’s Historic Job Lane House (ca. 1720) is “a wonderfully clear illustration of a New England farm house that has grown and adapted to changing times and tastes.” It’s been said that it is a memorial to the character of the American colonists of Bedford, MA. Built around 1715, the salt box-style house was enlarged and the interior remodeled in the Federal style around 1827 and lived in continuously until the 1960’s. It is believed to date to the period of first English settlement and is among the oldest houses in Bedford. The Job Lane House is open for visitors from May to October. Off season, you may visit the website at <http://LukeHistory.com/JobLane/>.

History in the Baking

The Job Lane gingerbread house at the Renaissance Boston Bedford Hotel will be on display until just after New Year’s. We hope that you will come to see the display. And now that you know more about it, we hope that you will make your own reproduction and share your photos with us! It’s a fun project that your family won’t soon forget.

Let’s make history! (and then eat it)

Christine Pinney promotes people and their products with ENewsletters and other marketing tools. She works with clients who want to attract more business. Christine Pinney Productions www.ChristinePinney.com, 781-271-0398.

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