



Historic Houses

In addition to its main building in downtown Norfolk, the Chrysler Museum of Art also administers two important Historic Houses.

The Moses Myers House

The Moses Myers House in downtown Norfolk is not only an unusually elegant example of Federal period architecture, but almost unique in America as it retains 70% of its original contents. The house and its furnishings provide a wonderful opportunity for visitors to experience first-hand the life of a prosperous Jewish merchant and his family during the early years of the 19th century.

Moses Myers moved to Norfolk in 1787 with his wife Eliza. Five years later he purchased a large lot at the corner of East Freemason and Bank streets on what was then the outer edge of the borough of Norfolk. On this site Myers erected a home for his family. Today the house contains an important collection of American, English, and French furniture, along with glass, silver, and ceramics, and portraits by Gilbert Stuart, Thomas Sully and John Wesley Jarvis. All were commissioned or acquired by members of the Myers family.

The Norfolk History Museum at the Willoughby-Baylor House

The Norfolk History Museum at the newly-refurbished Willoughby-Baylor House (ca. 1794) illuminates the wide range and richness of the history of the entire region by providing engaging thematic offerings and surveys, including the decorative arts of Norfolk, the story of Norfolk at various stages in its long history as an international port and maritime center, the area's impressive naval and military heritage, and the area's historic buildings and residences at different periods in history.

Moses Myers House

331 Bank Street (at Freemason), downtown Norfolk

The Norfolk History Museum at the Willoughby-Baylor House

601 East Freemason Street, downtown Norfolk

Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 4 p.m. (Last tours begin at 3 p.m.)

Admission: As of September 10, 2005, admission will be free of charge

Tours begin at the Freemason Street Reception Center, 401 E Freemason Street. Combination tickets offering reduced price entry to the main Museum and to both Historic Houses are available.

For further information, please call 441-1526 (Reception Center).