



HOUSES

## Home Buyers Flock to Shelter Island

A five-minute ferry ride from the Hamptons, the 8,000-acre island offers a rich history, scant traffic and gentler prices.

By Amy Gamerman  
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Shelter Island—an 8,000-acre island wedged between Long Island’s North and South Forks that can only be reached by ferry or private plane—draws a moneyed crowd in search of a more laid-back vibe, along with a rich history, good sailing, scant traffic and more attractively priced vacation homes than can be found in the nearby Hamptons.



Stephen Harvey and Perry Sayles

WSJ

Stephen Harvey, an Egyptologist, and his partner, Perry Sayles, a designer, bought a 1788 Colonial farmhouse for \$765,000 in 2014 after selling their home in Sagaponack. “It was ‘On Goldman Pond,’” said Mr. Harvey, 51, of his former Hamptons neighborhood and its investment-banker denizens.

#### A Summer’s Worth of Homes on Shelter Island

From a waterfront home shaped like a sail to a restored 18th-century farmhouse, these properties reflect the island’s sailing chops and rich history.



Stephen Harvey and Perry Sayles removed dropped ceilings in their 1788 farmhouse, revealing hand-hewn beams. DOROTHY HONG FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



The couple put in a new chef’s kitchen, complete with a marble-topped island for making pastry—but kept an old farmhouse sink. DOROTHY HONG FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



Mr. Harvey and Mr. Sayles decided to move to Shelter Island after selling their home in the Hamptons. 'We spent about five minutes thinking about Connecticut, then saw this amazing 1780s farmhouse in Shelter Island.' DOROTHY HONG FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



The couple, who spent \$765,000 on the house in 2014, invested \$410,000 to remodel it and put in a pool. DOROTHY HONG FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



While digging a trench for the pool, they discovered a trove of artifacts, including shell-edged pearlware, a pitchfork and a champagne flute dating from about 1810. DOROTHY HONG FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



The front exterior of the home of Stephen Harvey and Perry Sayles. DOROTHY HONG FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



Perry Sayles and Stephen Harvey. 'It still has its old-world charm—the authenticity is there,' Mr. Harvey said. DOROTHY HONG FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL