

Strain

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The tabby was poured in increments of 12 inches high, as was done historically. As the successive layers were poured, the wooden pins holding the form together were removed and exhibit the characteristic holes of the Spalding method of tabby construction. The holes are ultimately hidden by the lime stucco applied as the outer covering.

The way the lime was made back in the day was to use oyster shells that had been procured from Indian middens. A bonfire or "rick" was built with tree trunk frames around a deep pit. Pine knots and fatwood were placed in the bottom. Then it was filled with layers of logs and oyster shells. The fire was set and the intense fire burned the shells that created a white powder that was called quicklime. This ingredient reacts with water to form lime putty.

At the Adam Strain Building, the team added equal amounts of oyster shells, sand, water, lime, quicklime putty and wood ash (instead of having to build a rick to create the lime), to a concrete mixer to thoroughly mix. Then it was transferred into buckets and hoisted on a

for the flooring on the first and second floors. Reproduction slate roof tiles weighing much less than the heavy slate that previously served as the roofing has been installed.

When complete, this building will be known as The Tabby House Brewing Co. The downstairs level will become a restaurant and bar, serving artisan sandwiches, brewed beer from the nano brewery next door and other libations. There will be inside and outside seating.

The second floor retains its beautiful Civil War era exposed beams that have been refinished. The area will include a maritime museum, including artifacts discovered during the renovation, event space and a bar. Two wide staircases connect the two floors.

Work has been done to keep the building preserved historically. The building next door, which was the old Darien Bank Building and then the White Law Office, will contain the nano brewery, kitchen, elevator for handicap access to the second floor, and bathrooms on both levels. A second-floor patio above the old Bank building will provide additional



Tabby is shoveled into buckets and hoisted up to the scaffolding, where the tabby is poured into wooden frames. (Photos by Kathleen Russell)



New tabby is shown after it has been poured where it will join with an old section of the original wall.



Newly created the old tabby to



Pottery shard f



pulley to the scaffolding, where the tabby mason was ready to pour the tabby into the previously built form. The mixture must cure a minimum of three to four days before another layer can be added. It is a slow process.

Things are coming together for the Adam Strain Building, Ecker explained. All the heart pine flooring that could be reused is being planed at this time to be returned

seating overlooking the Darien River.

At this point in the project, doors are being milled, fixtures are being shipped, and an abundance of interior materials are arriving daily to be installed.

When will the Adam Strain Building come to life again? Well, the Savics aren't certain exactly what day that will be, but the opening is within sight!



Second floor outdoor seating area will overlook the Darien River. Reproduction slate has replaced the slate roof on the Adam Strain building, which puts less strain on the structure.



In the adjacent building, a nano brewery will be installed to create the brew for The Tabby House Brewing Co.

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to solicit input on the open
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The meeting will be held at 6:30p
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NOAA OCM also invites written
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Written comments should

Ralph Cantral, Evaluator, NOAA
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