

Nancy Gaucher-Thomas, NWS

East Greenwich, Rhode Island

Built in 1743, the "Potter House" is a 1½-story, gable-roofed cottage with a mid-Victorian exterior. The Gaucher-Thomas studio, originally the carriage house, was renovated and transformed in 2003 into what is now my home away from home: my quiet space of uninterrupted time where I am free to think, dream, and experiment, where I escape to find peace and solace from the world outside.

Inspiration finds its way in many forms. Reference books and imagery help to inspire and challenge my way of thinking, motivating, and pushing in various directions. I am continually fascinated and inspired by the landscape of the face.

My studio is arranged in a way that best suits the process of which I am accustomed to working, with easel and materials readily at hand. Still-life objects that have been painted time and time again find a special spot on a shelf that spans a studio wall; studio lamps are within reach and used when a special effect is called for. A carpeted model platform also serves as staging for still-life arrangements and gallery area during the annual open studio tour.

Music is essential during the time I spend in my studio and helps to set the mood.



Exterior entrance to the Gaucher-Thomas Studio



Easel and workstation. Courtesy of Courtney L. Cutler.

*Model platform and storage area with overhead ceiling fan, recessed lighting and tongue and groove ceiling. My work shown left to right: **Montgomery Street**, watercolor; **Young Girl Wearing Cap**, charcoal/white chalk, **Lotus Reflections**, watercolor; **Descending** and **Bianca VII**, charcoal on Mylar. Courtesy of Courtney L. Cutler.*