



“All of us tend to put off living. We are all dreaming of some magical rose garden over the horizon, instead of enjoying the roses that are blooming outside our windows today.”
 — Dale Carnegie

Upgrading windows to the past

LONG BEACH — With 17 historic districts, and thousands of historic structures, work in Long Beach alone is enough to keep Window Restoration & Repair in business for a long, long time.

As its name implies, the Los Alamitos-based firm specializes in repairing and restoring historic windows.

Older homes often need windows restored or replaced, which may not be such an easy task when one considers the parts for the rope weight and pulley system inside an 80-year-old structure may not be available at your local hardware store.

On a recent day, workers for the firm were busy restoring eight windows on a home in the historic California Heights community.

The \$6,000-plus job will leave the homeowner with operable windows that are virtually indistinguishable from those installed around 1929 — a time when that homeowner was probably more apt to see rolling hills of wheat and the ongoing expansion of the Signal Hill oil field out of those windows.

The company will typically take on four or five jobs per week.

“We’re busy the whole year, year-round,” said co-owner Scott Goldfarb.

While the majority of the company’s work is conducted in Long Beach, Window Restoration will sometimes go as far north as Santa Barbara or as far south as San Diego for jobs.

“We probably spend more time in Long Beach than anywhere else,” said co-owner Ed Sanchez, a Rossmore resident.

That’s because the city has 17 designated historic districts, and about 5,000 buildings, including homes and commercial structures, that are designated by the city as historic.

And for those who don’t use a service like Window Restoration, who opt to replace their homes without regard to historic preservation, should beware.

“Cal Heights has been really infiltrated with some illegal window replacements

Window Restoration & Repair repairs and restores historic windows in the Long Beach area and beyond



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Ed Sanchez, top left, and Scott Goldfarb are co-owners of Window Restoration and Repair of Los Alamitos. The company specializes in restoring historic windows. Above, Jose Ortiz of Window Restoration installs the upper panel of a double-hung window, a 1930s design.

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