



digstreasure

If you've read the scroll next to the aquarium in the living room that gives the "History of The Digs," then you know the fantasy behind the project. However, the REAL story is quite interesting in and of itself.

Our fictional archaeologist/adventurer depicted in the Digs History story is named Elton Reynolds. He is inspired by a real-life citizen of Roxbury, NY (also with the first name Elton) who passed away at the age of 92 in the summer of 2011. We unfortunately never really knew Elton, but first learned of him through the executors of his estate who came to the front office of The Roxbury one day and told us that we "must" come to the estate auction for their dear deceased friend. They informed us that Elton often spoke of us and had mentioned that "The Roxbury Guys should get some of my stuff after I'm gone."

Intrigued, we decided to go to the estate sale. It took place at Elton's Roxbury, NY residence (not the current location of The Digs) and the moment we walked through the door we both somehow knew we were looking at our next project. Around every corner and in every nook and cranny of the house was a different kind of "treasure" collected from Elton's travels around the world throughout his entire life. We learned that he traveled around the world working for the Dept. of Education branch of the U.S. Government. But when we looked at some of his collections, they were often labeled with dates and location of purchase or acquisition. What did not "jive" was that some of the items were acquired during times when most Americans were not allowed in the country of origin.

It was the discovery of this discrepancy that got our imaginations spinning and subsequently our wallets emptied with acquisition of treasure. What if Elton did not really work for the Dept. of Education and he just TOLD everyone that? What if he was a C.I.A. spy? Or better yet, what if he was like an Indiana Jones character? Acquiring treasures and gifts from his adventures around the world? And thus, the true "History of the Digs" was incarnated.

While you are our guests at The Digs, we hope that you will take a moment to explore the house for its relics, tchotchkes, and what we call "treasure." Many of them are replications. But many of them are not. Countries of origin include but are not limited to Egypt, India, Iran, Pakistan, Peru, Mexico, Ecuador, China, Japan, Thailand, Guatemala, Brazil, Cameroon, Columbia, South Africa, Morocco, Portugal, England, France, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Germany, Senegal, and many more.

We never knew Elton, but we feel his presence every day when we walk into The Digs. We think you might feel it too. Don't be surprised if you find yourself feeling a sudden love of adventure, of archaeology, of culture, of history, of mystery, and finally, of beauty. It's not just the surroundings. It's Elton's spirit still alive and well in its newest incarnation: The Digs.