



## African American Civil Rights Grant



SHPO is proud to announce that it was selected for an African American Civil Rights Grant, administered by the National Park Service. The goal of the grant is to recognize a generation of students from Morehouse College in Georgia who came to work in Connecticut's tobacco fields during the mid-twentieth century. For at least one of these

students, Martin Luther King Jr., the experience was transformative. Grant funds will be used to expand on existing research and prepare a Multiple Property Submission for listing the places where these students worked, lived, recreated, and worshipped to the National Register of Historic Places. The intent of the designation process is to promote their preservation, draw attention to how their experiences working in the state's tobacco industry influenced their decisions to engage in activism, and recognize the important supporting role Connecticut played in the birth of the American Civil Rights movement.

## Recent SHPO Grant Awards

Congratulations to our recent grantees!

The **Town of Haddam** was awarded a grant for consulting services to facilitate 3 public visioning workshop for the newly National Register-designated Higganum Center. A team of professionals in the areas of preservation planning, architecture landscape architecture, and urban design will guide the town and residents through a process of identifying priorities and needs for possible future development initiatives.

**Lyme Art Association's** grant will hire an historical architect and team to develop a feasibility study for energy efficiency measures in their Charles A. Platt-designed building (1921).

A grant to **North Congregational Church of Woodbury** will assist in the hiring of an historical architect to prepare an assessment and options for installation of an access elevator as well as plans for replacing its historic metal roof in-kind.

## New to the CT Freedom Trail



Elizabeth Shapiro, Director of Culture, and Todd Levine, CT Freedom Trail Coordinator, presented plaques for the newly inducted Judge Constance Baker Motley Preserve and House to the CFT on November 6, 2019. Plaques were awarded to The Chester Land Trust for creating the Judge Constance Baker Motley Preserve; the current property owners; and the Motley Family descendants for their support of the designation. The Judge Constance Baker Motley Preserve and House is the 140<sup>th</sup>

site added to the CFT since its inception in 1995 and is the first entry under the CFT's newest category, **Civil Rights and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Contributions to the African American story**. Constance Baker Motley lived in her Chester home across from the Preserve for 40 years.

For more information about Judge Constance Baker Motley can be found [here](#).

## Celebration of the Peters House in Hebron



Last month, Hebron held a celebration of the Peters House, which received a grant from SHPO. The event included tours by the Historic Properties Commission, a program by the color guard of Old Sturbridge Village, and archaeological excavations for kids and adults sponsored by Heritage Consultants. The house was built during the late 18<sup>th</sup> century by Reverend Samuel Peters, a fervent loyalist who returned to England prior to the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. The

house was left in the care of his slaves, Cesar and Lowis. From England, and in financial turmoil, the Reverend sold his assets which included Cesar, Lowis, and their eight children. The community of Hebron rescued the family from southern slave traders and assisted in their emancipation. Descendants of Cesar and Lowis attended the event and were given Freedom Trail plaques by Todd Levine.

## 2019 Archaeology Fair

This year's annual Connecticut Archaeology Fair will be held on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Lectures, exhibitors, and activities will be held in Oak Hall, Room 101. Additional kid-friendly activities will be held outdoors on the space between Beach Hall and the Austin Building. A campus map that also shows parking is available [here](#):

# Connecticut Archaeology Fair



Saturday, October 19th, 2019  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Location: UConn Storrs Campus

Join us for a celebration of the career and contributions of State Archaeologist Brian Jones. Participate in hands-on activities for children and adults.

Indoor activities will be in Oak Hall, Room 101, and outdoor activities will be on the Main Quad between Beach Hall and the Austin Building.

This event is free & open to the public.

**UConn**

Hosted by UConn's Department of Anthropology, Connecticut Office of State Archaeology, Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, Archaeology Society of Connecticut, Friends of the Office of State Archaeology, and the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History.

<https://uconn.edu/content/uploads/2018/08/Map-UConn-Storrs-Aug-2018.pdf>

This event is free and open to the public.

## News from the Museums



# *Prudence Crandall Takes a Sabbatical\**

PRUDENCE CRANDALL MUSEUM  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20  
2:00 PM TO 4:00 PM, **FREE**

Featuring:

*Jennifer Rycenga*  
*Prudence Crandall biographer*

## **YOU ARE INVITED**

**As we honor the accomplishments  
of Crandall and the students of the  
Canterbury School.**

**Includes a Peace Pole dedication,  
candle lighting, and reception.**

**Last chance to view the museum  
before renovations begin!**



Time to **Renovate, Research, and Refresh** the Prudence Crandall Museum!

\*Sabbatical: A period of leave for a teacher or professor for study or travel.

In collaboration with the Peace Center of Connecticut, Hartford.  
For more information: 860-546-7800 / [crandall.museum@ct.gov](mailto:crandall.museum@ct.gov)

Department of Economic and  
Community Development  
State Historic Preservation Office



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