

State Historic Preservation Office



We've been talking about it for months and the big day is nearly here! On September 15th, the SHPO will be moving to our new location. Please take note of a couple housekeeping items:

- 1. Please do not send any mail to the Constitution Plaza Office during the week of September 11-15.
- 2. **Starting September 18th**, our new address will be: DECD/SHPO, 450 Columbus Boulevard, South Tower, Hartford, CT 06103
- 3. Staff email addresses will remain the same, but we will have new phone numbers:

Kristina Newman-Scott: (860) 500-2453 Elizabeth Shapiro: (860) 500-2360 Julie Carmelich: (860) 500-2362 Mary Dunne: (860) 500-2356 Deborah Gaston: (860) 500-2376 Catherine Labadia: (860) 500-2329 Todd Levine: (860) 500-2337 Alyssa Lozupone: (860) 500-2426 Douglas Royalty: (860) 500-2347 Jenny Scofield: (860) 500-2343 Marena Wisniewski: (860) 500-2357

State Budget Update

While we await approval of a state budget, the SHPO continues to provide grant funding for eligible projects. Visit our <u>website</u> for more information on available grants to assist with historic preservation projects in your area. CONNECTICUT STATE BUDGET

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Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

Identifying Historic Properties - Part 1

The last newsletter provided an overview of the Section 106 Process. After the federal agency determines that the proposed activities will be subject to Section 106, they define the area of potential project effects (A.P.E) and identify historic properties that might be impacted by the project. To accomplish the task of identification, the agency or its representative, usually engages the professional services of a cultural resources consultant. Identification surveys often require field visits that examine both above-ground and below-ground resources, but the research is driven by the scope and nature of the project.

The identification survey begins with what is already known, generally this begins with a review of the files maintained by SHPO including the State or National Register files, archeological site forms, previous survey reports, and other special project manuscripts. The next step would be to verify this information during a field visit and, often more importantly, to document resources that have not been previously inventoried.

For example, the Department of Transportation (DOT) proposed the replacement of a bridge in North Stonington. The bridge did not possess association, design, or engineering qualities that would make it eligible for listing on the State or National Registers so the concern was focused on the potential impacts of project related to the construction of the new bridge. An archeological assessment of the area suggested that the soil types encompassing the bridge were associated with human habitation and land use and that archeological sites had been reported in the region. In addition, historic maps of the area depicted historic structures in the region and a field visit verified the presence of these older built resources. Therefore, the DOT concluded that archeological and architectural surveys would be warranted before this project moved forward. Learn about what comprises an archeological or architectural survey in our next installment about Section 106.



Photos: DOT bridge, North Stonington and historic map of North Stonington

Historic Homes Rehabilitation Tax Credit Workshop

Alyssa Lozupone, manager of the Historic Homes Rehabilitation Tax Credit, will be conducting a workshop on the program on Saturday, September 9, 2017 at the New Haven Free Public Library. The event will begin at 10:30. Please register in advance by emailing <u>info@nhpt.org</u> or calling (203) 562-5919. The workshop is provided by the <u>New Haven Preservation Trust</u> and the <u>New</u> <u>Haven Free Public Library</u>.

Resiliency Planning Tools for Coastal Towns

The SHPO is helping coastal municipalities plan for resiliency in an era of climate change. This month, 28 direct-shorefront towns will receive technical assistance packages that include data on vulnerable historic resources and individually tailored reports on preservation planning.

The packages, developed under the SHPO's Hurricane Sandy disaster relief program, include GIS maps showing



designated historic resources; resources in the "100-year" floodplain; and resources at risk of inundation from sea level rise. Town planners also will receive a "Report on Municipal Capabilities and Risks" that analyzes the risks to historic resources and identifies ways to incorporate historic preservation into local planning documents.

The work is the result of two years of data collection and digitization, reviews

of local plans, and discussions with planners and preservationists undertaken by the SHPO and three consulting firms with expertise in cultural resource management, planning, engineering, and floodplain management. Funding is provided by a grant from the National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund.

The municipal reports will be followed by a best practices guide on preservation planning for local planning agencies, which will be delivered to all towns in the state's coastal counties.

Archaeology Expo

Saturday, October 14, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., the <u>Mashantucket</u> <u>Pequot Museum and Research Center</u> will be hosting the Archaeology Expo. The expo will include archaeologists and historians from across the region, tours of the Pequot Museum's archaeology lab, site visits, demonstrations, artifact identification, guest speakers and more. There is no charge for visitors to the expo, but general admission rates will apply for entrance to the museum's exhibits and theaters.

News from the Museums





Old New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine

A Bat's Life at Old New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine

Saturday, September 9

Event, 9-noon, Museum open until 4 pm Learn more about New-Gate's cave-dwelling residents and the importance of their preservation

at this family-friendly event featuring self-guided bat "stations" where visitors of all ages can learn more about bats at New-Gate, the scary and devastating effects of White-Nose Syndrome, and bat biology. There will be crafts projects, and even a bat cave to decorate. Bat biologists from Sessions Woods Conservation Education Center, DEEP Wildlife Division, will answer questions about bats in Connecticut and other wildlife. Full mine tours will not be available due to safety issues, but visitors will be allowed to view the mine interior from the first viewing area in the mine entrance. The museums grounds will be open for exploration all day and light snacks will be available for purchase. Admission is Adults \$10, seniors \$5, children & students (6 and up) \$5, Children under 6, Free! Family Fee (includes 2 adults, \$20). Old New-Gate Prison is located at 106 Newgate Road, East Granby, CT 06026. For information, call 860-256-2760 or email <u>Elizabeth.shapiro@ct.gov</u>. Please note, due to the nature of the site, there is uneven terrain and stairs.

Henry Whitfield State Museum

Henry Whitfield State Museum was recently featured in the <u>Daily Nutmeg</u>. Catch up on the news and history of New England's oldest stone house.

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Eric Sloan Museum

On August 20th, the Friends of the Eric Sloane Museum sponsored a program "Ye Olde Tyme Outhouse" with Georg Papp, a specialist on restoration and replacement of outhouses. Papp brought several designs in small-scale models so that viewers could observe these structures called by hundreds of different names.

Papp noted that abandoned outhouses are a treasure trove for those who love history and digging. Muskets, knives, coins, and wallets are among the valuable items found in colonial pits but the most common items are whiskey bottles according to Papp.



Artist and Author, Eric Sloane sketched and wrote about outhouses in several of his books. The museum is open Friday-Sunday, 10 to 4. Please call (860)

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927-3849 for additional information.

