

State Historic Preservation Office

We Moved!

On September 18th, the SHPO arrived at our new location safe and sound with nary a missing box. Our new address is:

DECD/SHPO 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 5 Hartford, CT 06103

Email addresses will remain the same, but we 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

SHPO Strategic Plan Update

A draft of our strategic plan will be completed by the end of the month and we are really excited about how it is shaping up. An important aspect of the plan will center on the idea of a "shared stewardship" and how the SHPO can help empower, assist or otherwise be a conduit of information and ideas to our local and regional partners. To borrow a phrase, all preservation is local. So, how can we work together to ensure that information, tools and expertise reach all communities to assist in the preservation of community character and quality of life? We've got some ideas, but we'd like to hear from you. Email us at <u>SHPO.Plan@ct.gov</u> with your thoughts and success stories.

Two New Additions to the State Register

At September's Historic Preservation Council meeting, two new properties were added to the over 75,000 already listed on the State Register of Historic Places (SR). Similar to the National Register, the State Register of Historic

Places recognizes structures and sites that characterize the historical development of Connecticut.

The nominees are located in New Britain and highlight the diversity of the Hardware City's built environment. Congratulations to both!



Photo Credit: Chelsea Farrell

<u>The George B. and Cordelia Cowles</u> <u>House</u> was built in 1890 for George and Cordelia Cowles. Mr. Cowles was a foreman employed at the local Corbin Cabinet and Lock Company. The property represents notable historic patterns in population growth, wealth, and housing construction in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.



Photo Credit: James Sexton

<u>St. Thomas Aquinas School</u> was originally built as the Levi O. Smith School in 1877, expanding several times until it was purchased by the Archdiocese of Hartford in 1955. It was the first Catholic high school owned by the Hartford archdiocese and symbolized the growth in Catholic education that occurred in the post-World War II era.

Meet the SHPO's New Intern

The Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office is happy to welcome a new intern to the office for the semester!

Seamus McKeever is from Bolton, CT and is currently a junior at the University of Connecticut studying finance and history. He writes for UCONN's newspaper, works at the William Benton Museum of Art on campus, and is involved in the Community Outreach Office participating on service trips across the country.

He first became interested in the internship as a way to combine his education in finance and



personal love of history. While at SHPO, Seamus will be working on promotion materials for the income tax credit program for historical preservation efforts and other miscellaneous projects in the office.

His plans for after graduation are to work in Boston in financial services, or begin a career in the historic conservation field. He also works as a Special Olympics Coach for the team in East Hartford, and is excited to see what this internship has in store for him!

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.

Connecticut Preservation Action - Preservation Summit: Historic Preservation Tools for Development

Wednesday, October 18, 2017 from 8:30-12:00 at The Lyceum, 227 Lawrence Street, Hartford - A conference for developers, municipal planners and leaders, local historic preservation groups and others about historic preservation tools, programs and ideas to enhance community and economic development in Connecticut. <u>Register for the event here</u>

Citizen Jane Film Festival

October 12th and 15th, Bijou Theatre, 275 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport -When the richest, most powerful developer in New York City planned to bulldoze his way through Jane Jacobs' neighborhood and replace Washington Square Park with a highway, she took him on, and won. Through public hearings and organized protest, she stopped Robert Moses and in turn changed the consciousness of American cities in the hearts and minds of the people who dwell in them and the power brokers who call for "urban renewal." If you've ever heard, "Downtown is for the people," yearned for a "walkable city" or have been troubled by the decline of "mom and pop" shops, chances are, you've been influenced by the work of Jane Jacobs aka <u>Citizen</u> Jane! Event sponsored by Bridgeport DSSD, CT Main Street Center, and Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County. <u>To Register Click Here</u>

Please email us if you have an upcoming event you'd like featured in our next newsletter. And see below for upcoming events at the State Museums.

News from the Museums



Prudence Crandall Museum

The Prudence Crandall Museum was recently featured in the New York Times Opinion section about a family exploring the meaning of sisterhood and feminism through historic sites around the country.



Read the article here



Old New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine

Halloween Spirit at Old New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine Friday October 27, 4-8 pm Saturday October 28, 3-8 pm 115 Newgate Road, East Granby, CT For information call: 860-500-2360 or email: Elizabeth.Shapiro@ct.gov. There may be no

better place to find the spirit of Halloween (and perhaps even the spirits of Halloween!) than Connecticut's oldest prison. Located in beautiful East Granby, Connecticut, the site features picturesque ruins, panoramic views, and provides the perfect setting for a historically haunted holiday. Visitors of all ages will enjoy the torch light parade (starting around 7:15 pm), costume contest, performances by the Marquis of Granby Ancient Fyfe and Drum Corps, and visits with famed New-Gate prisoner Thirza Mansfield (who hacked her husband to bits); the Headless Horseman, escaped prisoners and the prison's "Sawbones". There will be lots to do for the under 12 set, including face painting, pumpkin decorating, games, and bat craft activities. Bring a carved Jack-o-lantern or a scarecrow for our display! Tickets are \$12 Adults, \$10 Seniors, \$6 Children 6-17, under 6 Free!

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Henry Whitfield State Museum

Halloween Hysterics at Henry's! October 28th, 10:00-4:30 The lights will be off in Connecticut's oldest house, so bring a flashlight to explore — even the basement, which may have surprises for visitors brave enough to venture there. Admission includes crafting gravestones and gargoyles out of clay, displays on the Guilford Green graveyards and the Whitfield connection to the Salem witch trials, the origins of Halloween traditions in the *Holidaze* display, ... AND CANDY! All included with



admission: \$8 adults, \$6 seniors & students, \$5 children (6-17), free for children under 6. Free parking.

Eric Sloan Museum



On Saturday, October 14th, the Friends of the Eric Sloane Museum will host a Harvest Party to raise money for the Noah Blake Cabin Restoration Fund from 4 to 6 pm.

The cabin was built in 1974 to provide a concrete representation of the home that character Noah Blake may have lived in in 1805 based on Eric Sloane's book, <u>The Diary of an Early American Boy.</u> One of the most favored of Sloane's books, this artistic representation helps bring to life fifteen year old Noah Blake's story.

If you would like to attend this event, please call (860) 927-3849 for further details. Also, pick up the Fall issue of the edible Nutmeg to read <u>The</u> <u>Eric Sloane Museum Reproduces An Historic Apple Orchard</u>" article by Tom Lagasse.

The museum is open Friday-Sunday, 10 to 4 through October 29th.

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