

Quarterly news & updates

December 15, 2021 | Issue 2

NEHFES & Archaeological Conservancy

The Archaeological Conservancy and the New England Hebrew Farmers of the Emanuel Society (NEHFES) cosigned a Donation Agreement that gifted the synagogue parcel of the “NEHFES Synagogue and Creamery Site” in Chesterfield, Connecticut to The Conservancy. The synagogue parcel is one of the few American Jewish archaeological sites in the country and the donation insures the protection of the site in perpetuity.

Preservation of the NEHFES Synagogue and Creamery Site will contribute to public knowledge about the site’s significance and the importance of cultural resource preservation. The preserve will be maintained as an open-space research preserve, and protected against any future development. The Archaeological Conservancy, established in 1980, is the only national non-profit organization dedicated to acquiring and preserving the



On October 15, 2021, [The Archaeological Conservancy](#) and the [New England Hebrew Farmers of the Emanuel Society](#) (NEHFES)

gathered in Hartford to celebrate the donation of the synagogue parcel of the NEHFES’s synagogue and creamery site in Chesterfield, CT. At the helm was President and Executive Director of the NEHFES, **Nancy Savin**. For decades, Nancy has been the site’s tireless advocate; whether it was uniting the descendant members of the first families or applying for grants to document and preserve the site, Nancy was the driving force behind it all.

[READ MORE](#)

Preservation in Print

Historic preservation is in the news! Check out some of the latest stories and articles from local newspapers.

Prudence Crandall Museum :

- <https://www.norwichbulletin.com/story/news/local/2021/09/20/first-morrison-bench-road-state-added-canterbury-museum-history-toni-black-students/8417011002/>

Historic Rehab Tax Credit Projects:

The recently completed rehabilitation of the historic East Haven High School, now The Tyler, wins an award for sustainable design.

- <https://patch.com/connecticut/easthaven/tyler-wins-sustainability-historic-preservation-awards>

Two buildings in New London are slated for rehab using the state and federal historic tax credits.

- <https://www.theday.com/article/20210817/NWS01/210819520>

An industrial complex on Ellis Street in New Britain will be rehabbed for residential use.

- https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fdigitaledition.courant.com%2Finfinity%2Farticle_share.aspx%3Fguid%3D0b71ca2f-1c59-4cd3-b94b-58f602eaab86&data=04%7C01%7CJulie.Carmelich%40ct.gov%7C78892ad5fba46907a9b08d9960b5a02%7C118b7cfaa3dd48b9b02631ff69bb738b%7C0%7C0%7C637705797770470883%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IjkihaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=7lio4T4Q83kJE1H%2BMaZZNI%2BucXdMWi7R3%2FYIJTmMLgM%3D&reserved=0

Federal Infrastructure Bill and the SHPO

Historically, federal expenditures on infrastructure were greatest during the period 1955 to 1965. A response to this intense national undertaking was the subsequent passing of several environmental regulatory laws, including the National Historic Preservation Act - which created State Historic Preservation Offices. The recently passed bipartisan infrastructure bill will rival the mid twentieth century investments. The bill will bring over \$5 billion to Connecticut for work that includes spending on roads, bridges and railroads, as well as, expanding internet access and electric vehicle car charging stations.

These projects will be executed with regulatory oversight. CT SHPO will be commenting on every proposed project in our state with the goal of avoiding or minimizing impacts to our state's important historic resources. While our office will be busy, we are privileged to have the opportunity within this historic national effort to help make projects better.

Frederick Law Olmsted 200th Anniversary



On November 30, Department of Transportation Commissioner Joseph Giulietti joined Bridgeport Mayor Joseph Ganim, along with the State Historic Preservation Office and Connecticut Chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects to unveil the new Frederic Law Olmsted 200th Anniversary monument by artist Louise Wiley.

The Frederic Law Olmsted 200th Anniversary Monument Dedication Ceremony is part of the Olmsted

200 celebrations across the state. The monument, specially commissioned by the CTDOT as part of a road improvement project, is a bronze sculpted bust of the famous Connecticut-born landscape architect Frederic Law Olmsted.

This was just one of many celebrations across the country marking the 200th anniversary of Olmsted's birth. For more information, check out <https://olmsted200.org/> and [this article](#) from the CT Post.

Old New-Gate Prison and Copper Mine



ONP receives Federal Grant Funding for Stabilization

We are honored to accept funding from the Save America's Treasures grant program, through the Historic Preservation Fund, and administered by the National Park Service. This grant will allow us to stabilize/preserve the four-story Cell Block (1824) and retaining wall, ultimately allowing greater access of the site.

Specific details regarding the stabilization are yet to be determined, but if you have any questions, please contact Curator Morgan Bengel at morgan.bengel@ct.gov.

Cell Block Image Credit: Capture Visual Marketing

A Preservation Win in Simsbury

Meadowood



Historic preservation and open space united in Simsbury to save the property known as Meadowood from development. The property is known to be one of the farms where Martin Luther King Jr. worked for a summer over 75 years ago.

The SHPO and the Trust for Public Land partnered to provide grant funding and support to allow the town to purchase the property. The SHPO provided additional funds to help preserve some of the remaining tobacco barns on the site.

For more information on the site and the town's efforts to preserve it, check out some recent news articles [here](#) and [here](#).



Prudence Crandall Museum



Prudence Crandall Museum received a bench as part of the Toni Morrison Society's "Bench by the Road" program. The bench was dedicated on Sunday, September 19, 2021. The initiative for the bench was led by Windham State Attorney Anne Mahoney, who worked with First Selectman Chris Lippke of the Town of Canterbury and Sustainable CT to raise funds. Speakers for the event included Eboni S. Nelson, Dean of the University of Connecticut School of Law, Donald E. Williams, Jr., Executive Director of the Connecticut Education Association. Frederick-Douglass Knowles II, English Professor at Three Rivers College and Poet Laureate of Hartford, and Daniel Donaghy, English Professor at Eastern Connecticut State University, shared poems in honor of the bench dedication. The "Bench by the Road" bench will be one of the centerpieces of a peaceful reflection area on the grounds of the Prudence Crandall Museum.

The Prudence Crandall Museum is scheduled to be open during the 2022 season! Restoration work is nearing completion, and staff looks forward to

welcoming visitors in the months ahead. An official reopening date is coming soon!

Recent Grant Awards

Congratulations to these recent grantees:

Mather Homestead Foundation, Darien

Survey and Planning Grant for a condition assessment of the Mather Homestead (1778)

Scout House, Sherman

Survey and Planning Grant for plans and specifications to support the restoration of the Scout House (c.1827)

Lyme Art Association, Old Lyme

Survey and Planning Grant for plans and specifications for energy efficiency measures for the organization's 1921 building

Lockwood Mathews Mansion, Norwalk

Survey and Planning Grant to update the National Register nomination form for Lockwood-Mathews Mansion (1868)

Darling House, Woodbridge

Survey and Planning Grant for plans and specifications to support the restoration of the cow barn outbuilding on the Thomas Darling House property (c. 1765)

First Church of Christ Congregational, Middletown

Survey and Planning Grant for plans and specifications to support the Church's restoration and repair projects

Town of Westport

Supplemental Certified Local Government Grant to update Historic Resources Inventory

Town of Clinton

Federal Historic Preservation Enhancement Grant to prepare a National Register Nomination for proposed [Commerce Street/Leffingwell Road](#) area

Kycia Farm Barn, Wethersfield

Survey and Planning Grant to prepare a State Register nomination form

Music Mountain, Inc., Falls Village

Survey and Planning Grant for a condition assessment of Music Mountain (1930)

Full Gospel Interdenominational Church Inc., Manchester

Condition assessment of the Full Gospel Interdenominational Church building (1924)

Miracle Temple Church of New London, CT, Inc. New London

Condition assessment of the Miracle Temple Church building (1868)

Most of these projects are funded in part or in total by funds from the Community Investment Account of the State of Connecticut

Happy Holidays!



Best wishes to everyone for a happy, healthy,
and peaceful holiday season

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