

Day 92 - SHPO Operations

As SHPO staff continues to work remotely, we want to remind everyone of the following changes to our programs and services.

- Historic rehabilitation tax credit applications, grant applications, and environmental review requests must be submitted electronically through email, Dropbox or other file sharing service. **Please do not send mail or hand deliver anything to the office until further notice.**
- The SHPO is **closed to researchers**. We understand the inconvenience this will cause; however, SHPO staff will have access to digital files and can provide information to researchers as available.
- To assist researchers, we added a list of on-line databases and resources to our website [here](#).

Any questions concerning the SHPO's programs and procedures should be directed to the relevant staff person. A list of SHPO contacts can be found [here](#).

Thanks to all our constituents for your patience and cooperation during this time. Be safe and healthy!

Saved!



The Hugh Calkins House at 232 W. Town Street, Norwich has been saved thanks to the Norwich Historical Society and the use of the municipality's demolition delay ordinance! Originally slated to be demolished in January 2020, the building was spared after the Calkins Family Association was able to raise the funds necessary to secure purchase from the owners.

Since the beginning of 2020, the Norwich Historical Society had been working with the Circuit Riders from Preservation Connecticut (formerly the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation), the City of Norwich, and SHPO to find a buyer for the endangered Hugh Calkins House. While the demolition delay provided much needed time, Regan Miner, Executive Director of the Norwich Historical Society, proved to be the catalyst for saving the house. Just five days before the demolition delay ran out, Regan was able to connect with the Calkin

Family, who orchestrated the purchase.

The property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Bean Hill Historic District. The parcel that the current house sits on dates back to 17th century, when it was owned by the John Pease family. In the late 1600s, Deacon Hugh Caulkins purchased the land. According to the nomination, the current house appears to have been built in the early 18th century by his grandson, who shares the same namesake.

The Calkins Family Association plans to put the building back into service as a library, education center, and small museum.

Recent Grant Awards



On June 3rd the Historic Preservation Council voted to approve the following Historic Restoration Fund Grants:

Connecticut College in New London was awarded \$56,563 for a roof replacement on the Winslow Ames House on their campus. Listed on the National Register, the house is a prefabricated modular house designed by Robert W. McLaughlin, Jr. It was built in 1933 for Winslow Ames, a professor of art history at Connecticut College and the art director of the Lyman Allyn Museum. The building is now used for administrative offices, conference space and the headquarters of a non-profit group.



The Killingworth Congregational Church in Killingworth was awarded \$47,000 for restoration of the belfry and exterior woodwork on the main building. Listed on the State Register, this 1820 meetinghouse fundamentally remains as it has been since the nineteenth century. The parishioners remain very active and have been working towards a major capital campaign.



The Hazardville Institute in Enfield was awarded \$100,000 for restoration to the interior of the building. New electrical, HVAC, plumbing, and insulation will be installed and final touches will be made to a previously added ADA addition. Listed on the National Register, the building was constructed in 1869 as a result of a bequest by Col. Augustus Hazard, founder of the Hazard Powder Company. It served the village for years as its cultural center and was used by 3 village churches and



various organizations such as the Good Templars, Christian Temperance Union, Enfield Grange, Red Cross, political parties, athletic groups, traveling troupes and as a library, classroom, and voting place.

Pine Orchard Chapel in Branford was awarded \$100,000 for repairs to the main floor framing system, restoration of the cupola, restoration of select windows and doors, and repairs to the rear porch entry. Listed on the National Register, the Chapel was built as a seasonal house of worship to accommodate traveling clergy who visited the seaside resort community of Pine Orchard (a borough in Branford). It is still used today for weddings, memorial services and bar/bat mitzvah.

The Historic Restoration Fund grants are funded by the Connecticut Community Investment Act.

Rehab Complete!



Congratulations are in order to the owners of the Neiditz Building at 111 Pearl Street in Hartford! Not only was the building listed on the National Register of Historic Places last month, it also recently completed a full rehabilitation using state and federal historic tax credits. The rehabbed property will include commercial tenants on the ground floor and residential units above. The exterior was fully restored including the historic windows and

marble ground floor façade. A state tax credit voucher worth over \$3.8 million was issued for the project in May.

News from the Museums



Our state museums are closed for now, but you can still catch up on all the latest news on our website and the museums' social media pages.



Henry Whitfield State Museum

The Henry Whitfield State Museum now has a [YouTube channel](#) where you can see

videos including touring behind-the-scenes and finding out if different collection items are still useful today. More videos are in production, so subscribe to the channel and never miss the latest releases.

Old New-Gate Prison and Copper Mine

Old New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine remains closed due to COVID-19. We appreciate your patience as we navigate reopening in a safe and efficient way. In the meantime, please check us out on social media, or our website, for future virtual programming and opening details.

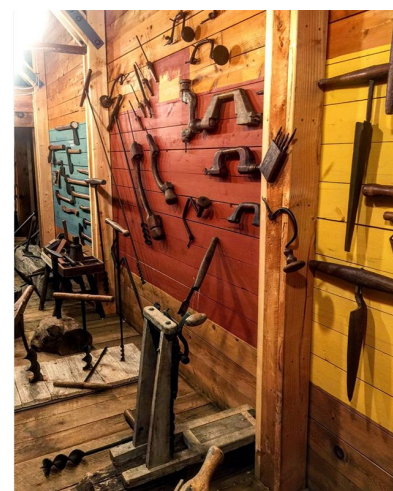
<https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Services/Historic-Preservation>

Facebook- @OldNewGate

Instagram- @OldNewGate1773

Eric Sloane Museum

It has been a busy couple of weeks at the Eric Sloane Museum as we work to reinstall the museum collection. With renovations complete, the team has been hard at work bringing the collection items out of storage and placing them back in the new galleries. Although a time consuming process, we are making great progress and extremely excited to have everything back and being restored.



We are very happy to welcome Brandon Lisi back for another season at the museum! Brandon has been a tremendous asset in our efforts to update the museum's information and artifacts in CT Collections. He has also been hard at work digitizing many of the photographs, letters and interviews in the museum's possession. He has also recently published a book entitled, *How Eric Sloane Retold American History*, that provides a wealth of knowledge on Eric Sloane. Looking forward to another great season with Brandon's help! We have made some updates to the museum's social media accounts. It has been wonderful to share the museum's progress with the public and we have received great feedback. Follow the links to [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to stay up to date with everything going on!



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