



A state employee displays two hatchery-raised lobsters at the State Lobster Hatchery in Noank (1916). The facility closed in the 1950s. Today it is utilized for oyster research.

Photograph courtesy of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

150 Years of Conservation in Connecticut

By the second half of the nineteenth century, the Industrial Revolution had given rise to a tug of war between conservation and development. Industry—the processing of raw materials into manufactured goods—had flourished in New England, but natural resources were severely depleted. Shorelines and rivers which had provided ample oysters, salmon and shad were now filled with sewage from factories along the waterfront, causing fishermen’s nets to come up empty. As Connecticut’s labor force moved from the land to industry, the beginnings of suburbs grew around cities and farmland became scarce. Soil still being tilled was overworked and depleted of minerals, an unintended consequence of new field equipment technology and higher-yielding crops on smaller tracts of land. As the Grand Sequoias in the Yosemite Valley were being threatened by uncontrolled logging, so were Connecticut’s forests shrinking. Birds had not only lost their natural habitat, but were also being slaughtered in exorbitant numbers to manufacture fashionable hats and other products.

150 years ago, in 1866, the Connecticut General Assembly established the Fisheries Commission and the Board of Agriculture, positioning us among the first to create official government agencies charged with conserving natural resources. Five years later, in 1871, the federal government followed suit with the U.S. Fish Commission. Our state’s Fisheries Commission began to fulfill the need to balance the growth of industry with the preservation of wildlife and the environment that sustains that wildlife. In 1895, responding to the continued threat that deforestation posed to birds and other species of animals, the legislature expanded the role of the commission and renamed it the Connecticut Board of Fish and Game.

Also in 1895, Mabel Osgood Wright, a native of Fairfield, published her second book, *Birdcraft*. She was very close to her father, Unitarian Minister Samuel Osgood, until his death when she was twenty-two. While Osgood encouraged his daughter’s educational pursuits, he did not support her career pursuits. She wanted to go to medical school, but her father did not think women should have ambitions beyond marriage. Instead, she pursued her interest in biology through the study of birds and plants. After her father’s death, she married James Osbourne Wright, who in 1894 assisted in publishing her first book; he initially had to

conceal from the publisher that the author was a woman. Her work was so popular that within a year she had published *Birdcraft*, which is widely acknowledged as the predecessor of modern field guides.

Around the same time that the state government began to embrace conservation, private grassroots conservation groups cropped up in Connecticut and across the nation. Wright was at the forefront of this movement, establishing the Connecticut Audubon Society in 1896—only the second state Audubon Society (following our neighbor to the north, Massachusetts, where the first was established earlier the same year). In 1903, the Connecticut and Massachusetts societies joined with other state societies to successfully lobby Congress for creation of the first national wildlife refuge in the United States, Pelican Island, Florida. In 1905, on the heels of this success, the loosely established national network of state Audubon Societies became the National Audubon Society as it exists today.

The work of artists in the naturalist movement during this time helped bring an appreciation of nature's beauty to the people. The Hudson River School of landscape painters, led by Thomas Cole and Frederic E. Church, was at the forefront. Church, a Connecticut native, was the only pupil that Cole ever personally taught. Born in Hartford in 1826, much of Church's work depicts the wilderness of the Northeast, including *The Charter Oak at Hartford*, *Autumn on the Hudson*, *Niagara* and *West Rock, New Haven*. However, he also became the most well-traveled member of the Hudson River School, eventually bringing his interpretations of landscapes from around the world to his audience, including works such as *The Parthenon*, *Figures in an Ecuadorean Landscape*, *Sunrise in Syria* and *Icebergs at Midnight, Labrador*.

Frederick Law Olmsted was a contemporary of Church's who was influenced by the artist's work. Born in Hartford in 1822, Olmsted spent much of his youth traveling the landscapes of New England and New York. Often considered the father of landscape architecture, he is well-known for designing Manhattan's Central Park. However, he also beautified his home state with landscape designs at Beardsley and Seaside Parks in Bridgeport, Walnut Hill Park in New Britain, the State Capitol grounds, Pope Park in Hartford, and the Hartford Retreat (now known as the Institute of Living). Olmsted's other notable works include the U.S. Capitol grounds, Shelburne Farms in Vermont and Yosemite Valley. In the middle of large cities, Olmsted brought the wilderness to the people

by creating urban oases of winding trails, rolling hills and carefully chosen foliage. Before he died in 1903, he chose Hartford's Old North Cemetery as his final resting place.

At the turn of the twentieth century, the role of private organizations in conservation was expanding, as national groups like the Sierra Club pushed the government to protect land from development. In 1895, the Connecticut Forest and Park Association became the state's first private nonprofit conservation organization. With its efforts focused on reversing deforestation, the CFPA worked with the Connecticut General Assembly to make our state the first in the nation able to acquire land for creating state forests. That same year, the organization also succeeded in getting the legislature to establish the nation's first official state forester, Walter Mulford. His duties included curbing forest fires and coordinating the efforts of the Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven.

Mulford owed the creation of his position in large part to Gifford Pinchot, who had a significant hand in the development of American professional forestry, as well as in the national forest preservation effort. Pinchot was born in Simsbury in 1865. Appointed the nation's first chief of the National Forest Service in 1905, he was also perhaps the first person in the nation to become a professional forester. When he attended Yale in 1885, no courses on the subject were offered, so after completing his degree, Pinchot spent a year studying forestry in France. Some years later, Pinchot and his parents funded the Yale School of Forestry, which opened in 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Pinchot instilled in him his passion for the field, and the family shared the conviction that a force of professional foresters would be needed to prevent and reverse deforestation. Also in 1900, Gifford Pinchot founded the Society of American Foresters. His legacy, however, reaches much farther than forestry; he is considered by many to have initiated the modern conservation movement through his lifelong efforts to preserve America's forests. Certainly, he influenced the conservation efforts of his contemporary and friend, President Theodore Roosevelt.

Under the new Connecticut reforestation policy of 1901, private groups began purchasing land for purposes of conservation and public access. In 1914, Mabel Osgood Wright established Birdsong Sanctuary in Fairfield. The White Memorial Foundation set aside land in Litchfield County for a nature preserve. Over the years, the Connecticut Forest and Park Association coordinated the purchase of several important tracts of



The Connecticut
Agricultural Experiment
Station in New Haven was
founded in 1875.

*Photograph (circa 1933) courtesy
of Library of Congress.*

*Reproduction Number HABS
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Mabel Osgood Wright with
her dog, as photographed
by her husband (circa
1900).

*Photograph courtesy of Library of
Congress. Reproduction Number
LC-USZC2-6079*

land including Sleeping Giant, Talcott Mountain, Gillette Castle, Rocky Neck and Sherwood Island. Perhaps the most successful of these land acquisition efforts was a statewide fundraising coalition of individuals and organizations including the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Connecticut Federation of Women's Clubs. In 1924, the coalition donated land along the Farmington River in Barkhamsted to the citizens of Connecticut at a cost of approximately eight dollars per acre. Over two thousand people attended the opening day of the newly named Peoples' State Forest.

In 1921, the state government followed the CFP model and combined forestry and park missions to create the newly named Connecticut State Parks and Forest Commission. Connecticut's state and local governments, along with local grassroots and nonprofit conservation groups, continued to play an invaluable role in preservation and environmental efforts throughout the rest of the 1900s, not just within the state's borders but also on the national level. Between 1930 and 1932, State Forester Austin Foster Hawes developed several work camps, including one in Peoples' State Forest. This program became the prototype for the national Civilian Conservation Corps, established in 1933. The corps was part of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration (later known as the Work Projects Administration, or the WPA), one of his largest efforts to pull the United States out of the Great Depression. The program not only put unemployed youth to work, but also resulted in large-scale conservation efforts throughout the country. In Connecticut, the corps blazed hundreds of miles of trails, made parks accessible with new roads, and restored areas devastated by storms and flooding, among many other activities.

As naturalist painters in the 1800s first brought images of the wilderness to the public, so did the WPA have a branch focused on the visual arts, the Federal Arts Project. Nearly 200 artists in our state created over 5000 objects because of the program. Many pieces were images of the 1930's Connecticut landscape. Some were depictions of the artists' CCC colleagues' projects, including the construction of the Merritt Parkway. Sadly, only a fraction of this art has been located and preserved. Some pieces are located at the Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury, others at the William Benton Museum of Art in Storrs, and still more are contained in the archives of the Library of Congress.

The struggle between conservation and development in Connecticut only became more complex in the post-World War II era. Some conservation groups believed wholeheartedly in preservation while others worked to manage resources. Some groups advocated public use of spaces while others argued the need to create sanctuaries virtually untouched by human development. At the same time, development was increasing rapidly. New housing was constructed for returning war veterans, and the suburbs that began to develop after the Industrial Revolution grew exponentially with the baby boom of the mid-twentieth century. The interstate highway system blew through mountains and paved roads seemed to crop up in every corner of the state. Power lines were run through state forests and science exposed continued threats to the environment, including air, water and soil pollution.

As a new technological revolution began to flourish in the 1980s, the public became aware of all sorts of newly-discovered environmental threats to the planet. In Connecticut, conservationists' focus on clean water, soil and air was also influenced by advances in science and technology. By this time, the public's environmental concerns began to focus on health threats to wildlife and humanity. Industrial emissions degraded air quality; chemicals being dumped into waterways had resulted in dead fish floating on patches of oil in Connecticut's streams and ponds. As rivers poured polluted waste into Long Island Sound, reports of lobsters crawling out of the water and fish surfacing, desperate for oxygen, appeared in the news media. As with the Industrial Revolution 120 years earlier, fishermen's nets were once again coming up empty. This time, though, government was not able to simply balance the interests of the environment and industry.

In Connecticut, new Long Island Sound conservation groups formed, including the Soundkeeper program. Local fishermen including Terry Backer (later, a long-serving legislator), the first Soundkeeper, established the Connecticut Coastal Fishermen's Association in 1984. The association utilized a model developed by the Hudson Riverkeeper program, partnering with Riverkeeper John Cronin and Backer's friend Attorney Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to sue several Connecticut towns for illegally dumping raw sewage into Long Island Sound. With funding from this effort, the Soundkeeper was established in 1987. At the time, Terry Backer was not only the state's first Soundkeeper but also the nation's

first and perhaps the only Soundkeeper worldwide. Backer, Cronin and Kennedy worked together over the next decade to establish similar programs around the world. By 1999, the three had established Waterkeeper Alliance, an international coalition of over 200 Riverkeepers, Soundkeepers, Baykeepers and other Waterkeepers on six continents. Today, the organization continues its mission to establish local programs in all regions of the globe to advocate for swimmable, drinkable, fishable water for everyone.

In 1997, the Connecticut General Assembly established a goal of preserving 21% of the state's land as open space by 2023. As of 2015, the state government, in partnership with the federal and local governments and private nonprofits, had accomplished nearly 75% of this goal. In 2001, Connecticut joined with the other New England states as well as with the Eastern Canadian provinces to establish the Climate Change Action Plan, the first multinational framework for climate change action. Included in the plan was a target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2010 and of reducing them to 10% below 1990 levels by 2020. Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection stated in a 2014 report not only that Connecticut had succeeded in accomplishing its 2010 goal on time, but also that our state was projected to meet its 2020 goal well before the target date.

The transformation over time of the Fisheries Commission that was established 150 years ago to the modern Bureau of Fish and Game, housed in the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, reflects the changing priorities of conservationists through the generations. In 1959, the various commissions were consolidated into the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, a reflection of Connecticut's fledgling environmental movement. In the latter half of the century, water and energy conservation were a major focus, along with air quality. The creation of Connecticut's Department of Environmental Protection in 1971 reflected new conservation initiatives focused on environmental quality. Most recently, in 2011, the legislature consolidated the Department of Environmental Protection with the Department of Public Utility Control and a small energy policy division into the newly named Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

This most recent reorganization of state energy and conservation agencies reflects the modern fusion of land, water, air and energy issues. The conservation movement that began 150 years ago in our state with the

creation of Connecticut's Fisheries Commission and the Board of Agriculture has had many great successes over the generations. This success is mainly due to the strong partnership that has always existed in our state between federal, state and local government, local grassroots groups, nonprofit organizations and native artists to conserve our natural resources and share their beauty with the citizens of our state. The people of Connecticut continue to build on this legacy with an ongoing commitment to today's challenges like climate change. We may not yet know what new threats to the environment the future may bring, but I have an unshakeable confidence in the strength, resolve and wisdom of the citizens of this great state.

On the 150th anniversary of Connecticut's conservation movement, I gratefully dedicate the 2016 State Register and Manual to all the partners who have come together over the last century and a half to preserve our land, resources and wildlife. As I think of those countless individuals and groups who have carried on the movement through all these years and how far we have come, I am reminded of something my colleague, the late State Representative Terry Backer, once said to a reporter for *Connecticut Environment*: "Each generation bears some responsibility for where we are now. In the beginning they did it out of ignorance; today we behave out of arrogance. Nature tolerates neither ignorance nor arrogance. It will shake us off its back like fleas from a dog. I think about that, and also my children. There is a moral issue here. We borrow our environment from our children. For me this is a spiritual sense of obligation—to be a good spirit of the planet." May the successes of Connecticut's conservation movement continue for the next 150 years through the unwavering dedication of our state's government, private organizations and individuals. Nature is, after all, a powerful force that we only borrow for a short time. We must ensure that Connecticut's natural resources are preserved for our children and our children's children.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise W. Merrill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'D' and 'M'.

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State



Earl Brimsmaid (left) volunteer with Hamden Fish and Game Club, assists Deputy Wardens Eugene Johnson (center) and Robert L. White (right), with the “boat stocking” of trout in the Mill River, Hamden, Conn. Photograph taken 1950 by Deputy Warden Donald Deane, courtesy of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.



Exterior of the modern Department of Energy and Environmental Protection building on Elm Street in Hartford (circa 2016). Photograph courtesy of Adrian Pietrzak.



Helen Z. Pearl

Photograph courtesy of the Pearl family



Dick "Smitty" Smith

Photograph courtesy of A.C. Proctor.

In Memoriam

In the past year, Connecticut lost two longtime civic activists and public servants. **Dick Smith**, the First Selectman of Deep River for nearly twenty-seven years, was as great a testament to municipal service as our state has ever seen. In addition, Connecticut lost **Helen Z. Pearl**, a champion of gender equality, who helped found and lead the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women. These heroes left a legacy that made Connecticut a better place for all of us.

After **Dick Smith**'s passing on March 25, 2016, the one thing his grieving community of Deep River could be sure of was that it would never again have a first selectman like him. As the Courant wrote of him, "Smith was a hands-on leader who knew the first selectman's job sometimes meant getting your hands dirty. During snowstorms, Smith kept the roads clear, driving a plow truck, and he ran a street sweeper in the spring. He was also handy with an excavator and was known to descend into a trench to inspect a water main break."

"The fact that Deep River has a picturesque yet practical downtown, where you can still do your banking, mail a letter, have breakfast, lunch or dinner, buy an outfit, pick up a pound of nails, buy your groceries and check out a library book, all on foot, is in no small part due to Dick Smith's work ethic," recalled Deep River native James Spallone, a former state representative and current deputy secretary of the state. "He sought and secured every possible grant to improve infrastructure and beautify the town. Known fondly as 'Smitty', he effectively engaged volunteers, the backbone of any small town, and was the town's top promoter. Simply put, he was a model of public service."

One project in particular deserves mention: the innovative concept of a Small Cities Grant crafted specifically to fund municipally-constructed business incubator buildings. The first building opened in 1993. It was so successful in growing fledgling businesses (and adding job opportunities) that in 2002 the town's second incubator building opened, funded by another Small Cities Grant. Smith's job description was uniquely his own. In addition to maintaining and improving the physical appearance of Deep River (serving as clerk of the works for every project) and the many oversight duties of any chief elected officer, Dick considered his constituents extended family, and his concern for their well-being was deep and heartfelt.

“When the weight of responsibilities turned stressful, Dick found relaxation through his sometimes relentless sense of humor. His practical jokes relieved the angst—at the expense of whomever was within his range: town hall employees, local elected officials, friends, family—it mattered not who. He had an amazing gift for inventing stories, of relating some plausible falsehood, unflinchingly with a perfectly straight face, and unerringly on a subject one did not want to hear at that moment,” Spal-lone recalled. “Having been so targeted in the past was not a viable defense. As in all of his endeavors, Dick Smith took his joking seriously.”

Smith, a graduate of the Municipal Police Training Academy, was active as a Deep River constable for more than 40 years. He joined the Democratic Town Committee in the 1980s, and in 1989 he campaigned successfully for First Selectman, the office he held until his death. A tireless advocate for small towns, he was active in the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities. He served for many years on the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Council of Small Towns, including a two-year term as Board President, and was a familiar face at legislative hearings, testifying on proposals that might not be in the best interests of small towns.

Helen Z. Pearl, activist and public servant, passed away on October 4, 2015. Pearl was a “founding mother” of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women who successfully advocated for its creation and served as a member. She also served as the state chairperson of the bipartisan, statewide political committee that campaigned for the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the state constitution, which prohibits discrimination on account of gender.

After a peripatetic youth, Pearl earned a full-tuition scholarship to Vassar College, was selected as the most outstanding economics major and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Following her husband’s discharge from military service and five months of travel around Europe, she settled in New Britain where she and her husband of fifty-six years, Jason E. Pearl, would spend most of their lives. She served on the city’s local finance board—only the second woman to have done so—and represented New Britain on the Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency for 30 years. She was active with the New Britain League of Women Voters, campaigned for local, state and national candidates and also headed the local branch of the American Association of University Women.

Her many achievements are all the more impressive in that she accomplished them while practicing law. When her youngest child started grade school, she started law school and worked as an attorney for thirty-five years. She belonged to more committees and boards than can be listed, but all of her contributions made Connecticut a more fair and just state.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denise W. Merrill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Work Hard, Play Hard, Have Fun: The UConn Women Huskies' Winning Formula

Men's college basketball has its share of fanatics in many states; women's college basketball is also huge in some states. Only in Connecticut, however, do women's college basketball players and fans—past, present and future—have so many reasons to take pride in their team. 2016 was all about the University of Connecticut Women Huskies' record-shattering year. Led by Coach Geno Auriemma and seniors Breanna Stewart, Moriah Jefferson and Morgan Tuck, Connecticut's team brought home its fourth national championship in a row. This followed Connecticut's 2014 national championship wins by both the men's and women's teams—a feat accomplished twice, and only by UConn.

The Husky women's win against Syracuse University in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Women's Basketball Tournament on April 5, 2016 made history not just in women's collegiate basketball but also in collegiate basketball regardless of gender. With this win, the seniors on the team, Stewart, Jefferson and Tuck, became the only college basketball players in history to clinch four national titles. They were also the first players in history to never lose a tournament game in four years, with a record of 24-0. Coach Auriemma, with his eleventh career championship, now has more national championships under his belt than any other college basketball coach in history, having surpassed the Wizard of Westwood, John Wooden, who coached the University of California—Los Angeles men's basketball team from 1948 to 1975.

Colloquially known as the Big Three, Stewart, Jefferson and Tuck lost only five games in four years as Huskies. The seniors led their teammates to an undefeated regular season, with a record of 38-0. In fact, the last time the team lost a game was on November 17th, 2014, when they fell to Stanford in overtime. The Huskies, at the conclusion of the 2015-2016 season, were on a winning streak of 75 games. Even more impressive is the fact that in the four years that the Big Three were together on the court, the team had a record of 115-5 over four seasons. Many of those wins were not very close games. During the 2015-2016 season, the Husky women won by an average of 39.7 points per game, an almost unheard-of margin.



UConn women's basketball team, coaches, and staff join President Barack Obama at the White House for recognition of their eleventh national title under Coach Geno Auriemma.

Photograph by Steve Slade, UConn Athletics (circa 2016).

This dominance carried over into the NCAA tournament, where the team cruised past Robert Morris University, Duquesne University, Mississippi State University and the University of Texas at Austin to enter the Final Four alongside Oregon State University, the University of Washington and Syracuse University. UConn defeated Oregon State handily 80-51 to move on to the national championship game against Syracuse. Going into the second half of the title game, the Huskies were up 33 points. After a bit of a scare late in the third quarter, in which Syracuse went on a 16-0 scoring run, the women Huskies finished strong, winning 82-51.

Stewart, Jefferson and Tuck, who combined for 56 points in their final game as college teammates, left the game with less than two minutes remaining on the clock. They embraced in a three-way hug that was captured in newspaper photographs across the country. Of the Big Three's feeling at that moment, ESPN reported Stewart as saying, "It wasn't a sense of relief. It was a sense of success . . . We made history and to be able to say that we did that with those two guys, we're going to remember that forever."

The Big Three were not always the fear-inducing dream team that we saw in the 2016 national championship game. While each came to UConn confident and capable, they did not reach their full potential until they learned to function as one unit. "We're able to play really well together because we enjoy being around each other so much off the court," ESPN reported Tuck as saying. To become great teammates, they had to become close friends. This closeness off the court shaped cohesiveness on the court, allowing the trio to reach an unrivaled level of anticipation and decisiveness. In their fourth year as Huskies, Stewart, Jefferson and Tuck led a highly skilled team through its most successful season yet.

Coach Auriemma, who received many well-deserved accolades for his personal achievement as the coach with the most championships in college basketball history, was quick to focus on what is most important to him in his storied career: "What those eleven championships mean to me is how many great players I've had the opportunity to coach," he said, according to ESPN. "How many great people have come through the program. It doesn't matter whose name is above or whose name I'm under. As long as I have those players in my memory, I'm good."

This team-centered mentality earned the women Huskies their eleven

national championships and has continued to serve them in their post-college careers. To date, there have been more UConn alumni drafted into the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) than from any other school. Only nine days after the Husky women won the 2016 national championship game, Stewart, Jefferson and Tuck were drafted into the WNBA as the top three picks overall.

Breanna Stewart won four Most Outstanding Player awards in her time at UConn, more than any other player in NCAA history. This broke the previous record of three MOPs, which had been held by Lew Alcindor (later known as Kareem Abdul Jabbar). She was drafted by the Seattle Storm. Moriah Jefferson plays for the San Antonio Stars and Morgan Tuck plays for the hometown Connecticut Sun.

UConn fans will miss their skill, leadership and charisma. However, the Big Three have left a legacy far greater than 115 wins and four national championships. Through their unyielding dedication to the game and to each other, they have shown a generation of young girls and boys that amazing—even seemingly impossible—things are attainable with perseverance, hard work and the help of a few close friends. These women's success demonstrates the value of working hard, cooperating, and, most of all, having fun.

As for Coach Auriemma, his legacy is still being written. On the heels of winning the Associated Press's 2016 Coach of the Year Award, he and the 2016-2017 team are working hard to maintain their winning streak. Among the new recruits, perhaps he is already developing the next Big Three. We may not yet know if the Husky women will win their fifth championship in a row, but one thing we do know is that these women who have been the pride of Connecticut for over a decade have redefined what it means to be a women's basketball player. They have successfully challenged the historical idea that women's basketball is inferior to men's basketball. They have laid the path for future female athletes to continue to achieve as much as—sometimes more than—their male peers.

From the outside looking in, the women Huskies may make winning look easy. However, if it were easy 2016 would not have been the first time in history that any college basketball team won four national championships in a row. Every new player on Coach Auriemma's team goes through growing pains, learning to work harder than she ever dreamed

was possible, pushing herself way beyond what she ever imagined her limits to be. It is the deep faith these young women have in their coaches and the knowledge that each player is being pushed (and is pushing herself just as hard) that develops the love among the Husky women that makes the team fit with each other so stunningly well. That is what the fans love so much about the team and the way they play. They are wonderful young women who go through the crucible of UConn women's basketball and come out stronger, more powerful and ready to take on the world on their terms.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denise W. Merrill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

**In Memory of
Service Members from Connecticut
Lost in Afghanistan and Iraq**

March 2002 – September 2004

*(Memorialized in the 2004 edition
of the State Register and Manual)*

John A. Chapman

Phillip A. Jordan

Kemaphoom Ahn Chanawongse

Wilfredo Perez, Jr.

Richard Selden Eaton, Jr.

David Travis Friedrich

Anthony D'Agostino

Phillip R. Albert

Jeffrey Braun

Eric Thomas Paliwoda

Benjamin Gilman

Tyanna Avery-Felder

Felix Delgreco

Nathan B. Bruckenthal

Melissa Hobart

Jacob D. Martir

October 2004 – October 2005

*(Memorialized in the 2005 edition
of the State Register and Manual)*

William Brennan

Kevin J. Dempsey

Joseph Michael Nolan

Michael J. McMahon

Henry E. Irizarry

Robert Hoyt

Thomas E. Vitagliano

Lawrence R. Philippon

John T. Schmidt, III

Christopher Hoskins

Steve Reich

David Coullard

November 2005 – September 2006

*(Memorialized in the 2006 edition
of the State Register and Manual)*

Brian S. Letendre

Stephen Bixler

Jordan C. Pierson

Philip A. Johnson

Nicholas A. Madaras

November 2006 – May 2007

*(Memorialized in the 2007 edition
of the State Register and Manual)*

Jason Hamill

Joseph E. Phaneuf, II

Richard L. Ford

Stephen K. Richardson

Orlando E. Gonzalez*

Keith Heidtman

June 2007 – April 2008

*(Memorialized in the 2008 edition
of the State Register and Manual)*

Andre Craig, Jr.

Jason D. Lewis

Jason Lantieri

May 2008 – May 2009

*(Memorialized in the 2009 edition
of the State Register and Manual)*

Christian S. Cotner

Thomas J. Brown

* The memorial for Orlando E. Gonzalez appears in the 2012 edition of the *Connecticut State Register and Manual*.

June 2009 – May 2010

*(Memorialized in the 2010 edition
of the State Register and Manual)*

Edward C. Kramer

Dennis J. Pratt*

Benjamin A. Sklaver

Xhacob LaTorre

Ronald J. Spino

Tyler O. Griffin

Edwin Rivera

June 2010 – May 2011

*(Memorialized in the 2011 edition
of the State Register and Manual)*

Steven J. DeLuzio

Gebrah P. Noonan

David R. Fahey, Jr.

Dae Han Park

Frank E. Adamski, III

Raymond G. Estelle, II

Richard C. Emmons, III

Eric D. Soufrine

* The memorial for Dennis J. Pratt appears in the 2012 edition of the *Connecticut State Register and Manual*.

June 2011 – August 2012

*(Memorialized in the 2012 edition
of the State Register and Manual)*

Brian R. Bill

Edward J. Frank, II

Ari R. Cullers

Philip C.S. Schiller

September 2012 – June 2013

*(Memorialized in the 2013 edition
of the State Register and Manual)*

Andrew M. Pedersen-Keel

June 2013 – December 2014

*(Memorialized in the 2014 edition
of the State Register and Manual)*

Todd J. Lobraico, Jr.

