



Town Settled 1639

Society Organized 1925

The Stratford Historical Society

Box 382, Stratford, Connecticut 06497
Telephone 378-0630

Judson House, 967 Academy Hill, Built C1750
and Catharine B. Mitchell Museum, 1958

March 1990

Wallpaper in America

Catherine Lynn

YOU ARE INVITED TO
AN ILLUSTRATED TALK
ON THE HISTORY OF WALLPAPER

by

Catherine Lynn

at
CHRIST CHURCH PARISH HALL
2000 Main Street, Stratford

on
Friday, March 23, 1990
at 8 PM

There is no admission charge

Sponsored by the
STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wallpaper was America's favorite wall covering for almost two hundred years. From the elaborate French scenic papers imported by the rich to the simple one-color papers of the poor, wallpapers were to be found in nearly every fashion-conscious American home.

Catherine Lynn, the acknowledged expert in the field, surveys the most distinctive styles used in America from the seventeenth century, when their presence can first be documented, to World War I, when the taste makers began to associate the plain white wall with all that was "Modern."

She demonstrates that wallpaper, inexpensive and widely available, was the most democratic of wall coverings, and was responsible for carrying the high styles of France and England to the very frontiers of our country in surprisingly short order. She shows how wallpaper, in its role as style carrier, had a significant influence on American art and culture.

Ten years in the making, *Wallpaper in America* is an important contribution to the study of American material culture and undoubtedly will be the definitive book on the subject for many years to come.

Catherine Lynn was, for seven years, the curator of the Cooper-Hewitt wallpaper collection, and later curator of the Atlanta Historical Society. Ms. Lynn was born in Lynchburg, Virginia, and currently lives in New Haven, Connecticut.

From the Seventeenth Century to World War I

The ANTIQUE SHOW will take place on April 7, 1990 at the Baldwin Center. If you are in the greater Stratford area you should find two discount admission tickets enclosed with this newsletter. If you did not receive any such tickets, please call the Society at 378-0630 if you wish to receive some.

Items are still being received for donation to the Antique Show's Society booth. There will be someone at the Museum to receive donations on Tuesdays and Thursdays until approximately 3:00 PM. If you wish to have items picked up you may call the Society or Hiram Tindall at 377-7361 or Bonnie Paradise at 377-2332.

There will also be the traditional sale of baked goods. If you wish to donate one of your favorites you may either bring it with you on the day of the Antique Show or call Margaret VanGieson at 378-5555.

JUDSON HOUSE WILL OPEN for the 1990 visiting season on Wednesday April 18, 1990. The House will be open to visitors on Wednesdays Saturday and Sunday through October for "walk-in" visitors. Remember, members of the Society are entitled to Free Admission. Group tours for either these days or any other day of the week may be arranged by calling Carol Brancato at 375-8187.

"IN PURSUIT OF PARADISE" by Lewis Knapp continues to sell well. Did you see the wonderful review the book received in the March issue of "Yankee" Magazine? The original printing of 4,000 copies seemed to be a very large number when we moved them all into the museum last August. However, sales have been so good that we have left approximately 1700 copies and will be "in the black" financially when 100 more copies have been sold.

"PARADISE ENOW: TREASURES FROM YESTERDAY'S KITCHENS" edited by Vivienne Knapp has been "in the black" for several months. The Society thanks all of the people who were so supportive of these two sales efforts.

In thanks to both Lewis and Vivienne for their dedication to the aims of the Society as demonstrated by their amazing production of these two volumes, the Society, at the meeting of January 1990, presented to each of them a sterling silver reproduction of the original key to Judson House..Lew's was in the form of a keychain and Vivienne's was on a silver neck chain. I have been asked to convey their surprise, delight and thanks to the membership.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE donations have been received as follows:

In memory of:

Henry Fagan

Donald Fowler &
Velmor Spamer

Donald Fowler

Howard Wilcoxson

Given by:

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Moore

Madlyn Salter

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ross

Catherine Lawrence

BACK to the Society's Cookbook for a moment: Vivienne Knapp has a cookbook from St. Nicholas Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Church Women's Guild which was one of the many which were offered to her for research. The others have been returned, however we do not know who gave this one. If you are the one and wish to have the book returned, please call Vivienne at 377-0602. Otherwise it will be placed into the Society's collection.

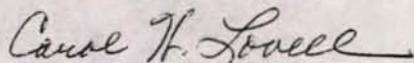
OVERNIGHT TRIP TO PLIMOTH PLANTATION, MASSACHUSETTS:

Since we did not go on this Plimoth trip last year, we have planned to try again on the first weekend of May 1990. This will be a trip which is focused upon the 17th century as portrayed at Plimoth Plantation with attention to the special exhibits available in the town of Plymouth. We have tried to plan a trip of shorter days and more limited focus. Space will be limited to 40 people and we will be advertising in the local papers and inviting neighboring Historical Societies. Therefore, it is suggested that your deposits be mailed as soon as possible. In the event the trip is cancelled, there will be a full refund. Details and further information are included in the enclosed flyer. If you have questions, call Carol Lovell at 378-0630 (Society) or 375-3569 (home).

PLAN TO ATTEND our General Membership meeting on Friday March 23. Catherine Lynn is an acknowledged expert on the history of WALLPAPER IN AMERICA.

OUR NEXT MEETING will be on Friday, May 18. The speaker will be Connecticut State Historian Christopher Collier who has agreed to the request of our Program Chair Lew Knapp to come to Stratford. We will have as our guests members of the Historical Societies of our neighboring towns. This will be a special event! Mark your calendars.

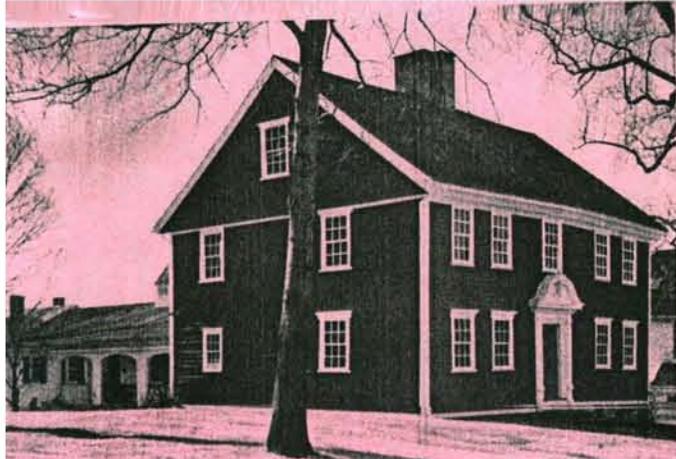
Sincerely,



Mrs. Todd B. Lovell, President

P.S.: Did you know that the Stratford Historical Society has members in 17 states and one foreign country (France)?

PPS: HOSTS/HOSTESSES are needed to greet visitors and generally assist the Judson House Guides on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from early May through October. If you can volunteer your time from 12:00 noon until 3:00 PM, please call Catherine Lawrence at 375-4183. Thank you for your interest.



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PLIMOTH PLANTATION, MASSACHUSETTS

Two Day Trip - 5th & 6th May 1990

- Includes:
- One night at the John Carver Inn
 - Luggage Handling and Taxes
 - One Breakfast
 - One Lunch
 - PRIVATE 17th Century Special Theme Dinner
 - Period Entertainment during the Dinner
 - Guided Tour of Plymouth
 - Admissions to: Cranberry World
 - Mayflower II
 - Plimoth Plantation

ITINERARY

Sat. 5/5

- 8:00am Depart from Stratford
- 12:00n Arrive at John Carver Inn-check into Hotel
- Lunch at Hearth 'n Kettle
- 2:00pm Depart for a Tour of Plymouth
- Admission to Cranberry World
- Admission to Mayflower II
- See the Plymouth Rock and more
- 4:30pm Free time at Hotel
- 5:30pm Depart for Special Theme Dinner & Entertainment

Sun. 5/6

- Breakfast
- 10:00am Admission to Plimoth Plantation
- Lunch on own at Museum Cafeteria
- (Approx.)- 2:00pm Depart for Stratford...4 hour ride home

Price includes Private Bus from Stratford-round trip NO SMOKING

COST: \$168.00 per person--Double occupancy
203.50 per person--Single occupancy
158.50 per person--Triple occupancy

\$50.00 Deposit per person due with reservation form.
Balance due by April 15, 1990

Mail to: Stratford Historical Society
Box 382 Atten: Plimoth
Stratford, CT 06497

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

I have enclosed \$50 deposit. _____

I have enclosed \$ _____ payment in full. _____

I will be roomates with _____

If you wish to have us try to find a roommate for you please check _____.