



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

May 1991

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Friday, May 24, 1991--8:00PM
Christ Episcopal Church Parish Hall
2000 Main St., Stratford, CT

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED.

PROGRAM: THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY: Three Centuries of
Local Architectural Styles--a slide-illustrated talk by
Lewis G. Knapp, Town Historian and James Sackett, AIA

In Stratford, there are numerous and diverse architectural styles which need recognition and preservation. The purpose of this program is to call attention to the various styles through photographs of actual Stratford houses, and also to make suggestions for the proper preservation of these architectural gems.

Lewis G. Knapp is well known for his interest in the history of Stratford as exhibited in his authorship of "In Pursuit of Paradise: History of the Town of Stratford, Conn." as well as his many lectures to various town organizations. His slides for this program will be of houses still standing, many of which were photographed earlier in this century.

James R. Sackett, AIA is a partner in the firm of Mingoello Sackett & Hayes, Architects, a firm located in Stratford which specializes in Architectural/Interior Design with extensive experience in Building Renovations. This is the firm which has been working on the re-vitalization of Paradise Green.

Most of us have learned from Real Estate ads to call most houses colonial or ranch style. However, there are many other styles which are either overlooked or not understood. Some of the styles mentioned in this talk and illustrated with slides are: the Early Colonial Style (1640-1700)--Perry House, the Colonial Style (1700-1750)--Gen. Walker House, the Colonial Style (1750-1800)--Matthias Nicol and Wm. Samuel Johnson House, Federal Style (1790-1810) Samuel William Johnson House and McEwen/Bunnell House, the Greek Revival Style (1810-1840)--David Plant House, the Gothic Revival style (1850s)--Congregational Church, the Italianate style--now Pisteey Funeral Home and Adzima Funeral Home and many other styles and illustrations.

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Architectural styles are many in a town with a history of more than 350 years. Our houses are diverse and we should recognize them as the gems which they are. Frequently the right material but incorrect use is made when additions or renovations take place. When this happens, the houses are not receiving the respect which they deserve.

James Sackett, AIA will conclude the program with a few comments on today's homes/who designs them and why. And finally, where do we go from here.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED to this meeting. REAL ESTATE AGENTS are also invited. Come and learn about the varied architectural heritage of our town.

BUILDING COMMITTEE PROGRESS REPORT -- The Building Committee has met several times since the last General Meeting in February. A separate building fund account has been set up in order to draw funds needed for necessary expenses. This was approved at a special Governing Board meeting on March 25th.

We have completed our required survey of our land signed a Certificate of Appropriateness to the Historic Commission.

At our April 29th Governing Board meeting, Mr. Todd Lovell was elected chairman of our Building Committee.

We are planning to have a fund drive that will enable everyone to share in this project. We will need your help to make this building a reality.

We have retained Gustavson & Verelly as Architectural Consultants.

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ANTIQUUE SHOW Many thank yous are in order for the large number of people that took part. Thanks to the planners, the movers, the bakers, the sellers, and the cleaner uppers. It was a great day, and for all of our efforts, we realized a profit of \$5,941.53.

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OPEN HOUSE I would like to thank Bonnie Paradise and her committee at this time for the open house and reception held on Sunday afternoon, April 21st. A rainy day -- but, a good time was had by all.

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JUDSON HOUSE & CATHERINE MITCHELL museum are open for the season on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am to 4 pm. Members may visit these properties at no charge; but, we suggest that you arrive no later than 3 o'clock to take advantage of a complete tour.

This season as you ride by Judson House you will see a new banner -- red white and blue that will tell you the house is OPEN. Many thanks to Mary Hardy for making this up.

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DOCENT Training classes have been completed and we thank Carol Brancato for presenting such an interesting program. We would also like to welcome our new Docents -- Joan Alston, Rose Dorocak, Frances Sloane, Patti Pitts and Dagney Pitts.

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BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE contributions have been received as follows:

In memory of:
Bertha Judson

Given by:
Lillian Larson

FROM BONNIE PARADISE -- A very special thank you to all of those who worked, baked and attended the Open House on Sunday, April 21st. The weather was against us; however, a pleasant afternoon was had by all.

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THE EARLY AMERICAN FESTIVAL held last July was such a wonderful success that it will be held again this year -- Sunday, July 14th -- on our property on Academy Hill between 11 am to 4 pm. There will be demonstrations by the participating crafts people and tours of Judson House. Please mark this date on your calendar and watch for more detailed information.

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THANK YOU to Carol Brancato and the docents for making Judson House so sparkling clean.

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GLASTONBURY will celebrate its 300th Anniversary in 1993. As part of the Tercentenary observance a project to compile a data bank of genealogical information on Glastonbury's founders and settlers is under way. If you believe your ancestral roots are in Glastonbury please respond to the Tercentenary Committee, P.O. Box 172, or Historical Society of Glastonbury, P.O. Box 46, Glastonbury, CT 06033, giving as much information as you can about your family line, including present members.

Sincerely,

Vincent L. Hardy

Vincent L. Hardy, President
Stratford Historical Society