



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

Town Settled 1639

Society Organized 1925

The Stratford Historical Society

Box 382, Stratford, Connecticut 06497
Telephone 378-0630

January 1992

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Friday, January 31, 1992--8:00pm
Christ Episcopal Church Parish Hall
2000 Main St., Stratford, CT

HIDDEN TREASURES FROM THE COLLECTION

Hiram Tindall, Curator of the Stratford Historical Society, will present a slide-illustrated lecture which will give us a glimpse of the many wonderful items in the Society's collection which have remained "hidden" due to lack of exhibit space.

Only a fraction of the collection is on display at any given time. The most recent number in our accessions book is 6,091. Since many numbers list twenty or thirty items, there are over 20,000 individual pieces, most of which have been donated over the period since 1925 when the Society was founded.

For the January meeting your curator wishes to give you some idea of the wonderful things we have including John Hancock's autograph on a Revolutionary War commission, a red wool cape (hand-spun and hand-woven) worn to the inaugural ball of President James Madison, a coffee pot used in Lovejoy's tavern in Stratford in 1795, antique dolls, toys, furniture, portraits, guns, needlework and so on. Many items from the collection have been borrowed by major museums across the United States for inclusion in exhibits which have been seen by countless visitors.

Now that construction has begun on the long hoped-for addition to our Catharine B. Mitchell museum, these "hidden treasures" will become more visible for your pleasure. Remember that your membership provides you with free admission.

The public is always invited to our meetings. Refreshments will be available following the program.

Carol W. Lovell, Program chair

Do you know of any interesting speakers or programs? Have you been impressed by a topic which might be of interest to our members? Please let us know. All suggestions are welcome! Your contributions will be of great value to our program planning.

MEMBERSHIP

In an effort to update our Membership List, and avoid an additional mailing of reminder notices for Annual Dues which were due by October 1991, we have indicated that your dues have not been paid for the 1991-1992 year by a red circle around your mailing address on the envelope of this letter. If you feel that you HAVE paid and that our records are in error, please write to Membership - Stratford Historical Society - Box 382 - Stratford, CT 06497

If we do not hear from you, you will receive no further newsletters and your name will be removed from the Membership List.

Please check your mailing address and notify us of any corrections.

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DOCENT TRAINING

Docent Training classes will begin on February 20, 1992 and continue for eight (8) weeks. This is an opportunity to learn more about the history of Stratford and Judson House. For more information call Carol Brancato 375-8187 -- Betty Hanusovsky 378-4351 or call the Stratford Historical Society on Mondays or Thursdays between 9 and 3 - 378-0630.

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GROUP TOURS

Our volunteers logged 109½ hours showing tours through Judson House of 422 students and 92 chaperones. Many compliments from teachers and parents have been received regarding our Education Program. All of this would not be possible without the cooperation of our Volunteers, and we thank you for all of your efforts.

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BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Contributions to the Book of Remembrance have been made as follows:

<u>Given by</u>	<u>In Memory of</u>
Lillian B. Larson	Ernest France
Stanley W. Bassett	Mrs. Aretha Bassett
Mrs. Alma Fowler	Ernest France

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Ruth Beardsley Parker for the Parker Fund	Howard R. Beardsley Theodore R. Beardsley
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ANTIQUÉ SHOW -- April 4th - 1992

Pick ups for the Antique Show may be made by calling Bonnie Paradise 377-2332.

Due to construction we may not be open for drop-offs. Call Carol Lovell 375-3569 for an appointment to drop off items.

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BUILDING FUND

Enclosed with this letter, you will find a request for contributions to the Building Fund for the Museum addition, construction of which has just begun. Please read the letter and give it your careful consideration. We will appreciate all contributions regardless of size.

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Save the date -- the next General Meeting will take place on March 27, 1992.

Sincerely,

Vincent L. Hardy

Vincent Hardy, President
Stratford Historical Society

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