



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

November, 1993

**NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** Friday, November 19, 1993--8:00PM  
STRATFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
2600 Main St.

LOCATION CHANGE

### GROUNDING IN HISTORY

Nicholas Bellantoni, Connecticut State Archaeologist

Hidden in Connecticut's fields and forest is evidence of prehistoric hunters and gatherers, Native American villages, and sacred burial grounds. The landscape also harbors remains of European exploration, Colonial settlement and the Industrial Revolution.

Using slides to illustrate the earliest beginnings of the land we know as Connecticut, Mr. Bellantoni shares his knowledge of and enthusiasm for the early inhabitants whom he has encountered in archaeological digs of sites throughout the state.

A Hartford native, Nicholas Bellantoni began his archaeological teaching at Central Connecticut State University and earned his Ph.D in anthropology in 1987 at the University of Connecticut. He is the first full-time Archaeologist of the State of Connecticut.

Refreshments will be served, as usual, following the program.

**PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF LOCATION--FOR THIS MEETING ONLY!!**

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### MEMBERSHIP

Membership renewal dues for 1993-94 are now being accepted. If we are in receipt of your renewal, you will find your 1993-4 Membership card enclosed. If you have not as yet renewed, we encourage you to do so, as soon as possible, so that we may keep our records up to date.

Many thanks for your support.

Please note any address changes or corrections on your renewal forms.

INFORMATION PLEASE

Among the most charming and accomplished paintings in the collection of your society is an oil painting of the Curtis-Mallet House that stood at the northwest corner of Main Street and Essex Place until 1927 when it was moved to Darien, Conn. Clearly, this painting signed 'C.E. Wolfe' and dated 1892 was based on the early photograph of the house Wilcoxson shows in his History of Stratford on page 354. Moreover, the Society recently acquired a chalk and charcoal drawing of Stratford Point and Lighthouse with the same signature and dated 1876.

Alas, the society possessed no information with respect to the artist. Yet, the occurrence of two local scenes with the same signature suggested a local artist. A check of the earliest town directories from the 90's disclosed that a certain Charles Englebert Wolfe with occupation listed as 'artist' lived on Main Street opposite Longbrook Avenue. Research in the Town Clerk's office and Probate office as well as a walk through Union Cemetery disclosed that Charles Englebert Wolfe was born in 1842 in Germany, came to America with his parents who farmed some twelve acres at Great Neck in Stratford, married Julia Novella, was the father of two daughters and died in 1899 possessed of an estate valued at \$1,300.

It would seem that other examples of his art must remain in the area.

Do you know of any other paintings or chalk drawings signed 'C.E. Wolfe'?

Your society would be interested in locating other examples of this artist's work.

Please contact Robert B. Fritz, Chairman of Exhibits -- 378-0630.

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FROM VINCENT AND MARY HARDY

Thank you to everyone for the love and concern shown during Vincent's recent illness. We were so appreciative, and the many, many cards were so welcome

FROM BETTY APPEGATE, CH. HOSTS & HOSTESSES

Sincere thanks to the many members who gave of their time to be Hosts/Hostesses at the door of Judson House during the most successful 1993 season.

LABEL THOSE PICTURES!!

Will your children or heirs know who all those photographs are in drawers and books???? Will they know what groups those are??? Better label your photos. We are always glad to receive any Stratford scenes or Stratford groups.

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WILCOXSON'S HISTORY OF STRATFORD

We are anxious to buy one or two copies of Wilcoxson's History of Stratford. We pay according to condition. If you have a copy available call on Tuesday or Thursday -- 378-0630.

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CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Remember, In Pursuit of Paradise and the Stratford Cook Book make nice Christmas Presents. The folder of Old Stratford Post Cards makes a good small gift. Call 378-0630 on Tuesday or Thursday. For anyone without a car, we will deliver locally.

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REMEMBER

The Society has several plots in Mountain Grove Cemetary available for purchase.

Sincerely,

*Vincent L. Hardy*

Vincent Hardy, President

THE STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Report of the Nominating Committee, 1993-1994

President	Mr. Vincent Hardy
First Vice-President	Mrs. Judith Kurmay
Second Vice-President	Mr. Lewis G. Knapp
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Joseph Moore
Corresponding Secretary	Mrs. Elizabeth Hanusovsky
Treasurer	Mr. Donald Calkins
Assistant Treasurer	Miss Margaret Jacaruso
Immediate Past President	Mrs. Carol Lovell

DIRECTORS

1 Year	Mrs. Mary Hardy
1 Year	Mrs. Joyce Slater
2 Years	Mr. Louis J. Petriel Jr.
3 Years	Mrs. Selma Clark

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Accessions/Inventory	Mrs. Carol Lovell
Buildings	Mr. Joseph A. Fry
Education Co-Chairpersons	(Mrs. Carol Brancato (Mrs. Elizabeth Hanusovsky
Exhibits	Mr. Robert Fritz
Finance	Mr. Peter Dahl
Grounds/Gardens Co-Chairpersons	(Mrs. Helen Chagares (Mr. Elden Dustin
History	Mrs. Catherine C. Lawrence
Hospitality	(Mrs. Faye Gerarden (
Host/Hostesses	Mrs. Betty Applegate
League Delegates	(Mr. Raymond Cable (Mrs. Lillian Larson (Mrs. Margaret VanGieson
Library	Mrs. Lillian Larson
Membership	(Mr. C. Robert Allen (Mrs. Jane P. Allen
Nominating Committee	Mr. Louis J. Petriel Jr.
Program	Mrs. Carol Lovell
Publicity	(Mrs. Dorothy Euerle (Miss Margaret Jacaruso
Ways and Means Co-Chairpersons	(Mr. Stanley Ochman (Mr. Robert Cumpstone (Hiram Tindall

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee:

Mr. Louis J. Petriel, Jr., Chairperson	
Mrs. Selma Dobkin	Mr. Howard Lounsbury
Mrs. Elizabeth Hanusovsky	Mrs. Catherine C. Lawrence
Mrs. Betty Applegate	Mrs. Carol Lovell
Mr. Hiram Tindall	