



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

January 1994

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Friday, January 28, 1994--8:00pm  
Christ Episcopal Church Parish Hall  
2000 Main St., Stratford

## The Life of Emily Prudden, Educator

Mr. Harry Jones, President of the Orange, CT Historical Society, will give a talk about Emily Prudden who left the town of Orange about 100 years ago to go to North Carolina where she established 15 schools for poor children in Appalachia.

In 1832 Emily was born in the town which her ancestors had helped found almost 200 years before. Although almost totally deaf from an unknown illness Emily, from the age of 24, was left to care for the three children of her sister who had died. She acted as homemaker for them and their minister father. During this time she established herself as a respected watercolorist.

At the age of 50 she became housemother of a girls' school in North Carolina. She established schools all over Appalachia, taking both white and black students in her desire to give all children the advantage of education.

Much of the information known about Emily Prudden comes from the work of a modern day North Carolina teacher who chose Prudden as the subject of her Ph.D. dissertation.

Using the information, plus his own research, Harry Jones spoke recently about Emily Prudden at a lecture series titled "Connecticut Women Reshaping the World: Historical Perspectives", sponsored by the Association for the Study of Connecticut History, the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women and the Connecticut Humanities Council.

Please come and bring a friend to this most interesting meeting. Refreshments will be served following the program.

In case of bad weather, cancellation announcement will be given to the local radio station WICC--600AM.

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### WANTS

We are anxious to build up our collection of World War II uniforms. We have the Reverend Graham's Chaplain's uniform. We are looking for Air Force, Army, Marine & Navy uniforms, both of enlisted men and officers.

BOOKS

In addition to In Pursuit of Paradise and the cook book, we have copies of Shang, a beautifully illustrated volume with biography, local oystering history and information and illustrations of his decoys. Price \$35.00

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DOCENT TRAINING CLASSES

The Society's Docent Training Program will get underway, Thursday March 3, at 9:30 AM, in the Museum building. The course will continue for six (6) weeks. Volunteers who participate in this program will show Judson House and its artifacts to school groups and other community organizations.

Come join us and bring a friend. We need you.

Questions??? call Carol Brancato 375-8187 or Elizabeth Hanusovssky  
378-4351

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JUDSON HOUSE TOURS

During the 1993 season, the docents hosted 379 students and 82 adults. They logged seventy-five (75) hours for the thirteen (13) tours scheduled. The receipts for admissions were \$428.00, and sales totaled \$385.50.

Thank you to all of the docents for your time and effort. You made our education program possible.

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WILCOXSON HISTORY AVAILABLE

A single copy of Wilcoxson's History of Stratford is available for \$100.00. While the cover shows slight wear, the binding is tight and it is completely intact.

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BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>By</u>
Grace Hamm Ehlert (mother)	Jean Vail

Ruth Beardsley Parker has added to the Beardsley Fund which she established in memory of her father, Theodore R. Beardsley, and her brother Howard R. Beardsley.

Sincerely,  
*Vincent L. Hardy*  
Vincent Hardy, President