



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 1995

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Fri., January 27, 1995--8:00PM  
Christ Episcopal Church Hall  
2000 Main St., Stratford

### THE GOLDEN HILL PAUGUSSETT LAND CLAIMS An Ethnohistorian's Perspective

Are the land claims brought by the so-called Golden Hill Paugussetts valid? How do the claims made by these people stand against Connecticut's colonial-era acts and laws and the later state statutes? Were the deeds of conveyance made between the Indians and Stratford's early inhabitants valid? Who were the real ancestors of the Golden Hill Indians and what impact does this revelation have on their claims and bid for federal recognition?

These are some of the questions that will be addressed in this forthcoming presentation. James Lynch will address concepts of land ownership in colonial Connecticut, land conveyances from the Indian inhabitants of colonial Stratford, the nature of the so-called reservation, and finally the true identity of these people who refer to themselves as Golden Hill Paugussetts.

James Lynch is a native of Stratford who graduated from Stratford High School in 1964 and received his Bachelor's Degree in Anthropology and Sociology (cum laude) from Southern Connecticut State University and his Masters Degree in Anthropology (Ethnohistory) from Wesleyan University. He has completed all required studies toward his Doctorate (Sociocultured Dynamics and Ethnohistory) at the University of Connecticut.

Mr. Lynch has published and delivered research papers at numerous symposia and conferences on Native American Tribes and Confederacies of the Northeastern United States and Canada. His primary focus has been upon the effects of European-Native American contact. He has also published for the US Naval Institute.

THE PUBLIC IS ALWAYS INVITED TO ATTEND.  
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

Over

DOCENT TRAINING CLASSES will begin on Thursday, March 9, 1995, and continue through Thursday, April 13, 1995, from 9:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. Are you interested in learning about the family of Capt. David Judson? Are you interested in knowing more about the history of Stratford? Would you like to share this knowledge with groups of school children? If so, the Docent Training Program is for you. Call Carol Brancato at 375-8187 or the Society at 378-0630.

Ruth Beardsley Parker of Dewitt, N. Y., has sent a donation in memory of her father, Theodore R. Beardsley, and her brother, Howard B. Beardsley.

Wilcoxson's History of Stratford: We have two copies available, one at \$100.00, in excellent condition, and one at \$55.00, which is clean, but the pages show it was damp at one time.

ANNUAL ANTIQUES SHOW: Our show is schedule for Saturday, April 8, 1995, at the Baldwin Center. We will have our usual Food Booth, Book Booth and Society Booth. Shortly before the show, the telephone squad will call about the baked goods. Meanwhile, if you have books or items for the booth, please call Bonnie Paradise at 377-2332 or Hy Tindall at 377-7361. The booth can use china, glass, collectibles, old tools, small furniture which we can repair, etc. Thank you!

Judith Kurmay,  
President