


PRESERVATION CONNECTICUT NEWS

Bringing preservation to you

Preservation Connecticut's Circuit Riders are the boots on the ground for historic places all over the state. In this issue, we introduce a new feature that follows the Circuit Riders on their travels. A related article highlights their ability to provide basic technical consultation by experienced professionals. Other articles offer a wrap-up of the 2024 legislative session, introduce Connecticut's newest National Register listings, and highlight celebrations around the bicentennial of the Marquis de Lafayette's triumphal tour in 1824.



Circuit Rider Mike Forino checks out the Deep River Historical Society's bleach house with architect Bob Hurd. Acres of such structures once filled the hillsides of Deep River and Ivoryton to serve the factories that processed ivory for piano keys, combs, billiard balls, and other household item

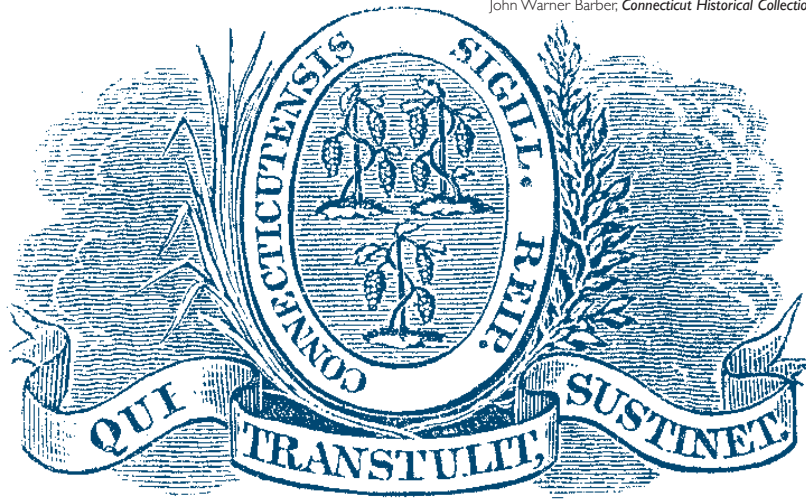
PCT

2024 at the General Assembly

Overall, the General Assembly ended its legislative session for 2024 on a good note for Connecticut's historic places. While the most high-profile proposal, which threatened to upend established preservation practice, passed, its most harmful provision was dropped in the process. Legislators also passed improvements to two state programs, while another valuable proposal never made it to a vote.

Throughout the session, preservationists' attention was focused on House Bill 5433, *An act establishing a procedure for the State Historic Preservation Officer to make determinations for certain environmental effects*, which would have set up a process for developers either to appeal environmental review determinations by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for projects receiving state funding, or else to buy their way out of the process altogether. Connecticut Preservation Action, Preservation Connecticut, and many individuals energetically opposed this bill, which would have weakened the state's longtime commitment to protecting historic places through the projects it funds. Thanks in part to this opposition, the clock ran out on the bill as it failed to make it to a vote in the Senate. It resurfaced, though, in the June special session and was passed as part of an omnibus bill. However, the buyout provision was eliminated, and deadlines were set for SHPO project review. These changes somewhat lessened the harm to the state's preservation policies, although it remains to be seen if the new deadlines can realistically be met.

In the wake of the United Illuminating proposal to erect electrical transmission lines along railroad tracks in Fairfield and Bridgeport, the legislature passed Public Act 24-144, *An act concerning certain proceedings relating to electric transmission lines and the membership and processes of the Connecticut Siting*



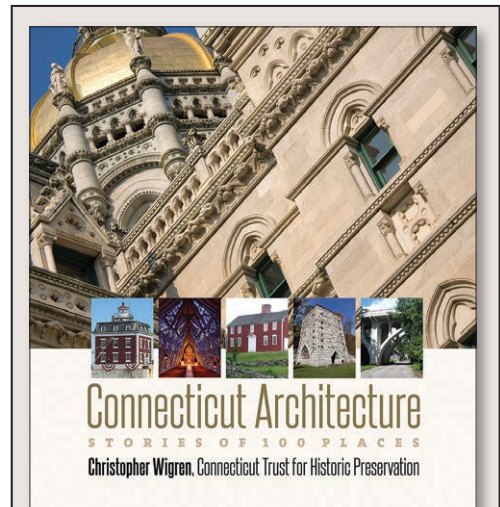
Council, with bipartisan support. Intended to increase transparency and make it easier for municipalities and the public to have a voice in the Council's proceedings, the bill drew support from local governments and citizens frustrated with a process that sometimes seemed designed purposely to keep them out of deliberations. Governor Lamont signed the act into law, despite opposition from utility companies and the Council.

Also passed and signed was Public Act 24-109, *An act concerning the historic homes rehabilitation tax credit*, broadening the list of taxes to which the tax credits may be applied, particularly for businesses. This measure restored former provisions which had been repealed, mainly the option to sell the tax credit to C-Corporations, to the detriment of the tax credit program. Provisions for applying the credit to personal income tax, by individuals, or to unrelated business income, by nonprofit corporations, remain unchanged.

A final measure, Senate Bill 105, *An act concerning funding for the Community Investment Act*, made it out of committee and the Senate, but not the House. It would have increased the fee on land record filings that funds state programs in farmland protection, open space acquisition, affordable housing, historic preservation (including an annual amount to Preservation Connecticut). Despite rising costs, the fee has not been increased in years. The sponsor, Sen. Cathy Osten (a Trustee of PCT) hopes to introduce the bill again next year.

One lesson from the session was the need to educate lawmakers about the benefits of preservation and how state preservation policies work. It's not too early to begin

thinking about 2025, when the General Assembly will have a long session. While much legislative attention will be focused on the biennial budget, there will be other preservation related measures to consider. The quiet season is a good time to reach out to legislators for more in-depth conversations than are possible during the hubbub of a session. Consult Connecticut Preservation Action or Preservation Connecticut for suggested talking points.



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"...intrigues the eye and mind in a journey through centuries of Connecticut history and architecture."

—David K. Left, town historian, Canton

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The summer begins with exciting news: Preservation Connecticut's **Washington Park project** to provide needed repairs to seven religious buildings in Bridgeport is a go. The State Bond Commission approved funding for our Community Investment Fund grant of \$5.1 million on June 7. A kick-off celebration will be planned with local church leaders and community partners.

In other recent events: at a meeting on June 6 our Board of Trustees reluctantly accepted **Jonathan Wharton's** resignation, owing to increased responsibilities in his position as Professor in the Government department at Southern Connecticut State University. Jonathan joined the Board in the midst of the Covid pandemic and provided valuable guidance as PCT began to consider the implications the Black Lives Matter movement for its work. More recently he has served as Board secretary and a member of the strategic planning committee.

The Board also approved Preservation Connecticut's **budget for 2024-2025** fiscal year. Because of a lapse in State funding for the Circuit Rider program in 2023-2024, the budget is now tighter than in recent years, highlighting the importance of

private support from our members, donors and foundations. At a time when calls for Circuit Rider assistance and community outreach continue to grow, we're even more grateful than ever for your loyalty and generosity which are crucial to carrying out our mission.

Speaking of fulfilling mission, a new feature that we're unveiling in this issue will help readers see how we're doing that. Turn to page 4 for the first appearance of a **Circuit Riders report**, providing highlights of the work our four Circuit Riders do in the field.

Among other things, the Circuit Riders are instrumental in our partnership with The 1772 Foundation to administer small but crucial **maintenance and repair grants** to nonprofits around the State. These grants provide timely investments at these properties to protect and retain building fabric. Turn to PCT's social media feeds for photos of check presentations to the latest recipients.

In the past two months, PCT's staff has organized several **public events**. We hosted the 2024 Connecticut Preservation Awards—congratulations again to all the recipients, and thanks to our sponsors! We held an open house at the Winchester Bennett house in New Haven, home to the former president of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company.

And we sponsored a public archaeology weekend with the Barnes Museum in Southington and Southern Connecticut State University. Day 1 featured a dig at the Museum with experts and adults; Day 2 families and kids joined in to get their hands dirty -inspiring the next generation of archaeologists.

For all this, we rely on your support. Beginning July 1, 2024, Preservation Connecticut restructured its **membership levels** and increased membership prices for the first time in 20 years. This will help meet some of the increased costs of programs like *Connecticut Preservation News*, Circuit Rider, other technical assistance, educational programming, and special events. We hope you understand and continue to support our mission of protecting our state's heritage, landscapes, and built environment because you are essential to our work.

—Jane Montanaro



Preservation Connecticut is a statewide nonprofit membership organization established as the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation by a special act of the State Legislature in 1975. Working with local preservation groups and individuals as well as statewide organizations, it encourages, advocates, and facilitates historic preservation throughout Connecticut.

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Upcoming Meetings

Connecticut Historic Preservation Council

August 7, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.
September 4, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

To participate, contact Jonathan Kinney
(860) 500-2380; Jonathan.Kinney@ct.gov

State Historic Preservation Review Board

September 13, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

To participate, contact Jenny Scofield
(860) 500-2343; Jenny.Scofield@ct.gov

Meetings are hybrid meetings, held in person at the State Historic Preservation Office, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, and virtually via Microsoft Teams.

For more information call (860) 500-2343 or visit portal.ct.gov/DECD/Services/Historic-Preservation/About-the-State-Historic-Preservation-Office



From the field: the **Circuit Riders** report

Preservation Connecticut's team of four Circuit Riders are always available to assist our constituents with preservation planning, grant applications, project management, and listing properties on the State and National Register of Historic Places, among many other activities. Here are a few recent highlights:

Public programs: At the beginning of June, Stefon Danczuk partnered with faculty and students from Southern Connecticut State University to conduct an educational archaeological dig at the Barnes Museum in Southington. Educational activities such as this are an essential component of the Circuit Rider Program's focus on community-building. Do you have an idea for a public program? Give us a call!

Technical consultation. Through our partnership with the State Historic Preservation Office, Michael Forino brought in the engineering firm DeStefano & Chamberlain to document structural issues at one of our state's oldest surviving buildings, the 17th-century Joshua Hempstead House, owned by Connecticut Landmarks. Great care was taken to test the structural stability of beams and posts using minimally invasive resistance drills which give the user a picture of the wood's density and stability. Matterport scans—which create a virtual model of the structure—drones, and rovers were also used to document this historically significant structure.

Register nominations: Stacey Vairo has prepared a nomination for listing the Morris and Rose Greenwald House in Weston on the National Register for Historic Places. This mid-20th-century home is one of only three houses in the United States designed by the internationally renowned architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. 🌿

Circuit Riders by the numbers: March-May 2024

site visits made: **48**
communities visited: **27**
technical consultations: **7**
educational programs presented: **2**
historic register nominations completed: **1**

Barnes Museum



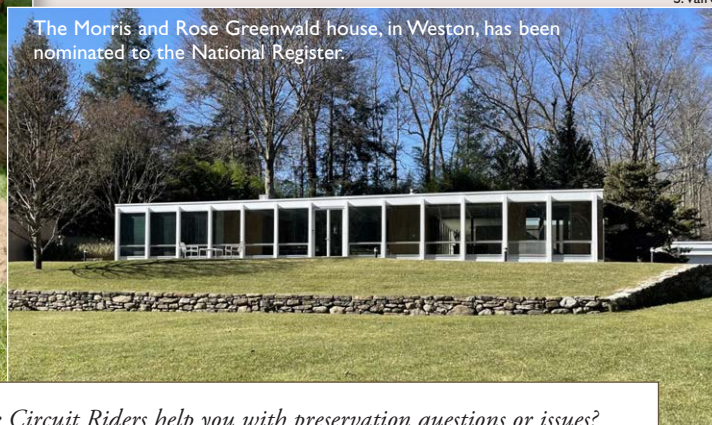
Archaeology at the Barnes Museum

M. Forino



Engineers from DeStefano & Chamberlain investigate structural issues at the Joshua Hempstead house.

S. Vairo



The Morris and Rose Greenwald house, in Weston, has been nominated to the National Register.

*How can the Circuit Riders help you with preservation questions or issues?
To request a site visit, go to preservationct.org/sitevisit.
The Circuit Rider Program is partially funded by the State Historic Preservation Office and through the generous support of our members and preservation partners.*

Technical consultancies provide crucial information

Every year, Preservation Connecticut's Circuit Riders make hundreds of visits to provide on-site assistance to historical societies, property owners, developers, elected officials, and local preservation commissions across Connecticut. While the Circuit Riders have extensive experience and knowledge of preservation issues and methods, sometimes they need to call in a building professional for preliminary information about how to proceed. When that's the case, they can arrange for a Technical Assistance Consultancy (TAC) to evaluate a building's structural integrity or potential for reuse.

In recent months, Circuit Riders utilized our TAC program to provide crucial recommendations for several historic sites around the state.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, in the Hazardville section of Enfield, is a beautiful Gothic Revival church constructed in 1863 with funding from Colonel Augustus Hazard, a local gunpowder manufacturer who played a pivotal role in supplying vast quantities of gunpowder during the Mexican-American, Crimean, and Civil Wars, as well as the California Gold Rush.

The church features a hammerbeam roof and scissor truss structure, typical of buildings with vaulted ceilings and large open spaces. However, earlier this year, during the repointing of the church's external brick buttress, a startling discovery was made—one of the hammer beams had severely deteriorated. Thanks to the expertise of engineer James K. Grant, P.E., and architect Kenton McCoy, AIA, it was quickly determined that there was no immediate danger. However, the masonry work must now be put on pause as further investigation is needed to assess the extent and cause of the damage as well as to create a comprehensive plan for repair.

This incident powerfully reminds us of the importance of thorough assessments and detailed planning before undertaking any maintenance or repair projects. It's essential to uncover hidden damage to ensure the longevity and safety of our historic buildings and mitigate unforeseen expenses.



Structural engineer Jim DeStefano inspects the West Street school in Southington.

The TAC program also helped the Dudley Farm Museum in Guilford evaluate the need to replace sills on a Civil War-era addition to the main farmhouse. The evaluation undertaken by Roxanne Brown of GNCB Engineers revealed that the sills were seriously deteriorated and in need of replacement.

Sometimes the TAC program is used by non-profits and municipalities to make difficult decisions. At the Southington Historical Society, structural engineer Jim DeStefano of DeStefano & Chamberlain evaluated the feasibility of moving the West Street Schoolhouse, originally constructed in the late 1700s, to a more

accessible site. The evaluation revealed that many of the key structural members were severely deteriorated, which would make any move very difficult.

If you have questions about preserving your historic structure, please don't hesitate to contact Preservation Connecticut. Our staff are here to help. 🌿

The Circuit Rider program receives funding from the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office through Community Investment Act. For more information contact the Connecticut Circuit Riders at <https://preservationct.org/contact>.

New listings on the National Register

Three Connecticut places have been added to the National Register of Historic Places recently. They are a Colonial farmhouse in Essex, a maritime historic district in Clinton, and the central part of Trinity College's campus in Hartford.

The **Caleb Pratt house** in Essex is listed as locally significant under Criterion A, History, as reflecting colonial settlement patterns, and under Criterion C, Architecture, as an example of local adaptations of English construction practices.

Belonging to the third generation of Pratts in Connecticut, Caleb Pratt acquired land in what is now Essex, where his grandfather was an early proprietor, and began building a home there in about 1720. For nearly 100 years members of the Pratt family farmed the land, likely raising grains, livestock, and produce for their own use and selling surplus at market. Like many Connecticut farmers they supplemented their income with cottage



An arched fireplace is a stylish feature of the Caleb Pratt house, in Essex.

Rachel Carley

James Sexton, PAST, Inc.

This vernacular building embodies the maritime history of the Commerce Street historic district in Clinton.



Northam Towers is the centerpiece of English architect William Burges' Gothic Revival design for the Long Walk at Trinity College.



industries: documents record a tannery and shoemaking shop on the property at various times. The property passed out of the Pratt family in 1817 but continued to be farmed into the 20th century.

The Pratt house is a two-story structure with a rear lean-to, of the type that dominated the Connecticut River Valley during most of the 18th century. It was constructed on a hewn timber frame adapted from models familiar to settlers from England. Inside, the house retains early 18th-century finishes such as the exposed frame and random-width vertical sheathing as well as raised paneling that likely was added for subsequent owners later in the century. One noteworthy and rare feature is the dining room fireplace with an arched opening outlined with a bolection molding and echoed in the shape of the panels above.

In Clinton, the **Commerce Street historic district** is listed as locally significant under Criterion A, History, as a hub for maritime

industries, and Criterion C, Architecture, for its collection of buildings designed in a variety of architectural styles, many of which are modest in scale and expression.

Commerce Street was laid out around 1814 as Wharf Lane, to serve shipping, shipbuilding, and fishing activities in the town of Killingworth (from which Clinton seceded in 1838). Beginning in 1840 census records provide information about residents' occupations. Between 1840 and 1930, 50 individuals identified as working in the maritime industry lived on the street. In 1850 and 1860, for instance, inhabitants included ship captains and mariners, shipbuilders, a block maker and a caulker, an oyster dealer, and a fisherman. By 1930, the list had dwindled down to a single lobsterman.

Compared to other maritime towns such as New Haven, Old Lyme, and Stonington, Clinton's maritime endeavors were more modest and less lucrative, which is reflected in the smaller and less

elaborate architecture of Commerce Street. Nonetheless, the buildings reflect the initial development and subsequent growth of the street. Houses range from early 19th century Capes through vernacular interpretations of Greek Revival, Italianate, and Queen Anne styles. The street also contains a mid-19th-century Methodist church and one surviving vernacular commercial building constructed on piles at the water's edge. In an old photograph it advertises clams, fish, and lobsters for sale; currently it houses the Lobster Landing restaurant.

The **Trinity College Long Walk historic district** in Hartford is listed as significant on the national level under Criterion C, Architecture, for architecture and campus development between 1878 and 1958.

Celebrating its 200th anniversary in 2023, Trinity College was established in 1823 and moved to its present loca-

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Briefly noted

Statewide.

Since the debut of *ConnCRIS*, the State Historic Preservation Office's statewide geospatial database, last spring, the office has been busy adding features. A full version of the application is now available and provides links to survey and register materials available through a log-in supplied by SHPO. Restricted information, including archaeological data, is available to qualified individuals. To request access, visit <https://conncris.ct.gov>. The State Historic Preservation Office will contact you once your request is processed. The public viewer will remain online and does not require a log-in. All versions of ConnCRIS are free.

Madison. ►

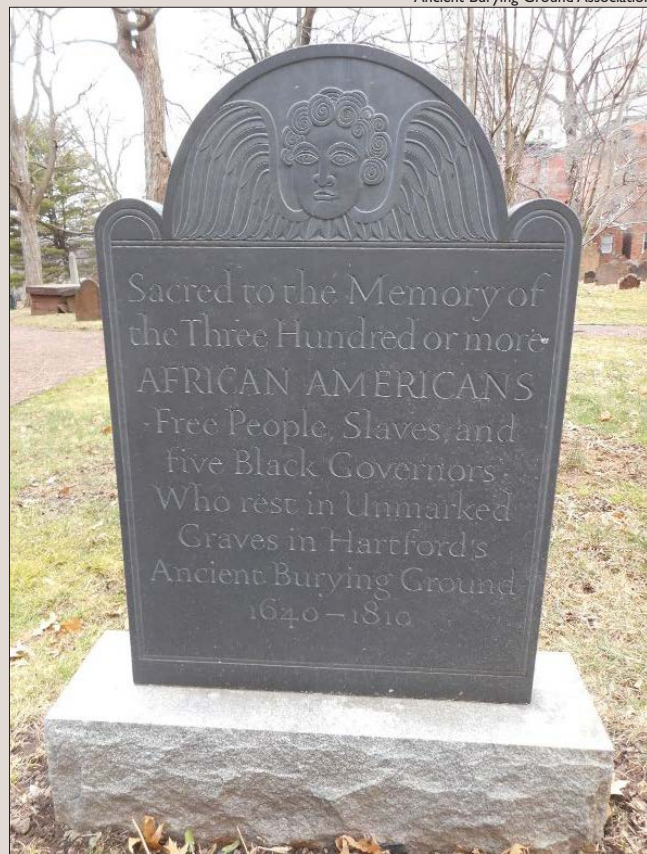
The Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation is seeking to re-establish itself in the former home of Emily and Burton Tremaine. Leading collectors of modern art, the Tremaines enlarged the small 18th-century house as a showcase for their collections, commissioning additions by architects Alberta Pfeiffer and Philip Johnson, who added a glass wall to an early barn on the site (pictured). The foundation, established after Emily Tremaine's death in 1987, offers grants in three program areas: arts, education (specifically learning differences) and environmental causes. In 2022 it bought the former Tremaine house, which had been sold in 1987, to use as its headquarters and for artist residencies and educational programming. Facing opposition from neighbors worried about traffic and noise, the foundation is working with town officials to craft a special exemption permit that will allow it to operate while respecting neighborhood atmosphere. It is consulting with other institutions located in residential areas as well. Preservation Connecticut is offering support and input. The Tremaine house is featured in ConnecticutCreativePlaces.org.

Hartford. ►

The Ancient Burying Ground is featured in the *What's Out There Guide to African American Cultural Landscapes*, a new online resource from the Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF). Part of TCLF's Race and Space initiative, the guide contains more than 140 sites associated with African American cultural lifeways plus biographical profiles of designers and shapers. The Ancient Burying Ground was Hartford's first burial place, established in 1640. In addition to individual markers, the African American Memorial (1998) commemorates some 300 African Americans buried in unmarked graves, including five colonial community leaders known as "Black governors." The cemetery is listed on the National Register and the Connecticut Freedom Trail. It currently is the only Connecticut site included in the TCLF

landscape guide, but the public is invited to submit additional places. For more, visit www.tclf.org/places/view-city-and-regional-guides/african-american/places.

Ancient Burying Ground Association



Courtesy of the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation



Megan Pilla



◀ Manchester.

Olmsted landscapes were the theme for the Historic American Landscapes Survey's annual design challenge in 2022. One submission, by Megan Pilla, PLA, ASLA, documented the Anne W. Cheney mansion grounds. Between 1895 and 1905, Olmsted Brothers provided designs to Anne Cheney, whose family owned Manchester's silk mills. Her house was demolished in 1951, and Interstate 384 cut through the 40-acre property. Nonetheless, Ms. Pilla identified surviving elements of the Olmsted landscape, including a curb cut for the driveway (pictured), traces of the driveway itself, and four trees either mapped by the Olmsted firm as already present or planted following the firm's plans. Although her study did not receive an award, the judges called it "outstanding."

◀ New Canaan

The Brick House at Philip Johnson's Glass House estate (1949ff.; NHL) reopened in April after a 17-year restoration. The building, designed as a solid masonry counterpart to the better known Glass House, had been closed since 2007. The National Trust for Historic Preservation, which owns the estate, re-roofed the building, improved drainage, restored plaster, and removed mold. Interior work included new heating and air conditioning and restoration or re-creation of finishes including reproduction of the opulent Fortuny fabric that covers the bedroom walls. Originally conceived as guest quarters, the Brick House also served as a retreat that offered Johnson and his partner, David Whitney, greater privacy than the Glass House.

Michael Biondo



continued on next page

New Haven. ►

Beacon Communities LLC broke ground in May for a new affordable housing development in the Ninth Square district. The Boston-based nonprofit developer is renovating the Street (1832), J.E. Bassett (1828), and Monson (1891) buildings, all listed on the National Register, using state and federal historic rehabilitation tax credits. Beacon is also constructing a new infill building (pictured) on a parking lot that formerly held two buildings, which will restore historic density in the district. In all, the project will create 76 apartments, 60 of which will be affordable for households earning below 60 percent of the area median income. There also will be 19,000 square feet of ground-floor retail space. Preservation Connecticut holds a preservation easement covering the historic buildings plus the parking lot and has approved the plans.



The Architectural Team, Inc.

New Haven. ►

The New Haven Preservation Trust and Preservation Connecticut are administering \$200,000 in renovation grants for homeowners in the Winchester Repeating Arms Company National Register district. Grants will be awarded for exterior improvements consistent with the historic character of the buildings. Applications were due June 21 and are being reviewed by a neighborhood committee which will announce recipients in August. The grants are funded through an agreement between the State Historic Preservation Office and the developer of the Winchester Center project as mitigation for the demolition of seven buildings in the Winchester plant that were too contaminated for reuse. The district comprises nearly 1,900 contributing buildings, most of them residential. The maximum grant per property is \$15,000; owners are asked to provide a match of at least ten percent of the grant amount; in cases of financial hardship the match will be reduced to \$500.



National Register of Historic Places, Colin Caplan



◀ Putnam.

In March, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ordered Historic Cargill Falls Mill LLC to clean up lead in the textile mill-turned-apartment complex (1824-1950; NR). Enrolled in the DEEP's Voluntary Remediation program, the site received \$750,000 in municipal grant funding as well as housing funding and state and federal historic rehabilitation tax credits. Residents formed a tenant union in 2023 over complaints about lead, mold, and other conditions. Testing carried out for the Department of Housing revealed lead paint in 68 of 71 apartments tested, as well as in some common areas. Under the EPA order, the owner must hire a licensed and insured contractor to perform abatements and arrange alternate housing for tenants until the work is completed. The company also must carry out additional testing over the next five years. Unfortunately, this case has caused some to question the safety of reusing historic buildings. Given environmental cleanup regulations and oversight, this level of contamination is unlikely to be found in other rehabbed historic buildings.

Lynda Waldron, Chrysalis Center



◀ Willimantic.

Chrysalis Center Housing Development Corporation celebrated the completion of Murray on Main in May. Originally known as the Hurley building (1894; NR), the historic structure has been renovated to offer 16 units of affordable housing plus street-level retail space. Partners and funders of the project included the Northeastern Connecticut Community Development Corporation, the town of Windham staff; State of Connecticut Department of Housing; Connecticut Housing Finance Authority; National Development Council; Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office; National Park Service; and Eversource, as well as support from state legislators.



HISTORIC PROPERTIES EXCHANGE

Threatened Buildings and Easement Properties Available — July/August 2024

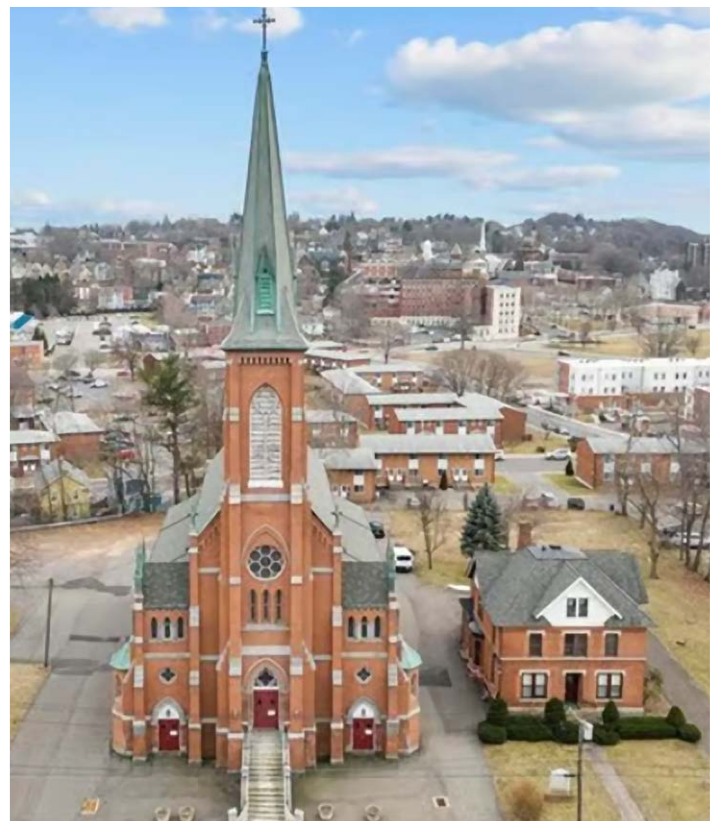
Preservation easements protect the historic character of old buildings, structures and landscapes and require approval of proposed changes. When one of the many properties throughout the state on which Preservation Connecticut holds

easements is on the market, we may list it here. To learn how to safeguard your property for future generations through an easement, explore Stewardship on our website, preservationct.org/steward, or contact Christopher Wigren, Deputy Director.

125 Camp Street, Meriden (c.1888) \$595,000

Former St. Laurent Roman Catholic Church and accompanying rectory with garage available in Meriden. The Gothic Revival church was built c. 1888 for the German and French-Canadian community but closed in 2018 after merging with Meriden's St. Joseph's parish. Sanul Presbyterian Church later purchased the property, but it is now vacant. Property is 3 parcels on 1.94 acres. Church measures 7,000 sq. ft.; rectory 4,200 sq. ft.; and garage 560 sq. ft. Church and rectory may be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places and therefore might qualify for historic rehabilitation tax credits. In opportunity zone.

Contact: David Candelora, RE/MAX Commercial, 203-804-0058



245 Main Street, Wethersfield (1921) \$599,000

Redevelopment opportunity for former Freemason lodge in Wethersfield. Lodge remained in use until 1997 when merged with another local lodge. Two-story, Colonial Revival building; 5,600 sq. ft. on 0.26 acres. Located in Old Wethersfield Local and National historic districts so eligible for historic rehabilitation tax credits.

Contact: Jay Morris, O, R, & L. Commercial Real Estate, 203-488-1555

Deadline for the next issue is August 20, 2024

Historic Properties Exchange is published to advertise endangered properties in Connecticut by Preservation Connecticut, a statewide nonprofit organization located at 940 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, Connecticut 06517. Real estate advertised in this publication is subject to the Federal Housing Act of 1968.

Neither advertisers nor Preservation Connecticut are responsible or liable for any misinformation, misprints, or typographical errors contained in Historic Properties Exchange. To list a property or learn about properties listed, contact Kristen Hopewood, at khopewood@preservationct.org, or call (203) 562-6312.

American Buckle & Cartridge Co. 291 Campbell Avenue, West Haven (1885, 1903, 1915, 1917, c. 1940) \$4,900,000

Redevelopment opportunity for historic industrial complex on 1.2 acres in West Haven. Founded by George R. Kelsey in 1885, the American Buckle & Cartridge Co. was the result of a merger between the West Haven Buckle Company and the Kelsey Cartridge Company and continued to operate at this site until the mid-20th century. Listed in Preservation Connecticut's *Mills: Making Places of Connecticut* industrial survey and is a potential candidate for listing on the State Register of Historic Places which would make it eligible for historic rehabilitation tax credits. Totals 40,083 sq. ft.

Contact: Angela Franco, Riccio Realty & REO Associates, 203-430-7124



122 Naubuc Avenue, Glastonbury (1863) \$1,500,000

Industrial building available in Glastonbury. Built for Connecticut Arms and Manufacturing Co. which occupied the site until declaring bankruptcy in 1869. Later occupants include American Silver Co. and William Brothers Silver Co. (silver and flatware) until after World War II. Listed in Preservation Connecticut's *Mills: Making Places of Connecticut* industrial survey and located in Curtisville National Register historic district which makes it eligible for historic rehabilitation tax credits. Building area is 59,767 sq. ft.; 1.4 acres.

Contact: Eric Gaines, Scalzo Commercial & New Development, 860-680-4823, egaines@scalzo.com



694-696 Main Street, Plymouth (1782, 1870, 1921) \$1,100,000

Three mixed-use properties available on Main Street in Plymouth Center National Register historic district. Plymouth Post Office (1782, renovated 1960) is 2,406 sq.ft., Plymouth Grange Hall (c.1921) is 3,800 sq. ft., Blakeslee Carriage Shop (c.1870) is 4,316 sq. ft. Eligible for historic rehabilitation tax credits as part of National Register historic district. Totals 0.62 acres;



properties are not for sale individually, must be purchased together.

Contact: Jeffrey Morrow, Morrow Realty, LLC, 860-584-0510, jmorrow@morrowrealtyllc.com



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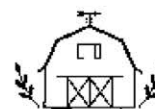
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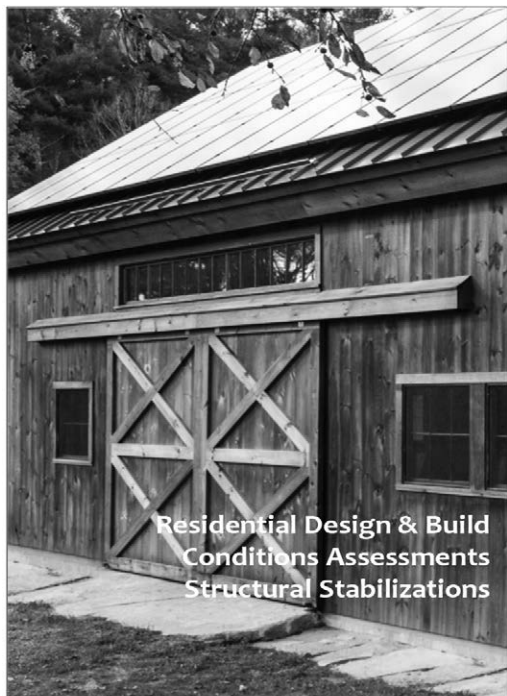
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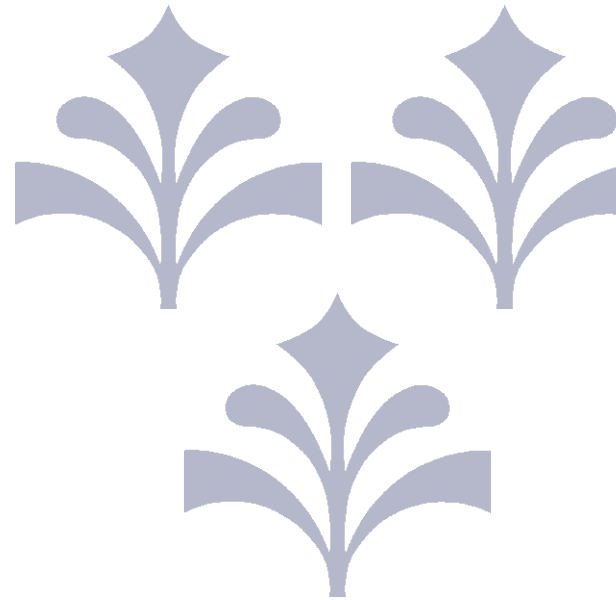
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tion after agreeing to sell its original campus in 1872 for the new state capitol. College president Abner Jackson commissioned a new plan from William Burges (1827-1881), a preeminent Gothic Revival architect, archaeologist, and designer of decorative arts. Burges produced a series of ambitious schemes culminating in a linear arrangement of four quadrangles lines with buildings in his own interpretation of French Gothic design. The use of enclosed quadrangles represented a change for American architecture, where colleges of the time typically were laid out in linear ranges.

The college sent Hartford architect Francis Hatch Kimball to work in Burges' office to learn the English architect's methods in preparation for overseeing construction of the buildings. In Hartford, only one side of Burges' main quadrangle was actually constructed, between 1878 and 1883, with plans modified by Kimball to accommodate the college's limited finances.

Later construction followed the model set by Burges and Kimball, eventually enclosing three sides of a rectangular lawn overlooking the city of Hartford. Other buildings were designed by local and national architects including Benjamin W. Morris, Philip

H. Frohman, and McKim, Mead & White, employing several variations of Gothic Revival design, all executed with high quality materials, workmanship, and detailing to create a cohesive composition.

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Haven, East Haven, Branford, Guilford, Killingworth (now Clinton) Saybrook (now Old Saybrook), Lyme (now Old Lyme), New London, Norwich, and Plainfield. On September 3 and 4 he passed through the state again on his southward return, stopping in Stafford Springs, Tolland, Hartford, Cromwell, and Middletown. In all these places—as, indeed, in every place he visited—the marquis was treated to parades, speeches, banquets, parties, balls, and concerts. He visited old compatriots who were still alive, or the graves of those who had died.

In 2024, Lafayette's visit is being commemorated with exhibits, lectures, reenactments, and other events in many of the places he visited, as well as some others. Coordinated by the American Friends of Lafayette, the observation covers themes drawn from Lafayette's life, including human rights and the Franco-American alliance, as well as the importance of linking past to present.

On August 21 Preservation Connecticut will offer a tour of sites that Lafayette visited in New Haven, in coordination with other events organized by the Connecticut Lafayette Trail. Sites visited will include the New Haven Green, Yale, and the Grove Street Cemetery. Later that day, there will be a lecture at the New Haven Museum, and on September 7, a symposium at Fairfield University, on "Revolutionary and Human Rights Champion: Lafayette and his Legacy." 🌿

To register for the tour on August 21, visit PreservationCT.org/lafayettes-footsteps. To learn more about Lafayette in Connecticut and other events in August and September, visit lafayettecttrail.org. For nationwide information, visit lafayette200.org.



A plaque at the former Tolland County courthouse commemorates Lafayette's visit there in 1824.

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Lafayette in Connecticut: 1824-2024

Two hundred years ago, it seemed the entire nation turned out to welcome the Marquis de Lafayette on his triumphal tour through the United States. Nearly 50 years after the Revolution in which he helped the thirteen English colonies win their independence, Lafayette returned at the invitation of President James Monroe. In the meantime, the marquis had been an important figure in France's revolution as well. Among other things he wrote the Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen, as foundational a document for French republicanism as the Declaration of Independence in the U.S.

The 1824 visit was a national celebration which recognized the rapid loss of the revolutionary generation, celebrated the establishment and growth of the new nation, and honored the United States' continuing relationship with France, its first ally. For Lafayette, it presented an opportunity to draw attention to the flourishing American republic in his homeland, where the first republic had been replaced first by Napoleon's empire and then by a restored monarchy.

Between his arrival on August 15, 1824, and his departure on September 9, 1825, Lafayette traveled over 6,000 miles by carriage, stagecoach, canal boat, and steamboat, visiting every state in the union plus Washington, D.C.

Connecticut hosted Lafayette twice during his travels, first from August 20 to 23, 1824, on his way from New York to Massachusetts, with stops in Stratford, New

continued on page 19

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The Marquis de Lafayette, by Samuel F. B. Morse, 1826.