# PRESERVATION NEVYS

**ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022** 

# **Preservation Matters**

This issue of Preservation Connecticut News presents our annual report for the fiscal year 2021-2022. In the pages that follow you can read about how we strive to make a big impact around the state; to engage and inspire preservationists and citizens of every stripe in every community; and to build a stronger, more effective organization to recognize, protect, and make the most of Connecticut's historic places.

Preservation Connecticut staff are working with homeowners Ellen Hackl Fagan and Christopher Fagan, and following the process in blog posts as they restore the Pond-Weed house in Darien.

# Celebrating the Olmsted project

he Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Preservation Connecticut closed a chapter in the Olmsted in Connecticut documentation project with two big events this fall.

On September 23, the Connecticut chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) presented its Connecticut Olmsted Award for 2022 to SHPO and PCT in recognition of project. Since 1992, ASLA Connecticut has presented it to persons or organizations in Connecticut that employ the principle of stewardship of the land to guide their actions. In presenting this year's award Connecticut ASLA noted:

The documentation of Frederick Law Olmsted's life and work in Connecticut was, and is, a tremendous undertaking. For all their work unveiling and celebrating the Connecticut Olmsted history in this year of Olmsted 200, Connecticut Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects is proud to recognize Preservation Connecticut and the State Historic Preservation Office with the Connecticut Olmsted Award.

The award was presented at a symposium organized by ASLA Connecticut at Wickham Park in Manchester. Consultants Lucy Lawliss, FASLA, and Liz Sargent, FASLA, of Red Bridge Group reported on the project, and attendees toured the park, which was designed by Olmsted Associates, the last iteration of the Olmsted firm, and opened in 1961.

On October 15, warm sunshine, and fall foliage provided a backdrop for "Saturday in the Park," as SHPO, PCT, and the City of Waterbury welcomed landscape stewards and enthusiasts to Lewis Fulton Memorial Park (Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architects, 1920).

To celebrate the Olmsted heritage there were dignitaries including U.S. Representative Jahana Hayes, State Senator Joan Hartley, State Representative Ron Napoli, Alderman Mike Salvio, and Cathy Smith of the Fulton Park Conservancy. SHPO and PCT staff provided tours of the park history, while Alderman Salvio recounted its restoration. Other offerings included exhibits; map making sponsored by the Mattatuck Museum; letterboxing, sponsored by the Girl Scouts; sandbox park building, at SHPO's table; information from community groups; and, of course, food. The gathering exemplified the Olmstedian ideal of parks as gathering places for all segments of society. 🍫

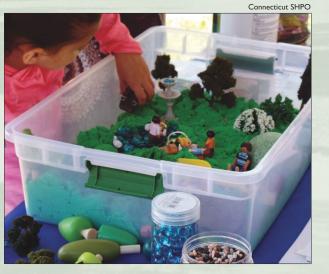




TOP: ASLA Connecticut treasurer Oliver Gaffney and president-elect Ellen Fallon-Senechal present the Connecticut Olmsted Award to Christopher Wigren, for Preservation Connecticut, and Jenny Scofield, for the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office

MIDDLE: Saturday in the Park: Sen. Joan Hartley; Rep. Ron Napoli; Alderman Mike Salvio; Jane Montanaro, PCT; Rep. Jahana Hayes; Caroline Sloat, PCT; Jonathan Kinney,

RIGHT: Children created their own park in a sandbox at the State Historic Preservation Office table.



#### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

elcome to Preservation Matters, our annual report edition of *Preservation Connecticut News* for fiscal year 2021-2022. Preservation does matter! And to illustrate this we describe three goals from our strategic plan. While this report will emphasize numbers, we want to highlight that preservation is about *people*. Staff travels have taken us around Connecticut to support you.

To make a BIG IMPACT we continued to offer preservation guidance statewide, fund preservation through grants, protect legacies through easements, provide-fee-forservice consulting, identify places that matter, and expand partnerships.

New public programs were planned to ENGAGE AND INSPIRE. Our Talking about Preservation series continued on Zoom engaging live audiences then available as recordings in our growing online library of resources. We celebrated new partnerships and preservation excellence at in-person events once again.

Staff and board members worked to STRENGTHEN THE ORGANIZATION

through stewardship of our resources and by building membership. On the staff side, we welcomed Stefon Danczuk, Circuit Rider (Archaeology); we said farewell to Trustees Sara Bronin, Rick Wies and Peter Stockman and welcomed new trustees Jeffrey Kaufman (Hamden) and Pieter Roos (West Simsbury). We are stronger because of members like you who share in our successes and strengthen our organization. As we anticipate the new year, we are grateful for your ongoing support and hope you take pride in these accomplishments we've achieved together.

Happy holidays to all!

Caroline Short

Caroline Sloat

Quellmfanan

Jane Montanaro

Executive Director

#### Upcoming Meetings

#### Connecticut Historic Preservation Council

December 7, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.
—Virtual meeting
January 4, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.
—Virtual Meeting

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

#### State Historic Preservation Board

December 2, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.
—Virtual meeting

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

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

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.

#### **Board of Trustees Officers**

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**Gubernatorial Appointees**The Hon. Catherine Osten, *Sprague* 

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#### Staff

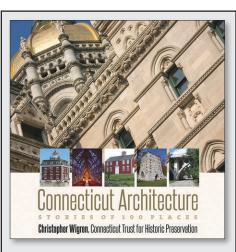
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Preservation Services Manager
Kristen J. Hopewood, Development &
Administrative Assistant

Preservation Connecticut News is published bimonthly by the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, doing business as Preservation Connecticut, 940 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, Connecticut of the members of Preservation by support of the members of Preservation Connecticut and by funds provided through the Community Investment Act in the State of Connecticut. The contents and opinions stated herein do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the State of Connecticut. Advertisements do not necessarily reflect the views are opinions of Preservation Connecticut. Preservation Connecticut. Preservation Connecticut does not endorse advertisers and assumes no liability for advertisements.

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Connecticut still revolutionary



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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

Order at www.preservationct.org/book or www.wesleyan.edu/wespress

#### MAKE A BIG IMPACT Strategic Plan Goal #I



Circuit Riders: Mike Forino at the Madison Historical Society



Circuit Riders: Stefon Danczuk with Renée Tibert at the Pratt & Read factory, Deep River



1772 Foundation grants: Samuel Huntington homestead, Scotland

Between July 2021 and June 2022 Preservation Connecticut made a significant impact on Connecticut's communities.

#### Circuit Rider engagement by the numbers:

- 228 visits to help homeowners, organizations, municipalities, and developers
- 83 communities visited, in all 8 Connecticut counties
- 6 technical consultancies
- 1 threatened property referred to the Attorney General for action under the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act
- 2 threatened properties previously referred to the AG, ongoing technical support provided

- 4 threatened properties successfully negotiated without referral to the AC
- 30 inspections made of sites with SHPC preservation restrictions

#### Grants by the numbers:

- 86 requests for funding, totaling \$886,565
- 43 applications received, for \$450,137
- 30 grants awarded, totaling \$259,600
- 14 technical assistance consultancies, totaling \$40,849

#### Offering preservation guidance statewide

Count on our four Circuit Riders to provide expert guidance when facing critical stewardship decisions.

Preservation Connecticut stays on the front lines of preservation, thanks to our Circuit Rider program, established in 2001. Since 2010, support has come primarily from the State Historic Preservation Office, through the Community Investment Act.

Our Circuit Riders provide immediate, on-site, no-cost assistance to historical societies, property owners, developers, elected officials, and local preservation commissions across Connecticut. They offer six important services:

- Technical assistance, to help evaluate planning and capital needs and identify appropriate preservation techniques;
- Financial guidance, to provide and identify appropriate grants and loans;
- · Leadership in convening and negotiating among stakeholders;
- Policy and legal support, to empower communities to tailor laws and regulations to protect their assets;
- Archaeological assistance, in the field and to SHPO and Office of the State Archaeologist; and
- National Register, helping the State Historic Preservation Office review 511 early nominations for completeness.

In providing these services, the Circuit Riders aim both to ensure that historic places are repaired, rehabilitated, and reused and to increase local capacity for stewardship and good policy making.

#### **Funding preservation through grants**

Since 2003, Preservation Connecticut has helped distribute over \$7 million in matching grants to support community planning, maintenance, repairs, architectural design, and engineering studies.

#### The 1772 Foundation Connecticut Historic Preservation Grants

For the twelfth year, Preservation Connecticut partnered with The 1772 Foundation to distribute maintenance and repair grants to nonprofit organizations. This year, the partnership awarded 15 grants totaling \$109,600. Inquiries—from 52 organizations in 36 communities—demonstrated a need for more than \$400,000 in work. Grants were awarded to:

- Derby Historical Society, Ansonia: \$9,000 for David Humphreys house alarm system
- Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, Hartford: \$9,000 for window restoration

- Kent Historical Society: \$3,000 for schoolhouse roof replacement
- Manchester Historical Society: \$6,000 for Woodbridge house roof replacement
- Middlesex County Historical Society, Middletown: \$9,000 for Joseph Mansfield house exterior repairs
- Art League of New Britain: \$1,600 for window restoration
- New London County Historical Society: \$9,000 for Shaw Mansion porch repair
- Calkins Family Association, Norwich: \$10,000 for roof repairs, Hugh Calkins house
- Governor Samuel Huntington Trust, Scotland: \$9,000 for Samuel Huntington house roof replacement
- Shelton Historical Society: \$8,000 for Brownson house chimney repairs
- Southington-Cheshire Community YMCA, Southington: \$9,000 for Olney house foundation repair
- Hicks-Stearns Family Museum, Tolland: \$9,000 for gutter replacement
- Wethersfield Historical Society: \$9,000 for structural repairs to the Hurlbut-Dunham house
- Winchester Center Historical Association: \$2,000 to stabilize the Winchester Chapel
- Ellsworth Memorial Association, Windsor: \$7,000 for Oliver Ellsworth house window restoration

#### Maintenance & Repair Grants

Preservation Connecticut maintains one of the few programs in Connecticut to help religious institutions with maintenance and repair needs. Our grants are funded by the State Historic Preservation Office using money generated by the Community Investment Act. We evaluate each request for urgency, organizational capacity, and community engagement. Our 2022 recipients were:

- First Congregational Church, East Haddam: \$15,000 for steeple repairs
- Congregation Mishkan Israel, Hamden: \$10,000 for stained glass cleaning and repair
- St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Hebron: \$7,500 for roofing
- Christ Church Episcopal, Roxbury: \$7,500 for roofing
- Wilton Congregational Church: \$10,000 for painting and carpentry repairs

#### Historic Preservation Capital Grants

As part of a mitigation agreement between the State Historic Preservation Office and developer Building and Land Technology, \$100,000 was made available through Preservation Connecticut to provide repair and restoration grants to homeowners in Stamford's South End. In addition, PCT committed \$15,000 to the New Haven Preservation Trust as seed money for its efforts to relocate the Pierce Welch house, which faces demolition by Yale-New Haven Hospital.

#### Circuit Rider Technical Assistance Consultancies

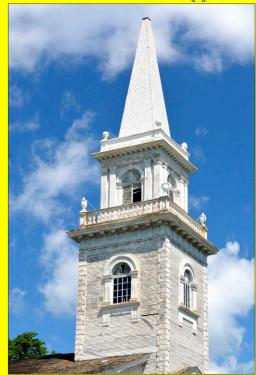
Often, a small grant at the right time can make a significant difference. The Circuit Riders offer quick, targeted consultation by qualified professionals for structural, architectural, code, or other evaluations intended to spur further investment in historic sites. In 2022, we provided consultancies to:

- First Baptist Church, Greenwich: DeStefano & Chamberlain Inc. preliminary condition assessment.
- Greenwich Historical Society: James K. Grant Associates, conditions assessment of Selleck Mill.
- Deep River Historical Society bleach house: Robert B. Hurd, AIA, short-term preservation plan.
- Hicks-Stearns Family Museum, Tolland: Cirrus Structural Engineering and Robert B. Hurd, AIA, preliminary condition assessment.
- Polish National Home, Hartford: Crosskey Architects and James K. Grant Associates, roof assessment.



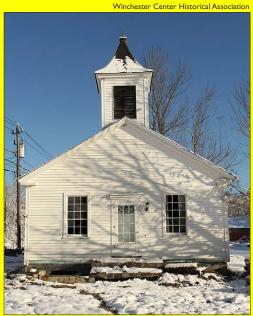
1772 Foundation grants: Hurlbut-Dunham house, Wethersfield

First Congregational Church



Maintenance & Repair grants: First Congregational Church, East Haddam

#### MAKE A BIG IMPACT Strategic Plan Goal #1



1772 Foundation grants: Winchester Chapel, Winchester

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Fee-for-service consulting:
Donaghue Building, Hartford



Maintenance & Repair grants:
Congregation Mishkan Israel, Hamden

• New London Maritime Society: Cirrus Structural Engineering, assessment of Ledge Lighthouse foundation.

Additional technical assistance consultations supported our advocacy for threatened sites under the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act. The success of this program depends on the consultants who offer their expertise at a reduced rate and with rapid response.

#### Protecting legacies through easements

Preservation Connecticut provides stewardship for Connecticut's historic treasures with our monitored easement program, ensuring the maintenance of the buildings and owners' legacies of care for future generations. PCT's easement properties include commercial buildings, condominium complexes, single-family houses, and historic farmsteads. This year, we responded to many inquiries about the program and followed up with serious candidates. Staff also performed 23 regular easement inspections and provided technical advice to owners of easement properties.

#### Fee-for-service work

Preservation Connecticut staff provides consulting services such as preparation of historic designation nominations and historic tax credit applications.

- Donaghue Building, Hartford: Staff prepared a State Register nomination as part of the submission for historic rehabilitation tax credits. The building is significant for its association with the Donaghue family of real estate investors and charitable donors, particularly Ethel F. Donaghue, an attorney and supporter of social welfare efforts that still benefit the people of Hartford and beyond.
- Hilliard Mill, Manchester: staff continues to assist the owner obtain state historic rehabilitation tax credits for work on various buildings in this factory complex.
- Former Hartford Fire Department headquarters, Hartford: staff completed a Part 1 application for the historic rehabilitation tax credit process, which determines the historic status of the former firehouse, which retains original mechanical equipment and hose tower.

#### Identifying places that matter

A major focus of Preservation Connecticut's activity this year was commemorating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Frederick Law Olmsted's birth through a project to document the Olmsted heritage in Connecticut. Conducted with the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office and funded through the Community Investment Act, the project was carried out by consultants from the Red Bridge Group. The results include a detailed account of the Olmsted firm's origins and ongoing relationship with Connecticut plus a survey of 139 Olmsted landscape projects across the state. This work will inform future efforts to recognize, protect, and enhance historic landscapes, not only those connected with the Olmsteds.

PCT was happy to help a member, Angie Hein, locate Lustron houses around the state through social media postings. These prefabricated houses clad in porcelain-enameled tiles were a hit and are still drawing responses.

#### **Expanding partnerships**

Working with many diverse partners helps Preservation Connecticut maximize its impact. While we are proud to maintain a vast network of collaborators, the following are of particular note:

- Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), our statutory partner in all things preservation: this year SHPO helped us expand the Circuit Rider program to include a staff archaeologist and partnered on the Olmsted in Connecticut statewide survey and related celebrations and programs.
- This year marks 43 years of partnership with *Connecticut Preservation Action*, which defends historic preservation policies and funding at the State Capitol and in Washington.
- American Institute of Architects, Connecticut chapter: for the third year we jointly presented the Elizabeth Mills Brown Awards honoring projects that are noteworthy both for preservation and architectural design.
- Our partnership with the *American Society for Landscape Architects, Connecticut Chapter* deepened as we worked together on the Olmsted survey project and events around Frederick Law Olmsted's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday; ASLA members also served on the jury for the Picturing History: Historic Landscapes of Connecticut photo contest.
- Eastern Connecticut Land Bank, which works with municipalities to return distressed, underutilized, blighted, brownfield and historic properties to productive uses; PCT is represented on its board.
- *SustainableCT* supports inclusive, resilient, and vibrant Connecticut municipalities by providing comment and review of sustainability actions in historic preservation.
- We are working with the *Central Connecticut State University Public History Graduate Program*, *Southern Connecticut State University*, and the *Connecticut Historical Society* to strengthen our intern program.



Preservation Connecticut News, January-February 2022

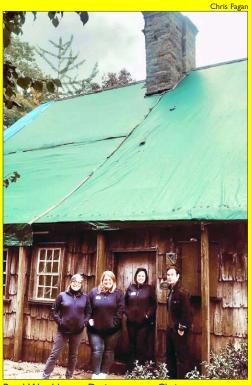


Technical assistance consultancy: Robert Hurd, AIA, at Deep River Historical Societ

#### ENGAGE & INSPIRE Strategic Plan Goal #2



Picturing History: Historic Landscapes of Connecticut: Kathryn Gage, Best in Show for "Foggy Fulton Park, Brass City"



Pond-Weed house, Darien: owners Chris and Ellen Fagan with PCT staff

Preservation Connecticut aims to engage and inspire new and more diverse audiences to support preservation. We spent the 2021-2022 fiscal year leading exciting public programs, advocating for strong policies protecting our heritage, and celebrating preservation excellence through our annual awards. In the process, we embraced dozens of partner organizations and hundreds of new audience members.

#### **Creating exciting public programs**

We offer public programs that connect local people with historic places in our communities.

This year, Preservation Connecticut sponsored 25 events around the state. For our second juried photography contest, "Picturing History: Historic Landscapes of Connecticut," judges chose 37 photos from more than 80 entries. The exhibit opened once again at the Art League of New Britain, followed by the Woodbridge Library. It is currently on tour, making stops at the Carriage Barn Arts Center at Waveny Park, New Canaan, and the Loos Center at Woodstock Academy.

We continued "Talking About Preservation," discussing 15 topics (see sidebar). These virtual, weekly noontime conversations allow us to share happenings in preservation and engage community members. Since we started offering these programs in 2020, we have reached more than 3,000 individuals. The programs continue to be viewed in our YouTube library.

Our new blog series, "Living History: Pond-Weed House, Darien," made its debut. In it, we follow the progress as homeowners Ellen Hackl Fagan and Christopher Fagan restore Darien's oldest home (c.1694).

In-person tours are back! Preservation Connecticut partnered with Rediscovering History, a group of volunteers who preserve cemeteries, to tour North Stonington's Randall-Brown cemetery. Members also had the opportunity to visit the Colt complex in Hartford and the Barnum Museum in Bridgeport.

In partnership with the State Historic Preservation Office, we provided training workshops for local historic district commissions in Cheshire and Tolland.

#### Advocating for our historic heritage

We champion preservation of Connecticut's historic places. In FY2021-2022 Preservation Connecticut advocated for improved land use practices building upon statewide preservation tools and strengthening of the federal historic tax credit program.

Although this year's legislative session was quiet, Preservation Connecticut Circuit Riders and staff provided support for local advocacy efforts. They worked with citizens to address threats to properties in two historic districts (Groton and Suffield) and to the Deborah Chapel in Hartford (now a National Trust for Historic Preservation 11 Most Endangered listing), plus Plainfield High School, and the New Canaan Library. Although advocacy and outreach efforts were robust and petitions for these places garnered more than 2,000 signatures, the fate of some is still unknown.

Preservation Connecticut continued to work with 78 other organizations, including AIA Connecticut, the Connecticut Main Street Center, Connecticut Preservation Action, and Capital for Change, plus many individuals to advocate for more equitable zoning practices. Elements that align with preservation include support of transit-oriented development, walkable neighborhoods, and the reasonable consideration of the state's historic, tribal, cultural, and environmental resources. Together, we are working toward a more inclusive Connecticut.

On the national scene, Preservation Connecticut collaborated with local advocates, including Connecticut Preservation Action and the National Trust to track the Historic Tax Credit Growth and Opportunity Act (HTC-GO) which will strengthen the federal historic rehabilitation tax credit program.

Even in the digital age, *Preservation Connecticut News* still provides an important means of advocating for historic places. Throughout 2021 the back page highlighted the Connecticut Freedom Trail, which marks places important in African American history, before shifting to landscapes of the Olmsted firm in 2022. Major articles discussed preservation's contributions to sustainability and climate change and the debates over monuments to difficult historical personages or events.

#### **Celebrating preservation excellence**

Preservation Connecticut's 2022 Annual Awards—finally back in person—celebrated the accomplishments of people who made our state a better place to live by preserving our historic places. These awardees empowered volunteers, created jobs and homes, proclaimed civic values, and strengthened communities.

#### Awards of Merit:

- Legacy Theatre, Branford
- Metro Arts Studios, Bridgeport
- Clover Gardens, Hartford
- Martin Luther King, Jr., Campus, Hartford
- Swift Factory, Hartford
- Seven Hearths pelt room, Kent
- Norwalk Art Space, Norwalk
- C. J. Starr barn, Stamford

*Harlan H. Griswold Award* (presented jointly with the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office): Nancy R. Savin, for contributions to the preservation and revitalization of historic places, including theatres and synagogues, as well as initiating the National Register and Archeological Preserve designation for the remains of the Jewish community of Chesterfield.

*Elizabeth Mills Brown Awards* (presented jointly with the Connecticut chapter, American Institute of Architects):

#### Excellence awards:

- Harbor House, Southport: J.P. Franzen Associates Architects, P.C.
- Hill-Stead Museum Visitors Center, Farmington: Centerbrook Architects and Planners
- Saint Mary Place, New London: Patriquin Architects
- Sun Tavern, Fairfield: David Scott Parker Architects, LLC

#### Merit awards:

- Joseph R. Ensign house, Simsbury: Crosskey Architects, LLC
- State Office Building, Hartford: Amenta Emma Architects
- Victorian Cottage and Barn, Fairfield: David Scott Parker Architects, LLC
- Elizabeth Park Visitors Center, West Hartford: Schadler Selnau Architects

- Protecting the Parkway
- Unconscious influence: Olmsted's Hartford
- Uncovering the Battle of Ridgefield
- Gravestones
- Vampire folk belief in Connecticut
- Prophet of place: George Dudley Seymour's vision for Connecticut's environment
- Meet the Circuit Riders
- Connecticut Landmarks combats a changing climate
- Protecting Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy in Connecticut
- History from below: discovering Benedict Arnold's New Haven house site
- African American Cultural Heritage Fund
- P.T. Barnum's lasting legacy
- New London's Black Heritage Trail
- Documenting the stories behind historic houses
- Undertaking a Passive House retrofit



Tours: Colt factory in Hartford

#### STRENGTHEN THE ORGANIZATION Strategic Plan Goal #3



Trustees and staff at Keeler Tavern, Ridgefield



Circuit Rider Mike Forino uses a drone to inspect an historic building

As outlined in our Strategic Plan, Preservation Connecticut must ensure that it remains a strong organization with regard to four key areas: finances, membership, staff, and board.

*Finances.* The value and visibility of Preservation Connecticut's work attracts financial support from a wide range of sources, and a growing endowment supports our programs and projects.

Public sources remain the largest segment of support, demonstrating that our status as a statutory partner of the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office is strong and fruitful for both parties, and for Connecticut. In addition to our annual statutory payment, we received Partners in Preservation grants to fund the Circuit Rider program and statewide Olmsted survey plus an Historic Restoration Fund grant to repaint the boarding house. All of this preservation funding comes from the Community Investment Act.

We also are pleased to announce that in December of 2021, we received a grant of \$5,000 from CT Humanities' Connecticut Cultural Fund. We are using this funding to update our Local Historic District website, originally launched in 2011. In addition to a much-needed cosmetic revamp, we are working hard to make this site more user-friendly for commissioners and property owners alike.

On the private side, we are ever grateful to the foundations and individual donors who loyally support our work throughout the year. The 1772 Foundation, MLE Foundation, Anderson-Paffard Foundation, and others have supported us for ten or more years.

The Legacy Society and its bequests continue to be the strongest vehicle for building the endowment. The Society's chair, Ed Gerber, has been working with development staff to promote the Society and celebrate those who have made commitments to join the Society and ensure that Preservation Connecticut remains financially secure in the future.

*Membership.* The people who join Preservation Connecticut not only provide financial support. They also are often our "boots on the ground" to keep staff updated on preservation efforts, and threats, in all Connecticut communities. Our membership grows and becomes engaged. We are proud to say we reached our membership dollar goal this year, and our retention rate and new member acquisition rate remain steady.

*Staff:* The professionals who carry out our day-to-day work are knowledgeable, effective, and able preservationists. One benefit of the pandemic has been the wide array of virtual training opportunities available. During the past year, Preservation Connecticut staff have honed their skills and expanded their interests through virtual conferences and training events such as the National Trust for Historic Preservation's PastForward conference, #DismantlePreservation, and various opportunities to learn more about tax credit programs, salvage efforts, and sustainability.

This year, we welcomed a new staff member, Stefon Danzcuk. As a Circuit Rider with a specialty in archaeology, Stefon is promoting understanding and stewardship of archaeological resources throughout the state by working directly with individuals, organizations, communities, municipalities, and project proponents

Interns have been an important part of our team. This year we welcomed Pat Wallace, a student at Central Connecticut State University's Public History Program, and Marissa Gibbs, from University of Vermont's Historic Preservation Graduate Studies program. Pat coordinated outreach and scheduling for the Olmsted survey, and Marissa researched social media content opportunities.

**Board.** The Board of Trustees is integral to the success of our organization. Comprising citizen-preservationists from around the state, the board lends critical insights as it governs and guides the organization. Outside of PCT, trustees serve leadership roles in nonprofit management, higher education, government, real estate, finance, architecture, arts and culture, and more. Approximately 50 percent of the board are women and 20 percent reflect diverse backgrounds. Board members actively participate in PCT's work. Many have joined staff on Circuit Rider visits or easement inspections and hosting events—in addition to working out strategic and organizational issues at quarterly board and committee meetings.

#### **INCOME STATEMENT** June 30, 2022

#### **Operating Revenue** Corporations and foundations \$128,750 10% ☐ Individuals and organizations \$163,196 12% ■ Government statutory grant \$380,000 28% ☐ Other government grants \$523,650 39% 67% (all govt. grants) ☐ Program services \$146,051 11%

\$1,341,647

100%

#### **Operating expenses**

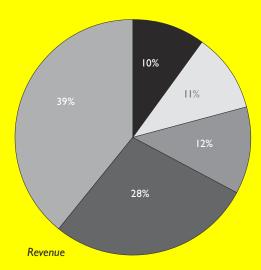
Total revenue

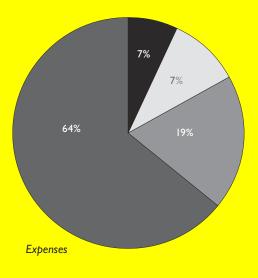
Total expenses	\$1,183,234	100%
☐ Administration	\$118,566	10%
■ Development/fundraising	\$83,183	7%
Grants	\$224,912	19%
■ Program services	\$756,573	64%

#### **Balance sheet**

June 30, 2022

Cash and cash equivalents Operating investments Other current assets	\$399,290 \$1,970,221 \$339,979
Property and equipment, net  Total assets	\$186,016 
	. ,
Accounts payable	\$32,114
Grants payable	\$193,400
Other current liabilities	\$197,201
Long term debt	\$76,396 (not shown on annual reports in the past)
Total liabilities	\$385,719
Net Assets	\$2,509,787
Total liabilities and net assets	\$2,895,506







ointly presented by AIA Connecticut and Preservation Connecticut, the Elizabeth Mills Brown awards recognize projects that are noteworthy both as respectful preservation and as excellent architectural designs. The 2022 awards recognize a variety of historic structures, all listed on the State or National Register of Historical Places and represent a variety of preservation approaches, from purist restoration, to adaptive use, to sustainability projects.

Jury members this year were: Alyssa Lozupone, Director of Preservation, Newport Restoration Foundation; Valerie Talmage, Executive Director, Preserve Rhode Island; and Martha Werenfels, FAIA, LEED, AP, of DBVW Architects. They selected seven projects for recognition, three Excellence awards, three Merit awards, and one Commendation.

#### 2022 Elizabeth Mills Brown awards

#### **Excellence Awards**

#### Legacy Theatre, Branford: Wyeth Architects LLC

Since 1914, this little building in the Stony Creek National Register district has been a silent movie house, home to two theater groups (one featuring Orson Welles), a WWII parachute factory, a corset factory, and a puppet theater housing an important collection of Sicilian marionettes. In 2013 the nonprofit Legacy Theatre acquired the vacant building. With community support plus historic rehabilitation tax credits, the theater reopened in 2021 amid the Covid 19 pandemic. Great care was taken to protect historic fabric while providing up-to-date facilities, maximizing energy efficiency, and supplying ventilation for a healthful indoor environment. A recreated shed awning shown in old photographs shelters outdoor gathering space. Once again offering live performances, the Legacy Theatre has revived a century-long tradition of entertainment in Stony Creek.

Jury comment: The use of space is quite imaginative. Such a small building, and to pack that amount of theater space into it was really clever.

#### Exterior Restoration, Ball & Socket Arts Building 2, Cheshire: Maier Design Group, LLC

Building 2, built in 1850, is the first of five buildings to be rehabilitated as part of a multi-year project to convert the State Register-listed Ball & Socket factory into a regional arts and entertainment center. Beginning in 2019, the rehabilitation project overcame funding challenges, local approval hurdles, pandemic, and supplychain problems to welcome its first tenant in 2022. The goal was to preserve as much original fabric as possible while adapting the building for new tenants and uses, the project retained about 50 percent of the original siding plus 119 historic window sashes, and much wood trim—all de-leaded, repaired, and reused. A ramp installed behind a row of existing garage doors forms an accessible entry while providing space for an eye-catching art installation.

Jury comment: This project hits all the marks. It gives a dilapidated building new life and gives back to the community.



#### Hotel Marcel, New Haven: Becker + Becker

Marking the gateway to New Haven, Marcel Breuer's Armstrong Rubber Company building, begun in 1968, has been converted to a hotel while harnessing its inherent energyefficient features to meet Passive House and LEED Platinum standards. The sculptural exterior remains unaltered (apart from the removal of a two-story wing in 2002), its simple rectangular massing yielding an efficient ratio of envelope to enclosed area. The large, deep-set windows reduce daytime lighting yet provide summer passive cooling and winter solar gain, with new triple-pane thermally broken glazing to ensure optimal acoustical and thermal performance. Original board-formed concrete work, paneling, floor materials, and light fixtures preserve the nuances of Breuer's design. Listed on the National Register, the building qualified for historic rehabilitation tax credits.

Jury comment: This is an awesome reuse of a Brutalist building that didn't try to doll it up. I hope it will turn more people on to Brutalism.

continued on page 22





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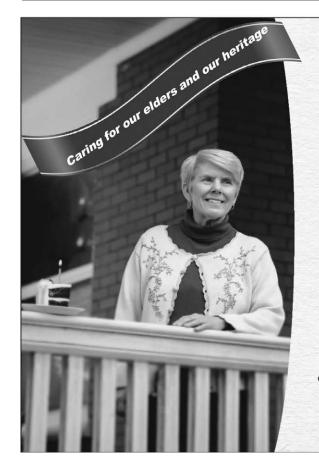


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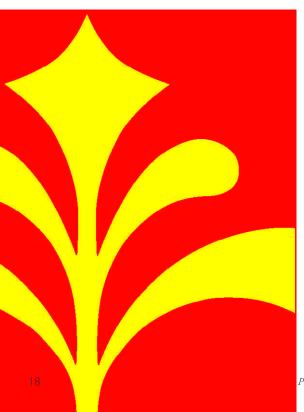
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Preservation easements protect the historic character of old buildings, structures and landscapes and require approval of proposed changes. When one of the many properties throughout the state on which Preservation Connecticut holds easements is on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

#### The Smith Worthington Saddle Company (right) 275 Homestead Avenue, Hartford

(1915, 1920, 1923, 1926, 1942)

\$1,250,000

Redevelopment opportunity of historic industrial building. Constructed in 1915 for the Hartford Special Machinery Company and its production of specialty machines, machine components and tools for manufacturers. Later additions were made in 1920, 1923, 1926, and 1942. Hartford Special Machinery Company stayed at this location until 1960 when all operations were moved to a Simsbury facility. Subsequently occupied by Smith-Worthington Company, the nation's oldest manufacturer of saddles and tack, until recent closure. The property is listed in Preservation Connecticut's Mills: Making Places of Connecticut industrial survey and is individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places, which makes it eligible for both State and Federal historic rehabilitation tax credits. In Opportunity Zone; building area is 80,790 sq. ft.; 2.97 acres.

Contact: Carl Berman, NAI Elite, 860-841-3821, cberman@naielite.com





#### Hopkins & Allen Fire Arms Mill (above) 132-176 Franklin Street, Norwich (1905) \$5,400,000

Redevelopment opportunity of historic industrial building. Originally the Hopkins and Allen Fire Arms Company, which manufactured pistols, rifles, and shotguns until declaring bankruptcy in 1917. Next occupied by Marlin-Rockwell Company, also producing firearms, until c.1921 when plant converted to textile manufacturing under the J.B. Martin Company. Production

continued until 1970s when J. B. Martin moved all operations to South Carolina. Later occupants include Eastern Pants, Co., Rose City Dying, Norwich Textile Finishing, and SMS Textile. The property is listed in Preservation Connecticut's Mills: Making Places of Connecticut industrial survey and has the potential to be listed on the State Register of Historic Places, which makes eligible for State historic rehabilitation tax credits. In Opportunity Zone; building area is 16,526 sq. ft., 1.83 acres.

Contact: Michael Beaudry, EXP Commercial, 860-990-3229, michael.beaudry@expcommercial.com



#### Daniel Morgan house, Preston (1792)

Center-chimney, five room plan with pediment façade and double front doors, typical of eastern Connecticut, available for removal. The 2,400 square foot country dwelling, constructed of oak, retains five fireplaces, smoke chamber and its original interior woodwork that reflects the transition from the Georgian to the Federal period, one room to another. Ceiling height is approximately seven feet six inches on both the first and second floors. The building must be removed.

Contact: William Gould Architectural Preservation LLC, 860-974-3448, preservation I@mindspring.com





# 140 & 156 South Main Street, Suffield (c.1860, 1952)

\$890,000

Former St. Joseph's Catholic Church property available for purchase. Closed after merger with Suffield's Sacred Heart Church in 2017. Mid-twentieth-century church is 6,300 sq. ft. and includes finished basement with community room. Italianate rectory originally the

George W. Loomis house, is 5,376 sq. ft. and features two-story front porch and rooftop cupola. Property also includes 1,830 sq. ft. house originally used as convent, and two modern, detached garages. Located in Suffield National Register historic district, which makes it eligible for State and Federal historic rehabilitation tax credits; a portion of the property is also located in Suffield Local Historic District. Total acreage: 17.12.

Contact: Keith Kumnick, Colliers, 860-616-4019, keith.kumnick@colliers.com

#### Deadline for the next issue is Deceember 20, 2022

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.

#### **Merit Awards**

## Pine Orchard Union Chapel, Branford: Joseph Sepot Architects

After 125 years, this chapel, built in 1897 to serve summer residents and listed on the National Register, needed restoration. Structural deficiencies were corrected, missing decorative elements restored in accordance with historic photographs, multi-pane windows were sensitively repaired, and code-compliant upgrades to electrical and plumbing systems were performed. Once again, the chapel plays welcoming host to the Pine Orchard community.

Jury comment: It's fabulous to see this small chapel so lovingly preserved. The attention to detail makes my preservation heart happy.

## Ferguson Library Restoration, Stamford: Silver Petrucelli & Associates

An envelope study of this 1909 library, listed on the National Register, identified maintenance and restoration needs, most notably the replacement of a fire-damaged column. The remaining wood columns were measured, and a new one constructed to match. A replica of the plaster capital was created by stripping 30-odd layers of paint from one quadrant for a mold. Replacement mutules for the pediment were created using this same method.

Jury comment: All too often, prominent civic buildings like libraries don't get the respect they deserve—this one did.

#### Montgomery Mill, Windsor Locks: Crosskey Architects, LLC

Located between the Windsor Locks Canal and the Connecticut River, the long-vacant Montgomery Mill, built between 1891 and 1939, has been converted to multifamily housing. Redevelopment was highly regulated due to site constraints, flood zone designation, and soil contamination. Design measures undertaken to withstand flooding included new basement partitions and vents to move water from the building. Federal and state historic rehabilitation tax credits helped make the project possible.

Jury comment: A great example of reusing a vacant mill building, which is a challenge and a priority in Connecticut.



Silver Petrucelli & Assoc. Architectural Staff



Scott Mazzie



## Commendation for respect for historic fabric & context

#### 87 Trumbull Street Building Move: Petra Construction Corporation

While moving buildings is never the first choice in preservation, in this case the relatively modest

but significant Benjamin Silliman house (1807) remains in the same National Register district while allowing the university to expand.

For more on this year's Elizabeth Mills Brown Awards, visit https://aiact.org/elizabeth-mills-brown-award-awardees/.

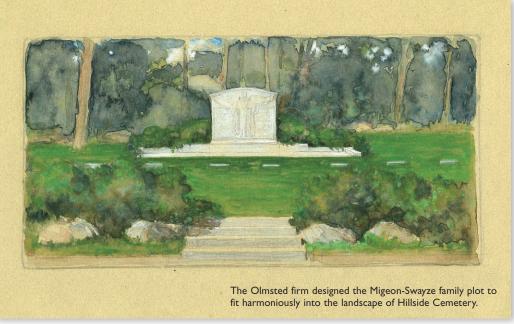
#### Hillside Cemetery, cont'd from page 20

One of those four is Hillside Cemetery in Torrington, established in 1907 when the downtown burial ground became full. A group of community leaders acquired land on the edge of town and hired Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architects to lay out the cemetery. In addition to the general design, the firm designed ten family plots and continued to plan new sections as they were needed, into the 1960s.

The design of Hillside cemetery embodied the principle of subordination in several ways. First, the plan was conceived to take advantage of the existing character of its rural site. In an early report, Percival Gallagher, the Olmsted partner in charge, noted a "particularly beautiful view south" and recommended that plantings be managed to keep the view open. Curving roads followed the topography, with unobtrusive retaining walls creating level areas suited to burials. Rhododendrons were planted in large numbers, augmenting those naturally growing in the area.

Recognizing the beauty of the site, the cemetery board asked Gallagher to plan for the new cemetery also to function as a public park. Gallagher agreed, but only in a way consistent with the cemetery's principal purpose. He wrote that the land could be a place for "quiet recreation, but not in the way that parks are usually used, that is, for picnicking, games and the like. Otherwise, the use of the property by holiday-makers will defeat its highest purposes which should appeal to the mind in a serious way and lead to contemplation and peacefulness on the part of the visitor."

To guide future development and maintenance of the cemetery, the Olmsted firm created a handbook, which makes several points reminding future managers of the need to keep the purpose and nature of the cemetery always in mind. The handbook says, "In the design of Hillside Cemetery it has been our aim, with due regard to the economical use of the land to preserve and develop the natural loveliness of the place. This quality in the landscape setting of a burial ground is most to be desired, and yet most easily destroyed. Our observations of



cemeteries in general, have led us to the conclusion that too often they become so over-ornamented with purely gardenesque features as to destroy the dignity of their purpose."

More specifically, the handbook states that all headstones and monuments, "shall be of such size and character as to be neither offensive nor injurious to the appearance of the surrounding lots of ground or of harmony with the general plan of the cemetery."

Careful attention to the main purpose and character of Hillside Cemetery, in its original design and ongoing development, account for its success as a designed landscape.

Hillside Cemetery is located at 76 Walnut Street, Torrington, Connecticut. More information can be found at OlmstedOnline.org, posted under job 03277, and at www.hillsidecem.org. A nomination to the National Register is in preparation.

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# The main point: Hillside Cemetery, Torrington

Editor's note: In 2022 each issue of Preservation Connecticut News features a Connecticut site associated with the Olmsted landscape firm. Material is drawn from the Olmsted in Connecticut landscape documentation project being carried out by Preservation Connecticut, the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, and consultants from the Red Bridge Group in observance of the 200th anniversary of Frederick Law Olmsted's birth.

Associates in the 1960s, every landscape design by the Olmsted firm was created for a specific purpose and was envisioned to have a specific character. All elements and features

within the landscape had to support, or at least not detract from, that purpose and character. This is what Olmsted scholar Charles Beveridge called the principle of subordination.

Cemeteries were difficult for the members of the Olmsted firm. Cemeteries, they believed, should provide a setting conducive to peaceful contemplation and respectful remembrance of the dead—something difficult to achieve in a landscape divided into individual plots where grandiose monuments vied for viewers' attention. Perhaps that is why the firm designed only four complete cemeteries in its history of over 100 years.