

SHPO Statewide Conference Update

Registration will open in the next couple of weeks for the SHPO's statewide preservation conference on May 16th at the Sheraton Hartford South in Rocky Hill.

Our morning agenda will feature a set of four inspirational talks from various artists who have successfully reached out to and engaged communities around traditional preservation ideas and philosophies.

Our scheduled speakers include:

- **Dar Williams**, singer-songwriter and author of the book, *What I Found in a Thousand Towns* (<https://darwilliams.com/>);
- **Titus Kaphar**, reknown New Haven-based visual artist and founder of the PostMasters Project (<https://www.postmastersproject.com/>);
- **Madeline Sayet**, Director, Writer, Actor and Educator (<https://www.madelinesayet.com/>); and
- **Natasha Wing**, author of the children's book, *When Jackie Saved Grand Central* (<http://natashawing.com/welcome>).

Check out our Facebook and Twitter feeds for more conference updates!
#CTSHPO2018 #CTsharedstewardship

An American Story: Finding Home in Fairfield County



The Fairfield Museum and History Center recently opened an exhibition honoring the 100th anniversary of the Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants (CIRI), which was founded in 1918 to help new immigrants make their homes in Fairfield County.

The exhibition showcases a series of large-scale portraits and biological narratives about eight individuals from Cambodia, Congo, Cuba, Hungary, India, Rwanda and Syria who have rebuilt their lives in Connecticut.

The exhibition is on view until July 23, 2018 and additional programming and information can be found [here](#).

***The SHPO is always looking to enhance our historic resources inventory with sites from new and under-represented communities. Contact us if you are interested in honoring the important buildings and sites that represent your story. Call or email at 860.500.2356 or mary.dunne@ct.gov.

Tips for Preventing and Responding to Fire at Historic Houses

Unfortunately, we lose important historic resources to fire in Connecticut every year. The National Trust for Historic Preservation recently published an article outlining 10 tips to prevent and respond to fire in historic homes. [Check it out here](#).

News from the Museums



Old New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine

Last month, museum staff hosted a program at the East Granby Community Center to kick-off the grand reopening of Old New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine. Dr. Gregg Mangan gave a fantastic presentation on Old New-Gate Prison titled, "New-Gate Prison in 1825: A Nursery of Crime".



His extensive research and well-developed lecture offered great insight into the fascinating history of the prison. We were pleased to host fifty-seven supportive attendees who were actively engaged asking questions and sharing information.

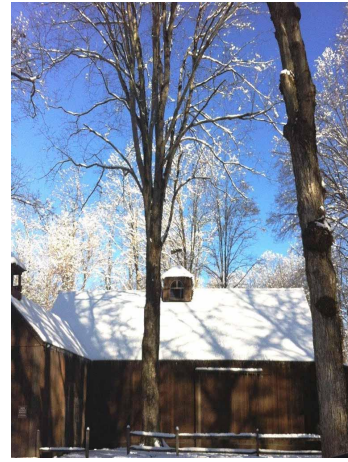
Later this month, on Monday March 26th at 7:30 pm at the East Granby Community Center, we'll join with the East Granby Historical Society to present, "Memories of Old New-Gate" where we will hear from special guests including history buff Donald Foberg, and Suffield Town Historian Lester Smith, before we open the floor to all present to share their New-Gate memories and stories. For more information, [visit our Facebook page](#), "Old New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine." The SHPO office and museum staff are grateful to the town of East

Granby for the use of the Community Center!

Eric Sloane Museum

In Eric Sloane's book *Seasons of America Past*, Eric writes "March in mountainous areas was often mid-winterish in spirit, delaying the start of the actual farming seasons: blustery March, then was the ideal season for storing up firewood and splitting fence-rails or, as the farmer put it, "puttering with wood."

While we are not "storing up firewood and splitting fence-rails", we eagerly look forward March thaws, and the promise it holds to embark upon a new season of work ahead.



Please call (860) 927-3849 for additional information.

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Upcoming Events

Have PowerPoint, Will Travel

Alyssa Lozupone, the SHPO's intrepid Historic Homes Tax Credit Program administrator, will be giving two workshops on the program this month. Come learn all about this financial incentive for preserving historic homes!

March 12, at 6:00 p.m.

Winthrop STEM Elementary Magnet School
74 Grove Street, New London

March 16, at 1:30 p.m.

South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority
90 Sargent Drive, New Haven

RSVP to New Haven Preservation Trust at 203.562.5919 or info@nhpt.org



Every year the CT Office of Tourism supports CT Open House Day. Scheduled on the second Saturday of June, cultural organizations and tourism attractions throughout the state open their doors to Connecticut residents, inviting them to discover – and rediscover – Connecticut's fascinating world of art, history, film and tourism with a variety of special visitor incentives.

For more information on this year's open house including how you can get involved [click here](#).