

2018 Year in Review

Happy New Year! As we resolve to make 2019 a great year, allow us to highlight some of our accomplishments from 2018.

Grants

In calendar year 2018, the SHPO awarded \$789,515 in grant funds to 30 organizations across the state. Grants were awarded for a variety of historic preservation planning and restoration projects. In addition, the SHPO is pleased to fund the CT Trust for Historic Preservation's [Circuit Rider program](#) for another year with enhanced services including expedited technical assistance funding.

Tax Credits

The SHPO accepted 27 new projects into the [Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program \(C.G.S. §10-416c\)](#) and issued over \$18.5 million in tax credits to 15 projects in Hartford, Bridgeport, Norwalk, Norwich, New Britain and Greenwich.

The SHPO accepted 85 new homeowners into the [Historic Homes Rehabilitation Tax Credit program \(C.G.S. §10-416\)](#) and reserved just under \$1.8 million in tax credits.

National and State Register

Last year, 12 new historic resources were added to the National Register of Historic Places, including 3 districts. The State Register of Historic Places added the 12 resources listed on the National Register, as well as, 6 additional properties.

And new for 2019, check out our new and improved website at www.decd.org.

File Under: Holy Smokes!

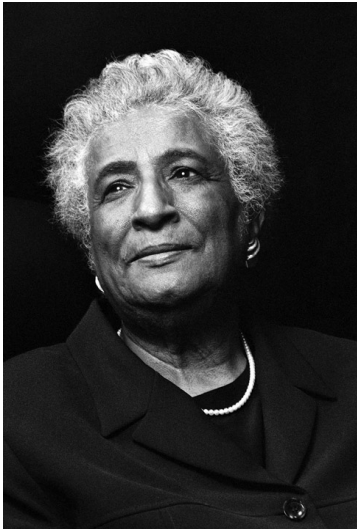
The Department of Transportation's work on the "Mix-Master" in Waterbury has resulted in more than just congestion. The ongoing work has literally uncovered a long-forgotten neighborhood between the Pan Am railyards and the Naugatuck River in Waterbury. Known as the Jackson Street, or "Dog's Nest", neighborhood, the community included many new immigrants who worked in the local brass

mills and other manufacturing facilities. CTDOT's archaeological efforts were carried out under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and include [a video of the history of the neighborhood](#) and [a booklet](#). The next step will be to produce a lesson plan that fits into the local schools' current curriculum.

Photo: Excavation on interior of foundation at former 23 Jackson Street (photo by Jason Nargiz)



New to the Connecticut Freedom Trail



The members of the [Connecticut Freedom Trail Committee](#) voted unanimously in favor of adding the [Judge Constance Baker Motley Preserve](#) and house, located at 99 Cedar Lake Road, Chester, CT, to the Connecticut Freedom Trail on November 14, 2018. Constance and Joel Motley Jr., with their son Joel III, occupied the property as their seasonal home for over 40 years, from 1965 to 2005.

Judge Motley was the first African American woman in the New York State Senate. In 1965, she became the first African American woman Borough President of Manhattan. In 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson nominated Mrs. Motley to be the first African American woman to serve as a federal judge and the first African American to serve on the Federal District Court of the Southern District of

New York. She served on the Court until her death in 2005, including four years as the Chief Judge.

Judge Motley was inducted into the [National Women's Hall of Fame](#) in Seneca Falls, New York in 1993, and the [Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame](#) in 1998. She was also the recipient of the Presidential Citizens Medal in 2001.

Her pioneering work in helping to pave the long and arduous path for freedom, equality and justice, is distinguished and remarkable, and for which the people of Connecticut are grateful. The inclusion of the preserve and house onto the Connecticut Freedom Trail will become a symbol of her work and a beacon for others who wish to emulate her passion for human dignity.

Historic Homes Rehab Tax Credit - Call for 2019 Workshops

In 2018, SHPO traveled the state spreading the word about the Historic Homes Rehabilitation Tax Credit program. The office conducted **eleven**



workshops, reaching every county in the state, and about **200 homeowners**.

SHPO would like to extend thanks to the local partners that made these workshops possible: *New London Landmarks and Hodges Square Village Association, New Haven Preservation Trust, Norwich Historical*

Society and Norwich Historic District Commission, Mansfield Historical Society, Town of Old Saybrook, New Britain Neighborhood Revitalization Zone, Woodstock Historic Properties Commission, Litchfield Historical Society, and Newtown Historical Society.

If you're interested in hosting a SHPO workshop in your community about the Historic Homes Rehabilitation Tax Credit, contact Alyssa Lozupone by Friday, February 15 via email at: alyssa.lozupone@ct.gov.

REMINDER - We Want to Hear from You!

As part of our statewide historic preservation conference on May 17-18, 2019, we want you to help us celebrate the historic places of Connecticut! Tell us about the historic character of your hometown and why it is special to you. Is it the feeling you get walking around Main Street? The titans of past industry that have a new lease on life? A particular scenic landscape or agricultural setting? Share with us a paragraph and a few photographs that capture your community's historic identity. In your response, let us know if you'd be willing to present your piece at our conference or have it featured in our conference brochure.



Deadline for responses is February 10th. Responses can be sent to Catherine.labadia@ct.gov.

Photo: Eno Memorial Hall, Simsbury

Save the Date



HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT: TURNING OLD BUILDINGS INTO PRODUCTIVE NEW USES

Join us for an Adaptive Reuse Summit on overcoming the challenges and financing the potential of these diamonds in the rough. Featuring local speakers and national experts, this event is a must for anyone interested in developing CT's downtowns for the future.

NATIONAL SPEAKERS | LOCAL EXAMPLES | REAL-WORLD SOLUTIONS

SAVE THE DATE ~ FEBRUARY 28, 2019
THE LYCEUM, HARTFORD



Sponsored by



State Historic Preservation Office

Co-hosted by



News from the Museums



Old New-Gate Prison and Copper Mine

Old New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine is happy to report on the restoration of Viets' Tavern located on the museum property. Viets' Tavern was constructed in 1763 by Captain John Viets who later became the first warden for Newgate Prison. The house then served as an inn and tavern for those coming to and from the Prison. The Tavern is being repainted and reroofed, as are two small cottages also located on the property. Work is expected to cease for the winter and resume in April, 2019.



Eric Sloane Museum - Looking Back/Looking Forward

Over fifty years ago Eric Sloane and Donald Davis, (then, CEO of Stanley Works), met at the New Britain Museum of American Art where Eric had a showing of early implements mounted artistically on boards called "placements". Eric said "Here, I reasoned, was true art, true American art and true

representations of the American spirit." Donald Davis asked, "Why, don't you give this collection to the people some day? Perhaps the Stanley Works would even consider donating land and a building to house it." This began a collaboration between Eric Sloane, the Stanley Works and the State of Connecticut that went on to establish the Sloane-Stanley Museum, now known as the Eric Sloane Museum.

As we enter our fiftieth year as a museum we look forward to the structural repairs and upgrades, to secure the building and to improve the visitor experience for the next half century.

Photo: Taken at the groundbreaking ceremony on museum grounds in 1968. In the photograph attached are left to right: Eric Hatch, Chairman of the Connecticut Historical Commission, William Tobin, First Selectman, Town of Kent, Attilio Frassinelli, Lieutenant Governor, Donald David, CEO, Stanley Works and Eric Sloane, artist, author and collector. Please note the early tools that Eric provided them with for the groundbreaking.

Henry Whitfield State Museum

2018 brought visitors to the Henry Whitfield State Museum from 46 states plus Washington, D.C. and 20 foreign countries! One highlight was the visit from Gordon and Mary Lee-Steere, the Lord and Lady of the Manor of Ockley in Surrey, England, the home of Henry Whitfield's original church, St. Margaret's.

Along with its many annual program favorites, the museum hosted new community service programs, participated in the international Make

Music Day on summer solstice, hosted archaeological excavations by Southern Connecticut State University students, and participated in the annual Hammonasset Festival and Guilford Trunk-or-Treat events.

2019 marks the 120th anniversary of the founding of the Henry Whitfield State Museum, and the site is looking forward to some 21st century information technology upgrades, participating in the May SHPO conference, and welcoming thousands of visitors to Connecticut's oldest house.

Photo: Museum Curator Michael McBride with English visitors Gordon and Mary Lee-Steere, Ockley's Lord and Lady of the Manor.



Connecticut
still revolutionary

