

Preservation Front and Center

Preservation activities in Greenwich can take many forms. Here we look at some of the ways we all can work together to save our town's historic properties.



Designated Local Historic Property, French Farm, Built 1905–1910

Historic Designation: Local Historic Property Designation is the strongest protection for historic properties, be it an individual home, neighborhood or district. The town also designates Historic Overlay Zones. There are other levels of protection for historic properties that are less restrictive, including: National Historic Landmark, National Register Districts, National Register of Historic Places, State Register of Historic Places and Scenic Road Designation. Whichever designation is appropriate for your situation, the Greenwich Historical Society and its partners can help with the research needed to apply for historic designation.

Fund a Historic District Sign: To increase visibility and awareness of historic districts and educate the community about older buildings and neighborhoods, the Greenwich Preservation Network partners with local supporters to erect

Glenville Historic District Marker Dedication, 2017



signs that mark areas of historic significance. Markers erected to date include: the Greenwich Municipal Center, Historic Fourth Ward, River Road-Mead Avenue Historic District, Glenville Historic District and Putnam Hill Historic District. A new marker went up in the Strickland Road Historic District in June. There are other districts that still need markers and funding, among them Greenwich Avenue, Round Hill Road at John Street and Stanwich Historic District. The cost is \$3,500 for each sign; the name of the individual, business or organization that underwrites the project will appear on the permanent marker.

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Greenwich,

● Check Out Our New Look

In honor of our reimagined campus, over the course of the next few months, a new logo will begin to appear throughout our communications materials. You'll see graphic updates in everything from our newsletters to our website, invitations and development materials. The new logo was a year in the making with a dedicated committee of staff, designers and board members working behind the scenes to review and revise a host of layouts, fonts and colors that visually express our mission and our vital place in the community. Many thanks to all who participated!

The final design by Whirlwind Creative represents the old, the new and the future with a customized font highlighted in "Greenwich Green" (although this versatile design can take on other color personalities too). For those of you who enjoy design details, in addition to our new logo, our official new fonts will be the universally appealing ITC New Baskerville and Gotham!

Stay tuned for news about our new mission statement, coming soon...



Landmarked Property Chateau Paterno, 1939



Preservation Award winner Greenwich Point Conservancy restored Immis Arden Cottage. The Gateway Garden was a gift of Green Fingers Garden Club.

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Seek Greenwich Landmark Designation for Your Property:

Greenwich Historical Society's Landmark Recognition Program honors distinctive properties that reflect Greenwich's unique architectural heritage to encourage preservation and pride in ownership. Since the program's inception in 1987, the Greenwich Historical Society has professionally researched and plaqued more than 300 structures. Documenting and performing architectural surveys of these properties help us understand how historic homes enhance our community, shape the landscape and influence our quality of life. Landmark Designation does not restrict an owner's right to modify or demolish a building.

Deed Restrictions: An owner selling property can stipulate that a building may not be demolished even upon transfer of title.

“Preservation needs cheerleaders!”
says Diane Fox, chairman
of the Preservation Network.

Apply for a Preservation Award: Greenwich Historical Society honors individuals, organizations and projects for their contributions to the preservation of Greenwich's historical resources. Winners represent historical and/or architectural significance and demonstrate the outstanding aesthetic, cultural or economic benefits of preservation.

“Since demolitions so often make the news, it's essential to recognize those who respect and care for historic structures. Preservation maintains the character of our town and fosters a sense of place. It also has the added benefit of being sustainable and friendly to the environment,” says former Awards Program Chairman John Morris Dixon. ■

What Else Can You Do?

- Read the print copy of *Greenwich Time* and look for demolition notices.
- Write a letter of support to the P & Z for zoning amendments that preserve buildings and landscapes while allowing additional development.
- Become involved in your neighborhood association.
- Attend P & Z and Historic District Commission meetings in support of preservation initiatives.
- Be active in community organizations and town government.
- Support the Greenwich Historical Society so that we can continue to support preservation!

Proud to Be a Blue Star Museum

Greenwich Historical Society is proud to be a Blue Star Museum, one of 2,000 distinguished museums across the country in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts and Blue Star Families, an organization that supports military families and increases awareness of the unique challenges of mili-

tary life. Blue Star Museums offer free admission to active military personnel and their families (up to five family members) from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Please help spread the word to any active military families you may know. For more information on the program and other participating museums, visit arts.gov/bluestarmuseums. ■



A collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums across America.

arts.gov/bluestarmuseums

Grand Reopening Celebration!

This place is for you and we can't wait to share it!

We are counting the days until we can welcome the entire town to our newly reimagined campus. We'll cut the official ribbon and open all the doors to premiere our fabulous new visitor center, café, museum store, new exhibitions, bigger and better library and archives, and gorgeous gardens. We're pulling out all the stops and celebrating with live music, food trucks, craft beer and gelato tastings, crafts for kids,

a scarecrow-making contest, games and family-friendly tours of the entire campus and Bush-Holley House.

Save the Date for the Opening:
Saturday, October 6, noon to 4:00 pm;
ribbon cutting begins at 12:15 pm

General Open House and Free Tours of Bush-Holley House:

Sunday, October 7, noon to 4:00 pm
Free admission to all both days.

Celebrate Founder's Day, Town's Oldest House and Photo Contest Winners

Greenwich Historical Society and Greenwich Point Conservancy are pleased to announce that the newly restored Feake-Ferris House (c. 1645–1689) will be the site of the July 18 Founder's Day reception. Attendees at the reception will be the first to tour the lovingly restored home, the earliest part of which was erected in 1645 by Greenwich founders Elizabeth and Robert Feake and the first to congratulate the winners of the Historical Society's **This Place Matters** photo contest.

"We're thrilled to showcase the newly restored Feake-Ferris House at the Historical Society's 'This Place Matters' reception," says Chris Franco, president, Greenwich Point Conservancy Board of Directors. "The multi-year restoration project at Greenwich's oldest house—and one of the oldest in America—has uncovered the spectacular original home of Elizabeth Winthrop Feake, namesake of 'Elizabeth's Neck,' as Greenwich Point was known for more than 200 years. The work was made possible by generous contributions from town residents concerned about preserving our unique heritage. The Founder's Day reception to showcase love of our town is a natural tie-in to the Greenwich Point Conservancy's mission."

Debra Mecky, Greenwich Historical Society executive director and CEO, notes, "The Feake-Ferris House is an ideal venue for the reception. At a time when so many of our historic structures are being demolished, it's a privilege to recognize a structure that is indelibly tied to our history. Feake-Ferris House is a treasured Greenwich landmark that matters a great deal to our town's heritage and character."



*Rendering of the Feake-Ferris House
Courtesy of Greenwich Point Conservancy*

Feake-Ferris House Reception:
July 18, 10:00 am

A shuttle will be available beginning at 9:30 am to transport guests from Greenwich Point parking to the Feake-Ferris House.

Seats are limited and advance reservations required.

Enter a Photo of Your Favorite Spot in Greenwich and Attend the Founder's Day Reception

The first 50 individuals to submit photos for the **This Place Matters** contest will be invited to join the July 18 Founder's Day reception at the Feake-Ferris House.



"Sunrise at Tod's Point"

2018 Submission by Catherine O'Keefe

The top three entries will be published in *Greenwich Magazine*, magazine sponsor for the contest, and will be displayed at the Greenwich Historical Society's newly reimagined campus when it reopens this fall.

To participate, just snap a photo of a favorite place in Greenwich and submit it with a brief statement on the subject and why it's special, by July 6 to the Historical Society to shealy@greenwichhistory.org or via social media. For the latter, photographers should use the hashtag #thisplacemattersgreenwich and tag the Greenwich Historical Society: Instagram greenwichhistory; Twitter @GrnHistCT; Facebook @GreenwichHistoricalSociety. Photos need to be **300 dpi** to be published in *Greenwich Magazine*. Full contest details are at greenwichhistory.org. ■

Greenwich Historical Society

47 Strickland Road, Cos Cob, CT 06807



**Note our new mailing address
and street number.**

SAVE THE DATES:

July 9-20

Historic Innovation Camp

July 18

Founder's Day

October 6

Ribbon Cutting and Opening Day Celebration

October 7

Free Museum, Archives and Campus Tours



Greenwich Historical Society chronicles the past, but the future is in your hands. Please remember us in your estate plan so that future generations may continue to explore the ongoing story of our community.



**Save the dates
for the entire series of
Antiquarius holiday events.**

Tickets will be available online
in early October.

**Greenwich Winter Antiques Show
Opening Night Party:**
Friday, November 30

Holiday Boutique Opening:
Tuesday, December 4

Holiday House Tour:
Wednesday, December 5

ANTIQUARIUS 2018 Honorary Co-Chairs Announced

We are thrilled to announce that the Antiquarius 2018 Honorary Design Co-Chairs are renowned AD Top 100 designer Alex Papachristidis and celebrated event planner David Monn. This uber-talented duo will transform the Eastern Greenwich Civic Center into a holiday wonderland for a Winter Antiques Show opening party you won't want to miss.



Alex Papachristidis



David Monn

Visit our blog at
greenwichhistory.org/blog
and follow us on:



@GreenwichHistoricalSociety



@GrnHistCT



@greenwichhistory



HOURS

Docent-led Tours of Bush-Holley House

Wednesday through Sunday,
1, 2 and 3 pm and
by appointment

ADMISSION

\$10 for adults
\$8 for seniors and students
Always free to members and
children under 18.
Free to all visitors the first
Wednesday of each month.

CONTACT US

Greenwich Historical Society
47 Strickland Road
Cos Cob, CT 06807
203-869-6899
greenwichhistory.org/contact

DIRECTIONS

Off I-95 at Exit 4.
Details at greenwichhistory.org/
visit

21 museums for \$25!
ctarttrail.org



Volunteers Make It Happen!

2018 Volunteer of the Year Awards

Greenwich Historical Society feted its volunteers at a reception at the Round Hill Club in April. Joseph and Mary Beth Greco received the Volunteers of the Year award, Deb Robinson and Ashley Bruynes were thanked for

chairing the Antiquarius Patron Solicitation Committee and Caity Sushon was recognized as a Student Volunteer of the Year. Our sincere thanks to all of the volunteers who support us throughout the year with their time, talent and creativity. ■



Joe and Mary Beth Greco receive award from Executive Director & CEO Debra Mecky



Caity Sushon and Curator of Education Anna Greco



Antiquarius Volunteers Deb Robinson and Ashley Bruynes flanked by Ron Strackbein and Board Chairman Davide Strackbein

Is Gardening Your Game? Join the Green Team!

We are seeking volunteers for the Green Team, a group that assists with the planting and maintenance of our vegetable garden and new flower beds funded by Hortulus. The heirloom vegetable garden is planted each year based on journals kept by artist Elmer MacRae in the early 1900s when the Bush-Holley House was a boarding house and the center of the Cos Cob art colony. American Impressionist works of art in the Historical Society's collections inspired the flower beds and will be used in site interpretation.

The Green Team provides a wonderful opportunity for beginners, master gardeners, scout troops and garden club members who seek a meaningful, hands-on opportunity. Perks include sharing in the garden's bounty and an invitation to the annual

Green Team dinner held each autumn to celebrate the harvest season, as well as recognition in our annual report and at our annual volunteer reception. For information, contact Michele Couture, Director of Operations and Visitor Services: mcouture@greenwichhistory.org or cell 203-615-8904. ■



Bush-Holley House from back of garden



David Scott Parker Architects

Call for Volunteer Gallery Guides

Our new museum will require a cadre of volunteer gallery guides. We're looking for individuals who are friendly and outgoing with the ability to engage visitors during their museum experience. Guides will be stationed in the gallery and will be responsible for interacting with the general public as well as safeguarding our exhibitions and materials. Willingness to help with computers, iPads and tablets is needed, and guides must be committed to attending training sessions throughout the year. Gallery guides will respond to general inquiries about the museum, direct visitors and help to create a positive museum experience.

To learn more about this volunteer position, contact Curator of Education Anna Greco at agreco@greenwichhistory.org or 203-869-6899, Ext. 31. ■

Greenwich Historical Society Announces STEAP Grant

We are honored to announce that the Greenwich Historical Society has received a \$389,800 STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) grant from the State of Connecticut to assist with the completion of site improvements for the expanded campus at Bush-Holley Historic Site. According to the Office of Policy and Management, STEAP funds economic development, community conservation and quality-of-life capital projects to “preserve the historical integrity and beauty of our



The Honorable Dannel Malloy, Governor of Connecticut, with the Greenwich Historical Society's Curator of Education Anna Greco (left) and former Director of Development Katrina Dorsey (right) in Hartford on April 13, 2018, after the state voted to award the STEAP Grant to the Historical Society.

small towns, [which are so] vital to our economy and quality of life.”

The grant will help to complete work on our landscape plantings, pathways, accessible ramps and restored landscape features as well as less visible (but no less important) drainage, slope and embankment protection.

These improvements will restore the site's bucolic character as a park amenity for public enjoyment, increase green space and make the museum more accessible to the thousands of schoolchildren who annually visit as part of their school curricula. ■

Royce Gift of Hassam Painting to Grace Bush-Holley House

CHILDE HASSAM (1859–1935) produced several works set in the dining room of Bush-Holley House during his sojourns in Cos Cob, and one, an oil-on-panel painting of Josephine Holley dated 1912, has now been returned to its original setting. Thanks to a generous gift by Deborah and Chuck Royce, the painting (thought to be painted on the lid of a cigar box) will join “The Writing Desk,” an etching picturing Hassam's wife Maude, in the same room. Our deepest thanks to the Royces for this important gift as well as for their longtime support.



Chuck and Deborah Royce, flanked by art historian and former Board Chairman Susan Larkin and Executive Director & CEO Debra Mecky

The Royces' purchase originally marked the 2005 launch of the Historical Society's Promised Gift Program, which furthers the Historical Society's collecting objectives by allowing donors to agree to give, at a specified future date, artwork or other material gifts connected to the history of Bush-Holley House and Greenwich. Those interested in making a donation to The Promised Gift Program should contact Executive Director & CEO Debra Mecky at dmecky@greenwichhistory.org or call 203-869-6899. ■

Library & Archives:

Preparation for Move Well Under Way

In our last issue, we noted that the Library & Archives is closed to public visits so that staff can pack for its move to new and improved quarters over the summer. Says Curator of Library & Archives Christopher Shields, “We are now finishing up with the process of rehousing collection material and are beginning the mapping of collections to specific shelves in the new archives vault.

“It will be exciting to be able to locate all related collection material together in the new space. The space shortage in our current building has sometimes meant that collection material needed to be separated to fit.” ■

Curator of Library & Archives Christopher Shields and assistant Daryn Reyman-Lock in the midst of packing

