



PORTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 98, Portland, CT 06480

FEBRUARY 2001 NEWSLETTER

CALLANDER HOUSE

Our progress has moved by fits and starts. Various delays with the electrical work have been the main blockage to the work on the rooms. Nothing can be put in place or ceilings replaced until the electrical work is completed. A new electrician is expected to finish the work in the next few weeks which will get us moving forward again. We hope the plans for the ramp and accessible bathroom will be accepted by the town building official by April 1. As the ramp construction will be outside and the bathroom construction in the kitchen ell, we will be free to sort out the other rooms. We will need volunteers who like to organize books, boxes, etc. Please call Chris Sullivan – 342-4105 or Eleanor Crowther – 342-2907.

Acquisition records –

Marie Keser is researching information about a computer program that will allow us to computerize all of our acquisition records. As every individual item must be catalogued, a special museum designed computer program is a necessity. This program has been recommended by Dione Longley of the Middlesex County Historical Society as being particularly volunteer-friendly. It was prepared by the American Association for State and Local History. Cost will be \$600 to \$700. We expect the data program will be used on volunteer computers until we can acquire equipment for the Society. Suggestions for office equipment grant sources would be helpful.

Bookcases –

We have been given several useful bookcases for our research room at the Callander House but one special design is still needed. We would like a glass-covered set of shelves that can be locked to hold our more valuable books (early, fragile or out-of-print books), whose use we would like to control. Any ideas please leave a message on the Society telephone answering machine, 342-5455.

2001 CALENDAR-

The mystery houses have caused a lot of comment but no one has identified them yet. If you are in need of another calendar send a \$6 check to the Society at PO Box 98. If you wish to check your mystery house idea, call our expert, Doris Sherrow, 342-2493.

OUR FIFTH ANNUAL TOWN-WIDE TAG SALE DAY – SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2001

It's time to look through your storage areas and plan to unload all those unused items that your neighbors are just panting for. You can give them to the Society to sell or plan to have your own sale and register with us. Organizing meetings will be on the second Tuesday of the month—if you would like to help, join us at the Callander House or call Eleanor Crowther at 342-2907.

Middlesex County Historical Society request

The Middlesex Society would like to borrow Wangunk Indian artifacts for an exhibit celebrating the 350th anniversary of Middletown. If you have items you would be willing to loan, please call Di Longley at the Museum 346-0746 or Doris Sherrow, 342-2493.

RECENT GIFTS TO THE SOCIETY

Many thanks for gifts totaling \$717. received for the Callander House Museum from the following:

Grace Broberg, Marybeth Keser Burbank, Jean Dillworth, Bill & Phyllis Frisbie, Joan Gilbert, Alan Goodrich, Robert Hale, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Heerdt, Beverly Newberg, William Petzold Jr., Portland Garden Club, Jane Rich, Mrs. William Rockwood, Ellen Roman, Jeannette Scianna, Ann Gildersleeve Sloan, Norma Werdelin, Martin Weiner.

GENEALOGY CONTRIBUTION - Barbara Sanborn Chapman's research on her branch of the Sanborn family has been published in the Sanborn Signatures Newsletter (founded in 1853). Barbara replied to a query about her great grandfather George Sanborn who was born in the family homestead in Waldo, Maine. His marriage produced 10 living children who migrated to various states. The ninth child, Frank Leslie Sanborn married Effie Hurlburt of Portland, December 31, 1890, thus starting the Portland branch of the Sanborns. Five of Frank's grandchildren still live in Portland.

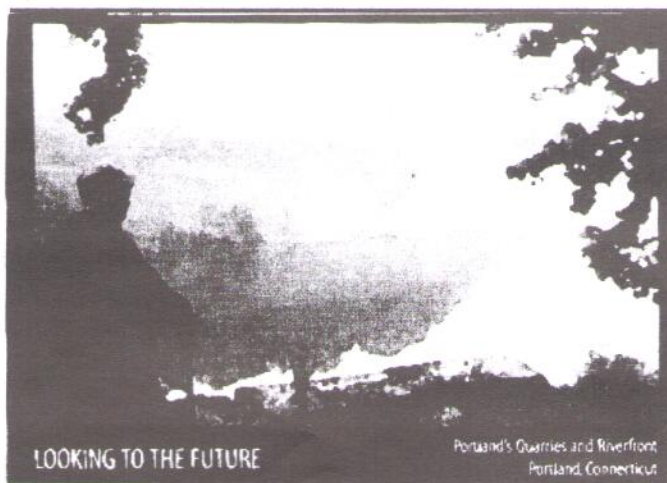
Historic Sites – 103 Marlborough Street

This is the small white "cape" next to where Zah's was, the third building to the right of the depot. It is for sale along with the other two making a large commercial site if the three lots were joined. A perfect site for another gas station, perhaps!

No. 103 is said to be the oldest house in Portland. It is listed in the assessor's records as having been built in 1689 and may have housed some member of the Stancliff family, the first quarry workers in town. The house is known to have been moved, maybe more than once. One story places it originally on Airline Avenue near the Meriden Yacht property. Another history attributed to a Stancliff family descendant claims that it was near the river end of Commerce Street and was moved when the Middlesex Quarry needed to expand.

We are searching the records but would like any family stories that would help to identify its origin or moving history. And if you have any ideas on how to save it, let us know.

- Christine Sullivan



*"Lord grant that
I may always be
right for Thou
knowest I am
hard to turn."*

-Early New England prayer

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY CURRENT?

We hope you will find your name here. If not, now is the time to renew. If in doubt, check the mailing label on this Newsletter. If "Life" appears on your label, you are a life member, and your dues are paid. If "2001" appears, you have paid this year's dues. If none of the above shows on your label, then we have not received your dues for 2001. So, check the list, check the label, and feel free to leave a message on the Society phone (342-5455) if you have questions. We will get back to you! Dues: (Individual - \$10, Family - \$20, Lifetime - \$250) should be mailed to:

Portland Historical Society, Inc., P.O.Box 98, Portland, CT. 06480.

Lifetime Members

Aresco	Patricia S.	Bronson	Charles and Nancy	Johnson	Hazel
Brede	Colleen M.	Bylan	Rolf & Joy	Jozus	Ivar & Carol
Burke	Dr. & Mrs. Gerald	Ceulemans	Dorothy	Keser	Marie
Crowther	Dr/Mrs D.S.F.	Chapman	Fred & Barbara	Kollias	Paris J.
Csere	James	Chowaniec	Duane Marie	Kutz	Mrs. Roselies
Csere	Pauline P.	Clark	Mrs Donald	Labbadia	Karen
Cunningham	Linda	Cohan	Fred/Susan	Labella	Tony & Mary
DeGraff	Norma	Conklin	Mr/Mrs John F.	Larson	Harold & Sue
Del Russo Sr.	Sam	Cramer	Lucille C.	Larson	Bill and Evelyn
Dolan	Mary Ann	Cunningham	Denis	Law	George and Elaine
Gildersleeve	Mrs. Mary A.	Curley	Elizabeth	Lineen Jr.	Marty
Gildersleeve	Richard O.	Dalton	Sharon B.	Luppi	Mr. & Mrs. Stephen
Hale	Elsie M.	DesRosiers	Jannie	Markham	Donald R.
Hettrick	Terrance J.	Devlin	Earle and Jeanne	McMahon	Anna Natale
Jackson	Everett & MaryJane	Dillworth	Jeanne C.	Natalie	Virginia R.
Kavanaugh	John/Anne	Dinatale	Francis	Newberg	Beverly
McCabe	Jim/Martha	Dower	Walter & Vivian	Omicoli	Mrs. Edith
McDougall	Dylan Stephen	Downing	Isabel	Otterbein	John & Diane
McDougall	Robert W.	Erskine	Lloyd and Eileen	Perruccio	Mr. & Mrs. William
Muller	William R.	Ferguson	Rose G.	Peterson	Mr. & Mrs. Ernest F.
Olsen	Walter	Flannagan	Mr. John	Petzold Jr	Wm & Paula
Organek	Mr. & Mrs. Edward	Foster	Myron and Jane	Pitruzzello	Sal J.
Rockwood	Mrs. William O.	Freeburg	Ruth	Prout	Janet
Rockwood	Patricia White	Frisbie	Bill & Phyllis	Rich	Jane
Saurbaugh	James	Gilbert	Robinson & Arline	Robinson	Hazel
Schufer	John H.	Gilbert	Joan	Rode	Walter & Ann
Scianna	Mr. & Mrs. Peter P.	Gildersleeve	Rick and Lynn	Roman	Ellen S.
Sloan	Anne Gildersleeve	Goodgion	Laurel	Rousseau	Edward
Sullivan	Bill and Chris	Goodrich	Alan	Rowe	Marie W.
Taylor	Donald A.	Goodrich	Robert & Beatrice	Scheer	Mrs. Audrey
Whatmore	Kenneth & Jean	Goodrich	Mr/Mrs Donald	Sneck	William
Wilson	Mrs. Alfreda B.	Gotta	John F.	Sorenson	Joan
		Graves	Richard & Judy	Stancliff	Robert
		Grover	Allen & Ruth	Steele	Dorothy
		Guild	Virgina	Sullivan	Gene and Shirley
		Guilmette	Randy & Joan	Sullivan	John
		Hale	Edward and Eleanor	Sullivan	Mr/Mrs Francis W.
		Hale	George & Judy	Swanson	Elmer/Pat
		Harder	Lawrence & Drusilla	Tierney	Peggy
		Harmon	Richard & Jean	Waldman	Dr. & Mrs. Arthur
		Heerdt	Bruce and Doris	Washburn	Bethia Robinson
		Hill	Dorian E.	Weiner	Martin
		Hyyppa	Harriet	Werdelin	Norma
		Ives	Barbara	Wilson	George and Leora
		Johnson	George and Carolyn	Woltmann	Charles
		Johnson	Stuart/Bea	Woltmann	Regina
				Zampini	John and Kate

2001 Members

Ackerman	William
Agogliati	Bob and Linda
Agogliati	Hanna Jo
Ahlberg	Dorothy
Anderson	Alan & Joan
Anderson	Louise
Baines	Lillian R.
Berggren	Mr/Mrs. Fred
Bergman	Sharon
Blacha	Edward H.
Broberg	Grace E.

PROGRAMS – Regina Woltmann, 342-3092

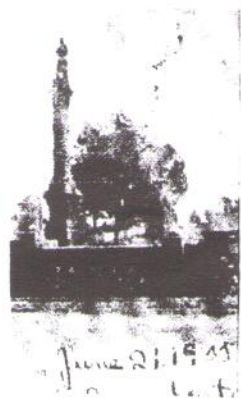
- February 27, 7:30 pm** **Main Street Program (PRIDE) – Slide show of plans presented by Brian Gouin, Pres. And Bruce Tyler, Vice Pres. Meeting at the Library, Mary Flood Room.**
- March 27, 7:30 pm** **Brownstone Quorum representative – program on proposed development of Quarries under consultancy of the National Park Service. Meeting at the Senior Center.**
- April **** **Telephone history showing antique phones. (** See Rivercast for date and time.)**

***Would you like to take a tour?** The New Hartford Historical Society is sponsoring a House and Garden Tour on Saturday, June 2. There are five houses, three gardens, a house museum that replicates a country store and barbershop, and other interesting buildings. Regina Woltmann, our Program Organizer, would like to know if you would join a group trip by bus or car pool. Call her at 342-3092.*

NEWSLETTER – Phyllis and Bill Frisbie, 2/21/01

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