



Old Saybrook Historical Society's  
**Antiques  
&  
Treasures Auction**

***Under  
the  
Big Tent!***



**Saturday, June 1, 2019  
10am to 4pm  
Preview at 10:30am  
Auction 1:30pm to 4pm**

**General Wm Hart House  
350 Main Street  
Old Saybrook**

**860-395-1635  
www.saybrookhistory.org  
contact@saybrookhistory.org**

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Dear Members,

We are looking forward to the many special events planned this season. From the culmination of the work on the American Battlefields Protection Grant to the final work on the General William Hart House window restoration, we have worked on varied projects of significance to our mission. To see the results is gratifying to all involved and we hope that, as members, you will be pleased with the results also.

Protecting and preserving history takes on many forms. One of the biggest challenges is what to save and how to save it ...the constant struggle that ensues as the population grows and resources are limited. Therefore, we are grateful for all the support we receive through our membership and our local government as well as the many special donations from the businesses in our community. We live in a small town but have a membership that extends throughout the country. The interest in saving the history of Old Saybrook is amazing.

Our commitment is strong; the significant challenges never ending; your support necessary and inspiring.

Marie

## Upper Cemetery Tour of Veteran's Sites



*On Sunday, May 26th, Scott Carson will lead a guided tour of burial sites at the Upper Cemetery highlighting veterans from the American Revolution, War of 1812 and Civil War. This has become increasingly popular and meaningful Memorial Day event over the years and is scheduled to begin at 4:00 p.m., light rain or sunshine. Admission is \$5 with children accompanied by an adult admitted without charge.*

**Thank you  
for contributing to our Annual Appeal!**

# Ole Time Antiques and Treasures Auction

## June 1, 2019

Going, going, and gone to a new owner will become the cry of the Old Saybrook Historical Society's Ole Time Antiques and Treasures Auction under the big tent on the campus of the Gen. Wm. Hart House, 350 Main Street, Old Saybrook, Saturday, June 1, 2019.

The event kicks off the Society's summer celebration with a preview of items from 10:30 to 1:30 when the auction starts.

To be held under a large tent, sunny weather or not, highest bidders will walk away with antiques, artifacts, object d'art, collectibles and desirable treasures of all kinds.

Wielding the gavel will be auctioneer extraordinaire, gregarious Greg Jankowski with record keeping done by Lori Jankowski.

Society gardeners will be offering organically grown plants from the historic Hart House gardens from 10:30- 2:30. Refreshments will be available.

In event of heavy rain, the 'storm date' will be the next day, Sunday, June 2, 2019 with preview starting at 12:00 and auction beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Sponsors of the event are Saybrook Recycled Furniture and Lorensen Auto Group.

The Society is still accepting quality items for the auction. Details and evaluations available by contacting auction co-chairs Karen Emack-Dolson and Peter Dolson or by visiting on weekends, Saybrook Recycled Furniture, 33 Stage Road, Old

Saybrook or calling them at 860-388-6180 or the Historical Society at 860-395-1635.

### Sell Your Treasures at Auction

The Old Saybrook Historical Society is seeking items for its June 1st Antiques and Treasures Auction. Contributors will receive up to 80 percent of the selling price or may contribute a larger part of the proceeds to the Historical Society. Donations are of course also welcomed.

Check your attic and basement. Dust off your

"never-worn" jewelry, take down that painting you never liked, get rid of the old furniture, unload duplicate tools and sell the strange inheritance. It's time to down-size.

We are looking for good, clean quality items, antique, vintage or decorative. Please, no damaged, non-

working or broken items, no dangerous, harmful or medical items, no food, and no plastic or stuffed toys.

Auction co-chairs Karen Emack-Dolson and Peter Dolson, Saybrook Recycled Furniture, 33 Stage Road will evaluate and consider items of quality. Drop off dates in May to be announced, pickups can be arranged. For arrangements or further information, call 860-662-0245. Even if your kids don't want it, we'll take it.

*Tedd Levy*



*Auctioneer Greg Jankowski at the mic, some of the art items in background, and several runners for the 2018 auction in the Fellowship Hall of Grace Episcopal Church. This year's event will be outside under the big tent.*

# Facilities Report

It all happened over four years of facilities planning by many Historical Society volunteers. Restoration and painting of the General William Hart House museum's twelve rooms and 32 windows (plus three basement windows) was completed March 2019. These facilities projects have focused on restoration of the Hart House museum to a historically accurate condition of its 1767 original construction. A visit to the Hart House will bring visitors back to the early colonial days of craftsmanship.

## Grant from the 1772 Foundation in cooperation with the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation

The 1772 Foundation, in cooperation with the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, awarded a twelve-thousand-dollar (\$12,000) matching grant to the Old Saybrook Historical Society for restoration of the 32 windows in the General William Hart House.

The total cost for restoration of the Hart House 32 windows plus three basement windows was \$34,618. Benefactors donated \$15,000 toward the restoration project and the Historical Society paid \$7,618 from its endowment fund.

The Old Saybrook Historical Society extends its gratitude to the 1772 Foundation and to our many benefactors for supporting the window-restoration project. The 1772 Foundation grant award is a testament to our diligent and conscientious efforts to preserve the Hart House and be financially sound.

## Window Restoration Details

The historic windows were rehabilitated by removing the sashes, with restoration performed in a hazmat-control area for lead-abatement. Structural repairs were performed in a manner to retain the original craftsmanship details. A weather strip gasket was installed in the meeting-rail and lower sash of each window to help reduce our energy use.

All broken window panes were replaced with antique glass. Original window glass with "high-imperfection-character" but small corner cracks were retained wherever possible. As an additional benefit, all lower sashes are now operable following the removal of old built-up paint in a hazmat-control environment (see below photo). Prior to the restoration work, only two of the 32 windows

had operable lower sashes. Some of the windows, including deteriorated basement windows, were removed to the vendors shop for replacement of rotted wood.

Below are examples of our window restoration project including before, during and after photos of the Hart House kitchen North-facing window.

*Ed Armstrong*

Kitchen North Window Before Restoration



Kitchen North Window Sash Removed



Kitchen North Window in Restoration Fixture



Kitchen North Window Restoration Completed



Window Restoration Hazmat Environment



Tinsley Room Window, Retention of Antique Glass



# What's Happening in the Archives

As always, we are grateful to both the past and present donors who have entrusted us to protect and preserve the history of Old Saybrook.

## Newest Contributions

Framed Photos: Samuel Hart House; Outer Light; Main Street, Old Saybrook; Black Horse Tavern. Also, "Return of the 4<sup>th</sup> Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Artillery, 1830, names and ranks.

**Ken Reid**

1883-84 Scrapbook/ Account Book of R.B. Chalker  
**Unknown**

Map of Saybrook and Old Saybrook  
**Old Lyme Historical Society**

Nail found at Dock and Dine where railroad tracks were located.

**Roy Esty**

Album, collection of photos and postcards.  
**Don Patterson**

"Ye Castle Inn" placemat, framed.  
**Corrine Ingellis**

An "old bit" dug up near the site of fort  
**Corinne Ingellis**

19<sup>th</sup> century Copeland-Spode tureen  
**Barbara and Dick Glass**

Copy of letter written by Lion Gardiner to Robert Chapman and Thomas Hurlbut, 1660, recounting the Pequot War. Original at Trinity College, Hartford CT  
**David Naumec**

## Library

"Saybrook at the Mouth of the River", 1935, reprinted.

**Old Lyme Historical Society**

"The Great, Great Blue", by Carrier Slocomb.  
**Donated by author**

"First World War Photographic History".  
**Unknown**

"Lineage of the Chalker Family", donated by authors, L.A. Chalker Askew & T.A. Askew Emerson

"Alexander and Sachem III, A Young Puritan Migrates to New World", donated by author, L.A. Chalker Askew

"Hidden History of Middlesex County", by Robert and Kathleen Hubbard

"To the Nines", by Anthony Pioppi. Donated by Marie McFarlin

"Tracy and Hepburn", by Garson Kanin. Donated by Tedd Levy.

"Nine Great Sachems of the Niantic & Narragansett" by Jane Fisher Silverman.

"The Skulking Way of War", by Patrick Malone. Donated by Marie McFarlin

"Northeastern Indian Wars, 1632-1816" by R.S. Gramet

"The Indians of Connecticut", by H.C. Bradshaw

"Uncas, First of the Mohegans", by M.L. Oberg

"Story of the Pequot War", by Tomas Egleston

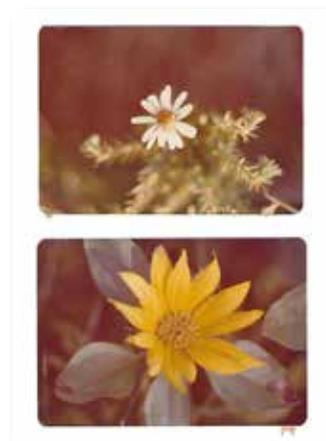
"The Pequots of Southern New England", by Hauptman and Wherry

"The Pequot War" by Albert A. Cave

"Crowbar Governor", by Kevin Murphy

"The Connecticut Story", by Joseph B. Hoyt & Rae-Ann Ferraiolo

*Diane Hoyt*



# Saybrook Fort and Pequot War Program at Saybrook Point, May 12th

Under a grant from the National Park Service, American Battlefield Protection Program, the Historical Society has been working with consultants to develop resources to increase awareness and understanding of the siege and battles of Saybrook Fort and the Pequot War, 1636-37.

That work is heading for the homestretch and these efforts have resulted in several important resources for educators, the public and especially the residents of the Old Saybrook area.

The items that have been produced will be displayed and discussed by the consultants who



have done the work at a public program at the Vicki Duffy Pavilion, Saybrook Point, on May 12, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. followed by a narrated walking tour of nearby Fort sites.

Dr. Kevin McBride and David Naumec, noted authorities on the Pequot War, will explain their work toward having the Fort and related sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places. They will also identify six significant sites for the placement of historic markers, and display a brochure of a walking/biking tour that comprises a local Pequot War Trail.

James Powers, principal of *Seeking the Past Historical Consulting*, will share his work developing an elementary and secondary curriculum for teaching about Saybrook Fort and the Pequot War. Several large-scale display panels that were developed to support this work will be on display. Educators wishing to obtain a copy of this curriculum will have an opportunity to sign-

up to receive a complimentary copy.

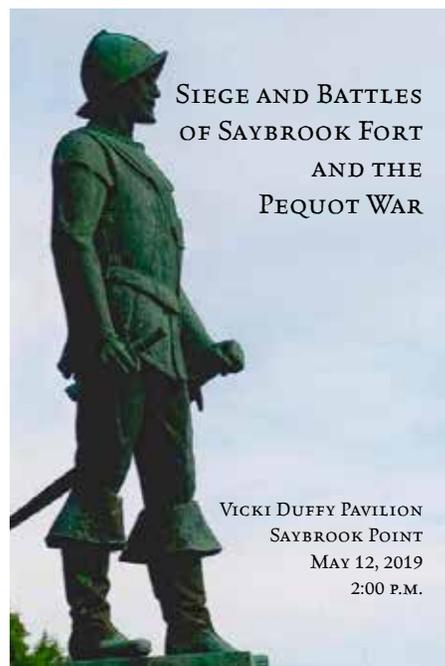
The Historical Society wishes to thank Diane DePaolo and the Historical District Commission, and Town Planner Christine Nelson and the Planning Commission for their vision, resolve and support toward producing historic markers and the walking/biking tour brochure.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation to Diane and Christine and to the HDC and Planners for their support and generosity.

Following the formal program, Dr. McBride and Mr. Naumec will lead a walking tour of the nearby Saybrook Fort battle sites.

The public is invited and there is no charge. This is the third presentation offered under a grant received by the Historical Society from the National Park Service, American Battlefield Protection Program. Anyone wishing further information may visit the Old Saybrook Historical Society ebsite: [saybrookhistory.org](http://saybrookhistory.org) or call 860-395-1635.

Tedd Levy



# Remembering Bill Phillips

It is with deep sadness that the Old Saybrook Historical Society learned of the death on December



26<sup>th</sup> of our dear friend and benefactor, William E. Phillips. Bill was surely a “one of a kind” person. His life was spent working hard and reaching heights most people only dream of. After graduating from Cornell University, for

which he received a full ROTC scholarship, he served his country during the Korean conflict and was discharged as a lieutenant in the US Navy in 1955. In 1959 he started what was to become a long, notable marketing career with Ogilvy & Mather ending in 1988 as chairman and CEO.

My husband Bill and I were fortunate to call both Bill and Barbara, his devoted wife, our friends. As one of 80 invitees to his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party, I marveled at the larger than life photos of him reaching the summit of one of the fourteen mountains he climbed over 10,000 feet on five continents. He was a true outdoorsman. If he wasn't fishing, skiing or rafting he could be found on the tennis court. The four of us shared many dinners together. My favorites will always be those spent in our home on North Cove Road that ALWAYS ended with chocolate ice cream...Bill's favorite dessert! The Phillips annual “paint the flag pole party” was not to be missed with the New Orleans Jazz group providing lots of toe tapping!!!! All wonderful memories always shared with lots of friends.

After moving to Old Saybrook, he joined several organizations including the Old Saybrook Historical Society. Bill Phillips has long been a supporter of this organization and has helped move it forward by not just his monetary contributions but his general support of our mission. Bill is a major benefactor responsible for the building of The Frank Stevenson

Archives Building. After moving documents, maps, journals, etc. from basement to basement in private homes, these precious items found a place to call home in 1998. Frank Stevenson was a local caretaker of homes in the North Cove area for years as well as a person who helped the Society with odd jobs. He and Bill became dear friends and when the time came, he requested the building be named for his friend.

We can all learn a lesson from Bill Phillips. To be part of something bigger than ourselves...he has remembered the Society in death through a legacy gift. He certainly has been a good loyal member of this Society. Those of us who knew him will miss him and those who did not know him will be recipients of his generosity. A wonderful ending to a life well lived!

*Donna DiBella*

## Volunteers



*JL Kopcha, Technology Instructor at Valley Regional High School, Deep River, CT, and his father, John Kopcha, volunteers, reconstructing the “Witch Trial of Elizabeth Collet Garelick” diorama originally created by the members of Historical Society in 1996.*

## Amos and Amelia Sheffield c. 1838

*Amos Sheffield* (1789-1868) and his wife *Amelia Hotchkiss Sheffield* (1793-1869) are skillfully executed examples of New England portrait painting of the 1830's-40's. The paintings have a history of conscientious care and conservation. A complete restoration that was done in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century included lining the paintings onto an additional layer of linen using traditional, naturally-resourced materials; the lining canvas remains viable to this present day. In 2017-18 the paintings were cleaned, and the yellowed varnishes were replaced with modern synthetic coatings that will remain clear and retain reversibility for the convenience of future preservationists. It is rare to come across paintings of this time period that have escaped the ravages of unscrupulous and excessive restoration, wear and tear, and physical damage.

It is unclear whether the portraits were painted locally, or as far away as New York or Boston. Connecticut portrait painters active at that time include: Obadiah Dickinson of East Haddam (1812-1850); Col. John Trumbull (1756-1843); Alexander Hamilton Emmons (1816-1884); Isaac Sheffield of New London (1798-1845); Ammi Phillips (1788-1865); Samuel Waldo (1783-1861), and William Jewett (1792-1874). Of these artists, Trumbull could be excluded because of his style, and Samuel Waldo might have been a bit more painterly in his approach. Ammi Phillips of Litchfield painted in a style that evolved with current trends, but was not particularly active in Southern Connecticut. Isaac Sheffield, like Ammi Phillips, leaned towards a primitive style. The paintings could possibly have been painted by

Obadiah Dickinson of East Haddam, whose portraits are represented at Clinton Historical Society, and the E.C. Scranton Memorial Library in Madison, Connecticut. Obadiah Dickinson is often confused with and sometimes misrepresented as another Connecticut portrait painter, Anson Dickinson of Litchfield, Conn. (1779-1852), who also painted portraits but who specialized in miniatures.



It is likely that a firm attribution may never be made, however the quality of the portraits stands alongside some of these better known Connecticut painters. Advances in examination techniques including XRF, Neutron Activation Spectroscopy, and FTIR may perhaps contribute towards narrowing an attribution in the future, but lacking a signature, or collaborative provenance, we might never know who the artist truly was. How fortunate we are to know the history of the sitters, Amos and Amelia Sheffield.

*Joseph T. Matteis, Jr., Art Conservator*



*Dr. Kevin McBride leading group on walking tour of Saybrook Fort Battle sites*

Painting the General Wiliam Hart House museum's twelve rooms started in 2016, and included repair of the plaster walls, ceilings and trim. In February 2019 the final two of the 12 rooms were painted; the photos below describe a portion of the repair and painting project.

*Ed Armstrong*

**Library Fireplace Surround During & After Repair**



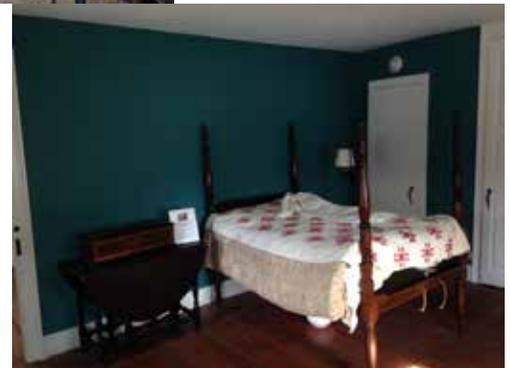
**Dudley Room Painting Prep and Final Coat**

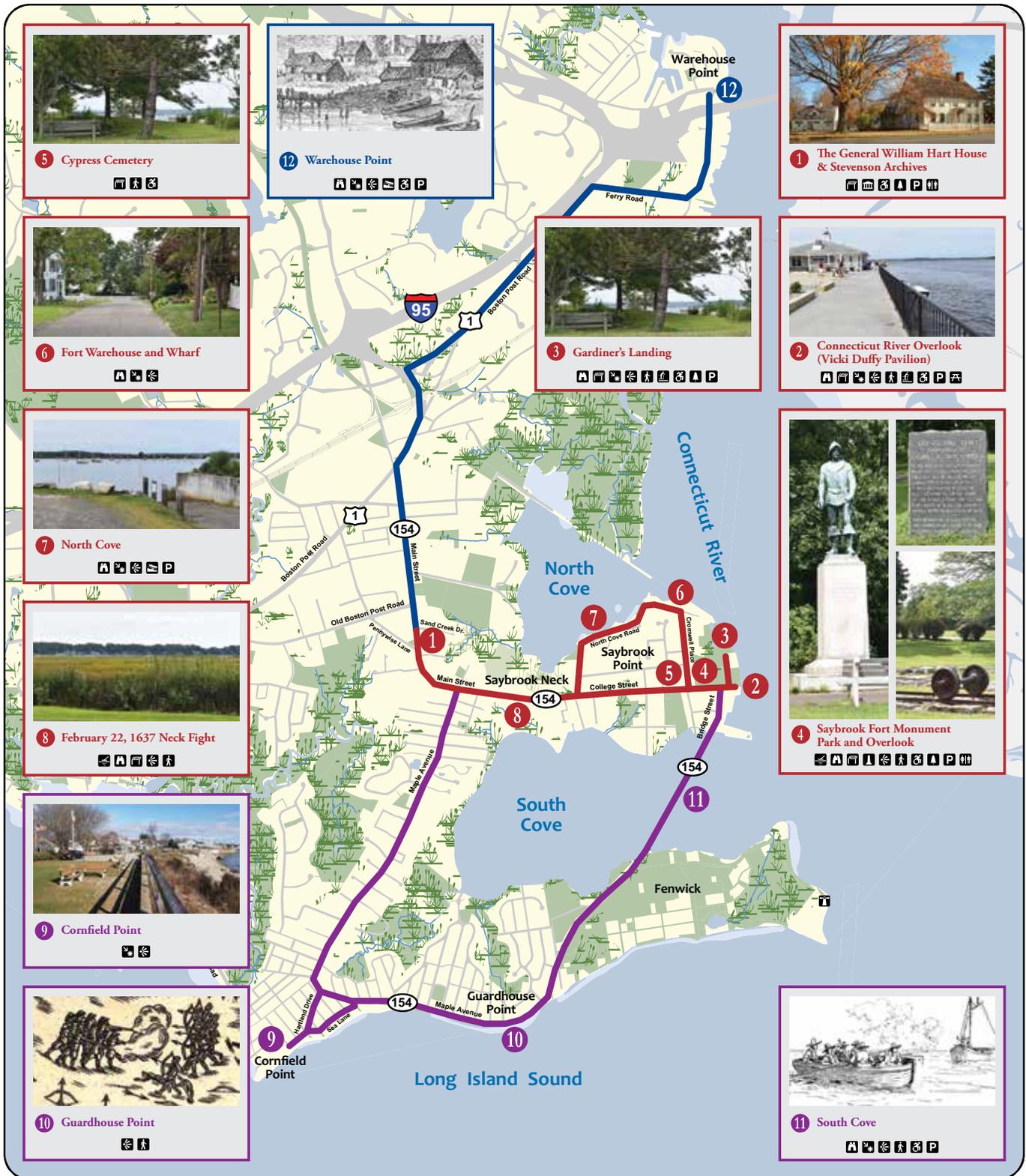


**Dudley Room Wall Repair & Completed Painting**



**Library Wall Repair**





**5 Cypress Cemetery**

Icons: Accessible, Boat launch, Handicapped access, Parking, Restrooms

**12 Warehouse Point**

Icons: Accessible, Boat launch, Handicapped access, Parking, Restrooms

**1 The General William Hart House & Stevenson Archives**

Icons: Accessible, Boat launch, Handicapped access, Parking, Restrooms

**6 Fort Warehouse and Wharf**

Icons: Accessible, Boat launch, Handicapped access, Parking, Restrooms

**3 Gardiner's Landing**

Icons: Accessible, Boat launch, Handicapped access, Parking, Restrooms

**2 Connecticut River Overlook (Vicki Duffy Pavilion)**

Icons: Accessible, Boat launch, Handicapped access, Parking, Restrooms

**7 North Cove**

Icons: Accessible, Boat launch, Handicapped access, Parking, Restrooms

**4 Saybrook Fort Monument Park and Overlook**

Icons: Accessible, Boat launch, Handicapped access, Parking, Restrooms

**8 February 22, 1637 Neck Fight**

Icons: Accessible, Boat launch, Handicapped access, Parking, Restrooms

**9 Cornfield Point**

Icons: Accessible, Boat launch, Handicapped access, Parking, Restrooms

**11 South Cove**

Icons: Accessible, Boat launch, Handicapped access, Parking, Restrooms

**10 Guardhouse Point**

Icons: Accessible, Boat launch, Handicapped access, Parking, Restrooms

## Old Saybrook

### Seige & Battle of Saybrook Fort (1636-1637)

This Siege of Saybrook Fort Historical Tour will guide you to 12 stops located throughout Saybrook Neck, Saybrook Point, Fenwick, and Warehouse Point. Much of the tour can be completed on foot but most sites are also accessible by bicycle or car. The Pequot War / Siege of Saybrook Fort Tour begins with Stop #1 at the Old Saybrook Historical Society, General Hart House, 350 Main Street (Route 154). Visitors may choose from three tour options denoted by three different colors. **Red:** The "Fort Siege" route includes Pequot War sites on Saybrook Point and Neck including Saybrook Fort. **Purple:** The "Extended Battle" route includes three additional sites in the Borough of Fenwick. **Blue:** The "Full Battle" route includes one final stop to the north at the Warehouse Point site.

**Legend**

- Red line: Fort Siege
- Purple line: Extended Battle
- Blue line: Full Battle
- Green area: Open Space
- Blue area: Wetland
- Light blue area: Water Bodies
- Grey area: Roads
- Black line: Railroad
- Blue line: Streams

**Facilities**

- Access pier
- Boat launch
- Handicapped access
- Park/Gardens
- Parking
- Picnic area
- Restrooms

**Historical/Cultural Attractions**

- Archaeological site
- Birding/Wildlife
- Historical signage
- Lighthouse
- Monument/Statue
- Museum
- Public access point
- Scenic view
- Walkway

**The Old Saybrook Historical Society**  
 350 Main Street  
 Old Saybrook, CT 06475

Scale: 0, 0.125, 0.25, 0.5 Miles

Compass: N, E, S, W

# Daffodils Bloom in the Chilly Earth

The Hart House Gardens are waking up to spring. The lawn is greening nicely and the daffodils are raising their pretty heads to the sun. The buds on the shad bush are full and ready to burst into tiny white flowers and the birds are busy building their nests.

This wonderful garden will soon be filled with colorful perennial plants that attract beneficial pollinators all season long.

The garden is the setting for many social functions but it also serves as a natural classroom where young students from Old Saybrook schools come to learn about plants and their history, especially how medicinal herbs were grown to help the founders of Saybrook Colony survive sicknesses.

The garden also produces a variety of fresh herbs that are donated weekly to the Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantry for meal preparation.

What the garden can't produce are workers.

We need members to help. You don't have to be a master gardener to join our gardening group just be willing to give one morning a week.

It's a great way to make new friends, to rekindle a green thumb, or for a beginner, to learn about planting a healthy herbicide free garden.

Please call 860-395-1635 if you are interested.

*Happy Spring,  
Linda*



**HART HOUSE GARDENS**  
Set of 8 Notecards & Envelopes

**THE OLD SAYBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
350 Main Street  
Old Saybrook, CT 06475  
www.saybrookhistory.org

*Notecards for sale  
8 to a package for \$15*

OLD SAYBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S  
HOSTING FOR HISTORY

*Taste*  
OF THE  
*Town*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2019  
5 to 8 pm

OLD SAYBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY GROUNDS  
350 MAIN STREET, OLD SAYBROOK

Music by  
 RI Old Time Fiddlers

Food from local restaurants and specialty food stores  
Wine Tasting

Tickets \$100 on sale to members July 15



## The Old Saybrook Historical Society

350 Main Street  
Post Office Box 4  
Old Saybrook, CT 06475  
860.395.1635  
[www.saybrookhistory.org](http://www.saybrookhistory.org)  
[contact@saybrookhistory.org](mailto:contact@saybrookhistory.org)

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## Upcoming Events

**May 12** - Saybrook Fort and Pequot War Program  
at 2 pm at the Saybrook Pavilion

**May 19** – Pamela Vittoria’s discussion of her  
family story and search for the Revolutionary  
powder horn in our collection,  
2 to 4 pm Hart House

**May 26** – Upper Cemetery Tour

**June 1** - Antiques Auction - on Campus

**August 25** – US Coast Guard Dixieland Jazz Band,  
4 to 5:30 pm on Campus

**September 7** - "Taste of the Town" 5 to 8 pm  
Our fabulous fundraiser under the tent featuring  
wonderful local restaurants, specialty food stores  
and wine tasting



*Ed Armstrong's truck loaded with debris from  
Campus spring cleaning*

