

Norwich Heritage Trust is a nonprofit Corporation formed to promote preservation and awareness of the city's heritage - architecture, streetscapes and neighborhoods - through education, design, planning and rehabilitation.

Norwich Heritage Trust



PO Box 185 Norwich, Connecticut

May 2002

Annual Meeting

May 16, 2002 7:00 p.m.

Lathrop Schoolhouse

Norwichtown Green

Historian Patricia N. Schaefer will present a talk "**Crimes and Criminals of 18th Century Connecticut**" at NHT's annual meeting. Schaefer's research deals specifically with New London County and focuses on actual cases and how crimes and criminals were handled by the colonial judicial system.

Schaefer's expertise is researching and writing local history. Recently, she helped complete a genealogical index to the Diary of Joshua Hempstead and wrote the current edition's introduction. Independently, she is developing a companion subject index to the diary, and is researching material surrounding a Spanish ship whose crew and cargo were held for more than two years after arriving in 1752 New London.

In recent years, she taught classes entitled "Life in Colonial Connecticut" and "Researching Colonial Connecticut" through the Connecticut College Continuing Education Department. Prior to moving to Mystic in 1986, Schaefer was the director of a local history curriculum project in Weymouth, Mass.

NHT members are invited and encouraged to bring guests.

Refreshments will be served after Schaefer's talk.

For more information call Bill Champagne at 889-0303

NHT To Digitalize Norwich Historical & Architectural Surveys

Since NHT's inception in 1979, some of its most important projects have been the surveys of Norwich's historic neighborhoods. NHT surveyed five different areas: Jail Hill, Greenville, Laurel Hill, Downtown, and Warren Hill. The two-page survey form for each building listed historic & architectural information such as building date, original owner, architectural style and significant architectural details, architect (if any) and any significant history. This information is crucial to homeowners, developers and planners; anyone who owns or works with a historic property. Only paper copies were originally produced and copies are only available in Hartford at the Connecticut Historical Commission, at Norwich City Hall and in Otis Library. These paper documents are clumsy and easily misplaced.

NHT is pleased to announce that NHT Board member Geoff McLean of McLean Research Associates has prepared a plan to digitalize all these records. This means that all the information compiled for the surveys will be accessible either on the NHT web site (www.norwichheritagetrust.org) or on a CD that may be purchased. NHT is currently formulating the final stages of the plan and will be seeking funding to complete this worthwhile project.

We are very excited about the prospect of getting this important information back into people's hands in an easily accessible way.

Norwich Heritage Trust, Today!

There are a couple of new historical societies on the block and you may have been wondering what NHT has been doing!!! We welcome new organizations that are interested in Norwich history. We feel there is more than enough Norwich to go around. NHT's particular focus, as our mission statements says, is the preservation and awareness of the city's heritage as evidenced by its architecture, streetscapes and neighborhoods. Past Board member and current Mayor, Art Lathrop, forged some important contacts with city departments. The Dangerous Buildings committee now sees old buildings as potential rehabilitation projects instead of things that need to be torn down. NHT has been involved in the design phase of the new \$15 million "Mercantile Exchange" project. NHT also has been working with Chelsea Advocates to create a "vision" of Downtown Norwich, following the very successful bus trip to Portsmouth, NH in September of 2001.

NHT's focus is to be a positive agent for change, working with people, both in & out of government who believe Norwich will once again be a viable, vibrant city.

Here are things currently in the planning stages that you may find of interest:

- Digitalizing architectural & historic surveys (see article)
- A new Matt Isenburg presentation
- Fundraising wine & cheese reception with a presentation on Victorian clothing

The Board is seeking new members to help guide NHT into its 3rd decade. If you are interested in finding out more about joining the Board, please contact Patrice Champagne at 889-5878.

Renew Today!

Mail to Norwich Heritage Trust, Box 185, Norwich, CT 06360

Membership Application

Annual Dues: June 1, 2002 - May 31, 2003

Enclosed is my membership check payable to Norwich Heritage Trust for

\$10 Student/Senior Citizen

\$30 Business

\$15 Individual

\$50 Patron

\$20 Family

\$250 Life

Name _____

Street _____ Telephone _____

City, State, Zip _____