

Greenwich Historical Society Newsletter

CURRENT EXHIBITION

THE HOLLEY BOARDING HOUSE INSPIRING AMERICAN IMPRESSIONISM



On view until March 8, 2026

UPCOMING EXHIBITION

FASHIONING AMERICA 200 YEARS OF GREENWICH *Style*



OPENS APRIL 22, 2026



Celebrating America 250

The Greenwich Historical Society celebrates America 250 with a three-part exhibition series. The celebration began in the fall of 2024 with the opening of ***Greenwich During the Revolutionary War: A Frontier Town on the Front Lines*** and its accompanying school program *Rebels vs. Royalists*. Over 785 students participated in the new program and 1,336 visited the exhibition. We are excited to share that both the exhibition and school program were granted an award of merit in the CT League of Museums 2025 ceremony.

Now on view is the second exhibition in the series, ***The Holley Boarding House: Inspiring American Impressionism*** which explores how entrepreneurial women enabled the Holley House to become the setting for the Cos Cob art colony, the first Impressionist community in Connecticut, and among the earliest in the nation. The Centennial celebration of the Declaration of Independence in 1876 reignited national interest in the ideals of the Revolution and ushered in new opportunities for women. Explore the interactive exhibition features, search for clues in paintings, take photos on the Holley House front porch, design your own gallery wall and think about the influence that inspired their artwork. Take a guided tour of the exhibition to learn behind the scenes interesting facts!

Join our annual winter lecture series for insight into the diverse individuals who made the Holley Boarding House a groundbreaking hub of creative expression and their lasting impact on our country's culture.

Keep an eye out for the final exhibition in the series ***Fashioning America: 200 Years of Greenwich Style*** and upcoming programs connected to America 250 | Greenwich. Most exciting is the collaborative effort with the town America 250 | Greenwich commission to take free public tours of the historic Dutch tall ship *Oosterschelde*!



Docent exhibition training

To learn more about the exhibition and upcoming America 250 Greenwich programming visit greenwichhistory.org

Introducing New Trustees

JOHN SARGENT



John is a Managing Director and private advisor at Rockefeller Capital Management's Global Family Office since 2020 with 18 previous years experience at Morgan Stanley. He holds an MBA from Columbia Business School and a BA from Yale University.

ERICA MAHER SILVERMAN



Erica has Public Relations experience at Allure Magazine/ Conde Nast, Chanel Inc. and Miu Miu/ Prada. She is a member of Memorial

Sloan Kettering Cancer Centers Special Projects Committee and Brunswick Parents Association. She has co-chaired the Greenwich Historical Society Spring Fete. She holds a B.A. from the Fashion Institute of Technology.

Introducing New Staff

NAOMI LONG

Development Associate



Naomi holds a Master's degree in Art History and Museum Studies from Tufts University. She has interned and

worked for various art and cultural institutions, including Christie's, The Jewish Museum, Tuft University Art Galleries, and Historic New England.

KATHLEEN CRAUGHWELL-VARDA

Senior Curator



Kathy has worked as a museum curator/ consultant in Connecticut, New York and New Jersey for the last 30-years. She was

the founding director of Conservation ConneCtion. Kathy has co-curated the interpretation of Bush-Holley House and guest curated many exhibitions at the Historical Society.

Greetings from the Executive Director & CEO



It is with much pleasure and excitement that I share my first newsletter greeting since taking the helm at Greenwich Historical Society several months ago. I am grateful for the warm welcome I have received from the staff, board and our broader community, and am inspired by the passion, dedication and generosity of the many individuals and organizations that champion our mission and support our vision all year long. One of our major objectives and accomplishments in 2025 was to launch the America 250 | Greenwich celebration in partnership with the Town's

Commission and through a series of exhibitions and events on our campus. We are now poised to greet the new year and Semiquincentennial of our nation's founding in 2026 with a full range of programs that will engage us all with the vibrant history and compelling stories of our town and its role in the greater American narrative.

We look forward to seeing you on campus and around town in 2026 as we continue to celebrate Greenwich history, the arts and design with programs including two new lecture series—Peopling Greenwich and Our Founding Documents—as well as a thrilling exhibition showcasing costumes from our collections on public view for the first time in over thirty years—*Fashioning America: 200 Years of Greenwich Style*.

From outreach to the K-12 school community, to our adult and family programs and to the special events that bring us together, our supporters are vital to sustaining our work to preserve and interpret Greenwich history. Thank you for your participation and best wishes to all for a happy, healthy and prosperous new year!

Carol Cadou
Executive Director & CEO

Rediscovering the Cos Cob Art Colony

A Tribute to Susan G. Larkin



This installation in the Permanent Collections Gallery features Greenwich Historical Society holdings from the Cos Cob art colony focusing on a personal collection donated over the years by Susan Larkin, including her most recent promised gifts.

Curator Kathleen Craughwell-Varda weaves into the exhibit text personal notes from Larkin's papers and

manuscripts. As a result, we have a window into Susan's journey and passion to see the Cos Cob art colony become widely known, her dedication to help position the Greenwich Historical Society as a museum and research archive, interpretation of the artists who created Connecticut's first art colony and earned Bush-Holley House National Historic Landmark status. We are deeply grateful to the family of Susan G. Larkin, and especially her daughter Kate Laverge, for their longtime and continued support of the Greenwich Historical Society. The exhibition and catalogue were generously supported by Josie Merck.

Upcoming Programs & Events

ONGOING

Guided Exhibition Tours

Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday
12:00, 1:30 and 3:00 pm until March 8

Time Travelers Family Sunday

Every second Sunday of the month
Jan 11, Feb 8, Mar 8, April 12, May 10, June 14

JANUARY

Behind the Scenes in the Archival Collections: Historic Photographs

Every Friday & Saturday at 12:00, 1:30 and 3:00 pm



Third Spaces: Building Belonging Beyond Home and Work with the YWCA

January 22, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Family Floral Fun Series: Winter Forest Hike & Sustainable Art Experience with the Greenwich Botanical Center

January 23, 3:45–5:15 pm



Peopling Greenwich at America's Centennial: The Holley House and Beyond - Cos Cob's Artistic Community

January 17, 2:00 - 3:15 pm



FEBUARY

Behind the Scenes Archival Collections: Ephemera

Every Friday & Saturday at 12:00, 1:30 and 3:00 pm



My Story, Our Future Exhibit

February 1 - March 1, 2026

Peopling Greenwich at America's Centennial: Foodways to Dinner Tables

February 28, 2:00 - 3:15 pm

MARCH

Family Floral Fun Series: Flower Crowns for Families

Workshop with the Greenwich Botanical Center

March 9, 1:00–2:00 pm



MAY

Hidden Heroes: The Underground Schools that Built the Civil Rights Movement

May 6, 6:00–7:00 pm

JUNE

Tour The Dutch Tall Ship Oosterschelde

June 28, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm



For more information and
to register visit
greenwichhistory.org

New Aquisition



Tidal Dam and Bridge, Cos Cob
Childe Hassam, 1902, Pastel on board
Donated by a Greenwich family in memory of
their son André

Childe Hassam was a founding member of the Cos Cob art colony and stayed at the Holley boarding house from 1894-1917. During his time in Cos Cob, Hassam worked in many mediums, including oil, pastel, and learned to etch from fellow art colonist, Kerr Eby. Hassam was drawn to the landscape of

the Lower Landing, finding inspiration in the Mianus River and Mill Pond, the Palmer and Duff Shipyard, the oyster boats, the colonial homes in the neighborhood, and the boarding house, which he affectionately referred to as The Old House.

In 1902 Hassam and his wife Maud stayed at the Holley boarding house from early summer until fall. During these months in Cos Cob, he produced the largest number of artworks during any of his stays, completing 20 pastels, including the new aquisition *Tidal Dam and Bridge* pictured above, and at least 5 oil paintings. The painting is now on display in the museum concourse.

Historical Highlights with Carol Cadou



Join Executive Director and CEO Carol Cadou for a series of short morning radio segments with Tony Savino at WGCH. Historical Highlights will feature Historical Society current events, programs and news. Listen live at 8:00 am on the first Wednesday of every month or catch-up on past episodes on our website!



47 STRICKLAND ROAD, COS COB, CT 06807

BUSH-HOLLEY HOUSE
MUSEUM
LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

OFFICE, MUSEUM STORE AND CAFÉ

Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, 12:00–4:00 p.m.

MUSEUM GALLERIES

Wednesday–Sunday, 12:00–4:00 p.m.

SITE RENTALS

Email dsuozzo@greenwichhistory.org
for inquiries or event bookings.

GUIDED EXHIBITION & ARCHIVES TOURS

Wednesday–Sunday, 12:00 p.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Tours last 45 minutes. Call for reservations.

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Appointments available during office hours.

ADMISSION

\$15 adults, \$10 seniors/students and youth ages 6–18

FREE: Members, children under 5, active military/Blue Star

FREE admission every first Wednesday of the month

Reciprocal benefits through NARM

GROUP TOURS

Available on request.

Visit all 29 museums on the Connecticut Art Trail
for \$35. Buy a passport at the museum lobby desk or
at ctarttrail.org.



SUPPORT OUR MISSION

We work to preserve and interpret Greenwich history to strengthen the
community's connection to our past, to each other and to our future.

greenwichhistory.org



Site Rentals

MEETINGS | WEDDINGS | SPECIAL EVENTS

The perfect setting for your
special event!

Contact dsuozzo@greenwichhistory.org for more info



MUSEUM STORE

Shop America 250 Merchandise!

Official America 250 | Greenwich merchandise is
exclusively available in the Greenwich Historical
Society Museum Store!

- T-Shirts
- Hats
- Canvas bags
- Hoodies
- Glassware set of 6
- Mugs
- Notecards
- Ornaments
- Postcards

