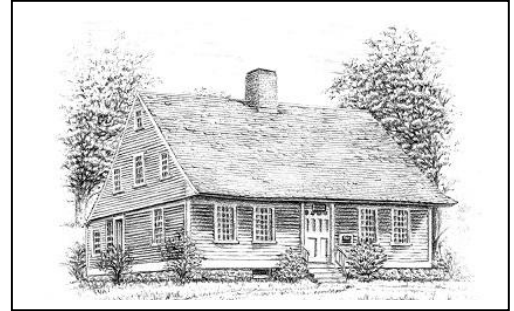


# THE HAMDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

## SPRING 2018



### ANNUAL MEETING

May 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Miller Library Complex – Senior Center Social Hall

Guest speakers: James Sirch and Roberta Mack

Mr. Sirch and Ms. Mack will discuss the Rocky Top property in Hamden; once a site of an early Sleeping Giant State Park trail. They will share the property's history and natural attributes to our town and its people.

### **Hamden History Minutes**

Hamden Historical Society's "Hamden History Minutes", the joint project between Ray Andrewson, radio host of WQUN and Hamden Historical Society continues. Most of the minutes are Hamden trivia most of us have never heard. However, together, the Board has gathered all kinds of fun facts about Hamden over the centuries. Below is a glimpse of three of the most recent "Minutes".

*"Dog Lane Court: In the 1700s, some of the funnier people in Mount Carmel banded together in an early comedy society called Dog Lane Court. They would gather together for meetings...."*

*"The Rectory School: In 1843, the Reverend C. W. Everett founded a private school for boys in Hamden...."*

*"The Loose Goose: One of the early laws in Hamden responded to the problem of loose geese..."*  
Such a law might serve as a money maker for a devious neighbor.

**Huh? What happened to the school? A loose goose a money maker for a devious neighbor?**

**Tune into the Hamden History Minutes to learn how, and other fun facts.**

## Hamden Historic Resource Inventory Nearing Completion

Thanks to a generous grant from the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, the Hamden Historic Properties Commission was able to hire a team of professional consultants to conduct a survey of Hamden's historic structures. The last such survey was done thirty years ago. With this new survey approaching its conclusion, the consultant's report:

"With guidance from the Hamden Historic Properties Commission, the survey team for the update of the 1985 Historic Resource Inventory has been working on two general tasks: fleshing out neighborhoods, such as Whitneyville and Spring Glen, that are candidates for National Register districts, and identifying resources in less well documented neighborhoods such as Beecher Heights, Norwood, and Hamden Plains.

Having ascertained that 34 of the 510 properties included in the 1985 survey had since been demolished, the team is adding approximately 335 historic properties to Hamden's inventory, and appending the independently documented surveys of the Cedars development in Whitneyville and the Hamden portfolio of early 20th century local female architect Alice Washburn.

Among the interesting findings of the current survey are the c. 1929 home of the first physician to use penicillin in a US hospital, 1920s vernacular housing with Craftsman influences in Hamden Plains, several subdivisions of brick capes by a Branford developer in the three years immediately following WWII, the mid-century modern home designed by a Yale professor for his family, and that the majority of custom designs by Alice Washburn are located in Spring Glen East and West."

*"Having ascertained that 34 of the 510 properties included in the 1985 survey had since been demolished, the team is adding approximately 335 historic properties to Hamden's inventory...."*



For a second year, **Hamden Historical Society** will be participating in a state-wide event, Open House Day, on Saturday June 9 from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Please join us for the afternoon; benefit from free admission (General admission is \$3.00) and enjoy guided tours of the *Jonathan Dickerman House*; pay a visit with a Dickerman descendant (portrayed by a Reenactor/Roleplayer), and get a sneak peak of a preview for an upcoming exhibit about eighteenth century Cider Mills.

The **56th Annual Antiques Show and Sale** was held November 4 and 5 at the Miller Memorial Library Center. While the number of attendees was smaller than in the past the variety and quality of antiques was excellent as always. The activity at our popular kitchen, which is open throughout the show, was brisk and profitable for the Society. Our fresh food and donated homemade baked goods are always popular and while the prices are kept quite low, considerable money is made during the weekend.

This money is used throughout the year to maintain our wonderful Jonathan Dickerman House Museum.

As the cost of insurance in particular rises, our need for funding is strong.

## What's that?

Some intriguing artifacts that are part of Hamden Historical Society's collection at the Jonathan Dickerman House.



Pay us visit to solve the mystery.

Jonathan Dickerman House  
105 Mount Carmel Avenue  
Opens July 2, 2018, from 1:00-4:00.

HAMDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Hamden Historical Society welcomes your membership, support and involvement. Our recent activities on behalf of preserving Hamden’s history and educating the public include:

- Maintaining and conducting tours of the historic Jonathan Dickerman House;
- Acquiring, preserving and making available archives in the Al Gorman History Room at Miller Library;
  - Preserving Hamden’s history;
- Cooperating with other organizations to promote Hamden’s historic and cultural legacy.

Now, we need your help!  
Please give at any of the following levels:

- Annual Membership: \$15.00
- Family Membership: \$25.00
- Life Membership: \$500.00

Please also consider supporting the Historical Society’s mission by giving to either or both of the following initiatives integral to the Society’s mission:

- Jonathan Dickerman House Renovation Fund: \$25.00
- Al Gorman History Room Fund: \$25.00

I would like to speak to someone about making a bequest

Check the appropriate boxes above and send your donations to:

The Hamden Historical Society  
P.O. Box 185512  
Hamden, Connecticut 06518-5512.

And thank you for your consideration!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed for: \_\_\_\_\_

**NEWSLETTER**

**Hamden Historical Society**

**P.O. Box 5512**

**Hamden, CT 06518**