



CT State Library

Preserving the Past. Informing the Future.

The Big Picture, by Kendall F. Wiggin, State Librarian

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Over the past nine months I have reported numerous times about various budget reductions that have been either proposed or implemented to deal with the state's budget shortfalls in the current fiscal year and in the fiscal year beginning in July 2016. As I write this, there is still no budget agreement for FY2017. Because many of the statewide library programs are represented by specific line items in the State Library budget, it is easy to become focused on one part of the budget and forget that the State Library's budget must also support a host of other activities. So as budget talks continue, I thought this would be a good time to provide a big picture of the State Library - its services and responsibilities.



The State Library currently has a total of sixty-nine full time employees and twenty-eight part time employees. The State Library currently operates out of six facilities.



The Library provides state government decision-makers and the citizens of the state with comprehensive library information in the areas of law and legislation; public administration and policy; and state, federal, and local government and research assistance to staff in the three branches of state government. The Government Information Unit organizes and delivers information services to state government and citizens by developing public policy collections; managing the U.S. document depository system of twenty-nine libraries in Connecticut and Rhode Island; administering a Connecticut documents network of twelve libraries throughout the state; and identifying and adding electronic publications to the Connecticut Digital Archive. The History and Genealogy Unit collects information resources related to the history of Connecticut and New England, assists clients performing historical and genealogical research; and provides access services including reference, retrieval, and shelving

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for the State Archives collection. The Law/Legislative Unit serves as the law library for state government agencies, the Supreme Court and the general public; paginates, indexes, and provides access to the transcripts of the General Assembly; provides legislative bill status information for state agencies and the public; indexes all General Assembly bills, and maintains a permanent file of all proposed legislation.

The **Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped** (LBPH) provides library services to adults and children who are unable to read regular print due to a visual or physical disability. LBPH circulates talking books, tape players, and braille materials to over 10,000 Connecticut citizens each year and provides toll-free reader advisory assistance and information services.



The **Division of Library Development** (DLD) provides consulting on a broad range of library issues, working with librarians, trustees, and Friends. It also offers and coordinates a wide variety of continuing education

opportunities. It manages a number of direct services – deliverIT CT, researchIT CT, findIT CT, and borrowIT CT. It administers Grants to Public Libraries, reimbursements for borrowIT CT transactions, Public Library Construction grants, and the federal Library Services and Technology (LSTA) Act funds. The DLD is responsible for collecting and reporting public library statistics for the state and federal reports. DLD also manages the library service centers.



The **State Archives** appraises, acquires, organizes, preserves, and makes available for research, records of Connecticut state and local governments and maintains a collection of non-governmental records that document Connecticut history. The Archives include more than 42,000 cubic feet of records from state and local governments, private organizations, and individuals.

The **Office of the Public Records Administrator** designs and implements Connecticut’s public records management program for all executive branch state agencies, quasi-public agencies, and municipalities. It operates the State Records Center and administers the Historic Documents Preservation grant program.

The **Museum of Connecticut History** preserves and exhibits artifacts relevant to the political, industrial, and military history of Connecticut from the colonial era to the present. Through permanent, temporary, and traveling exhibitions, the Museum provides its 24,000 annual visitors the opportunity to explore a wide variety of topics in Connecticut history emphasizing original objects, images, and written materials.



Museum of CT History Website

By Jackie Bagwell, Information Technology Analyst.

The Museum’s website has a clean new look with a responsive design for tablet/phone browsing and a classic menu navigation. Check it out at: <http://museumofcthistory.org>

You will find all of the favorites have migrated from the old site, with additional content. Original portraits of Connecticut Governors that line the walls of the Museum’s Memorial Hall can also be seen as a slide show at this link: [http://](http://museumofcthistory.org/museum-exhibits/governors-of-connecticut/portraits-of-the-governors/)

museumofcthistory.org/museum-exhibits/governors-of-connecticut/portraits-of-the-governors/.

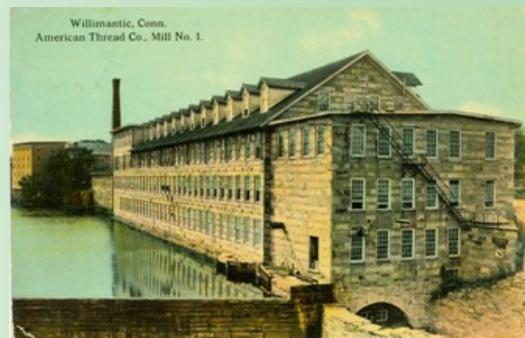
The Freedom Trail Quilt is another slide show that can be viewed online: <http://museumofcthistory.org/museum-exhibits/freedom-trail-quilt-project/#!gallery-7-72>.

Recently published, is a sample set of Connecticut Postcards showing industry and commerce from the early twentieth century.

The mills and factories shown in the postcards have similar architecture, built with granite, dressed stone, or brick. Many mills were built near rivers to take advantage

of clean water power, while other factories show tall smoke stacks. Connecticut during World War I is a new website section, with stories about the people who lived and fought for their country during the Great War.

The Museum exhibits the Governors’ Portrait Collection and the Freedom Trail Quilts in Memorial Hall and the Colt Firearms Collection in an adjacent gallery. The website is the place for exhibit samples that are on display or archived. Plan your trip to the museum. Look for fun facts, a scavenger hunt, and more at <http://museumofcthistory.org>.

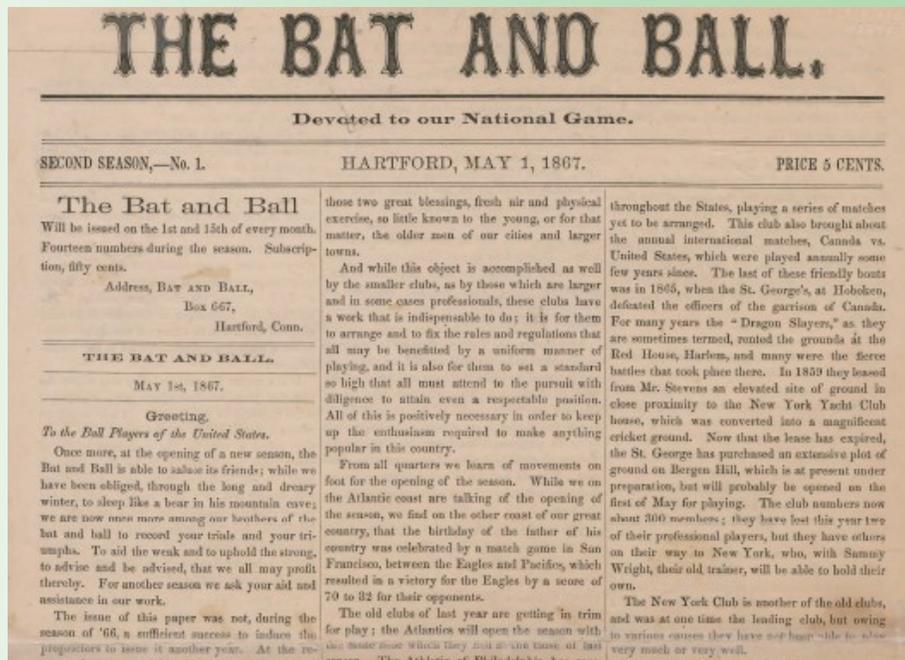


Some Baseball at the Connecticut State Library

by Mel E. Smith, History & Genealogy Reference Librarian

Once again spring is upon us. The trees are budding and the crocuses and daffodils are beginning to bloom after a long winter slumber. For a great many of us, spring is the time when the boys of summer pack their bags and head off to warmer climes to begin training anew for another exciting season of that all-American pastime, baseball! The Connecticut State Library is home to a very unique publication that reflects Connecticut's fascination with the baseball dating from way back to the 1860s!

"The Bat and Ball" was a semimonthly publication that seemingly started in 1866 and was published fourteen times per season in Hartford, Connecticut. It was a news journal "Devoted to our National Game." For a mere five cents, or fifty cents for the entire season, "The Bat and Ball" would provide news about local and national baseball and cricket clubs, such as the Lowell Club of Boston or the Knickerbocker Club of New York. Other features found in "The Bat and Ball" included correspondence, ball scores from local or national teams, new ball field reports, information about baseball tours, umpire news, and jokes and miscellaneous stories, along with the latest on rules of the game. The rare issue of "The Bat and Ball" housed at the Connecticut State Library (second season, no. 1) is dated May 1, 1867 and includes the Rules of the Connecticut Players Association. These rules dictated that the season was to start on May 1st and end on November 1st of that year. Another rule stipulated that the expenses of every game must be defrayed by the challenging club.



The Bat and Ball Connecticut State Library, Special Collections

Clearly, "The Bat and Ball" brings to light a different historical perspective on the national pastime. For instance, a simple box score found on page 3 of "The Bat and Ball" for the North Carolina state baseball championships between the National Club of Raleigh and the Meteors of Newburn, which was held March 7, 1867, indicates how much the game of baseball has changed during the last 149 years: Notice the final score? The Nationals won by the score of 49-40! Talk about offense; that score looks like a football match's final tally, not one for a baseball game! Also, did you notice how many umpires there were for this important state champion game? Just one, a Mr. Easton of the Alert Club of Richmond. This is very different from today's umpiring crew which has four umpires assigned to a typical major league game.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
National,	2	1	5	8	0	11	12	6	4	=49
Meteor,	13	0	4	4	4	1	11	2	1	=40
Mr. Easton, of the Alert Club of Richmond, acted as Umpire.										

Continued

For other interesting aspects of this unique baseball news publication, please see "The Bat and Ball" which has been digitized and is available online as part of the Connecticut State Library's Digital Collections at: <http://cdm15019.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p4005coll11/id/689>.

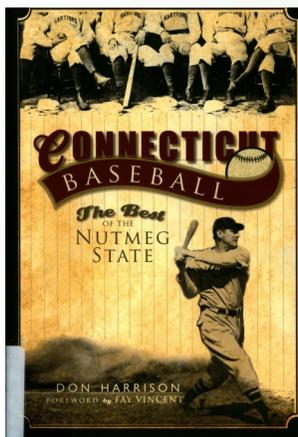
Other interesting Connecticut baseball related publications that may be found at the Connecticut State Library are the following:

Baseball in New Haven, by Sam Rubin, CSL call # [GV863 .C82 N6 2003](#)

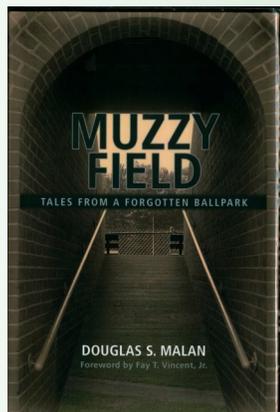
Grace, Grit and Growling: the Hartford Dark Blues Base Ball Club, 1874-1877, by David Arcidiacono, CSL call # [GV875 .H37 A73 2003](#)

Not only for the love of the game: the story of the minor league New Haven Blues' pennant-winning season of 1899 by Brent Hinkle, CSL call # [GV875.N36 H56 1995b](#)

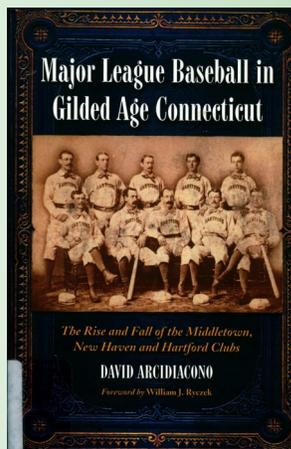
Along with the following titles:



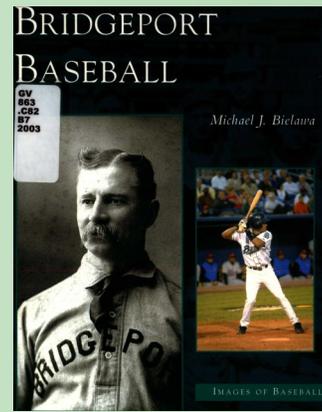
Connecticut Baseball: the Best of the Nutmeg State
 Don Harrison
[GV863.C8 H37 2008](#)



Muzzy Field: Tales from a Forgotten Ballpark,
 Douglas S. Malan
[F104.B8 M35 2008](#)



Major League Baseball in Gilded Age Connecticut: the Rise and Fall of the Middletown, New Haven, and Hartford Clubs
 David Arcidiacono
[GV863 .C8 A73 2010](#)



Bridgeport Baseball
 Michael Bielawa
[GV863 .C82 B7 2003](#)

Divorce: A Connecticut Genealogy Treasure Trove

by Mel E. Smith, History & Genealogy Reference Librarian

The Connecticut State Library is well known in the history and genealogy communities for having one of the finest collections for conducting family history or genealogy research. Countless primary and secondary resources are available for use by patrons in manuscript and published form, along with thousands of microfilms of such materials as Connecticut vital, church, land, and probate records.

One valuable type of record used, yet often overlooked, to discover information about one's family is Connecticut divorce records. Divorce records can contain a great deal of information that might not be found elsewhere. The maiden name of the wife may be given, along with the date and place of marriage, as well as the names of minor children. Divorce records also will provide a clue or narrative as to why the marriage broke down. In some cases, the causes of the divorce will provide a great deal of information about the family unit and will explain the disappearance of family members decades or centuries ago.

Divorces were granted in Connecticut during the earliest colonial times by the General Court which later became the General Assembly. Later in 1711, Superior Courts were created for each Connecticut



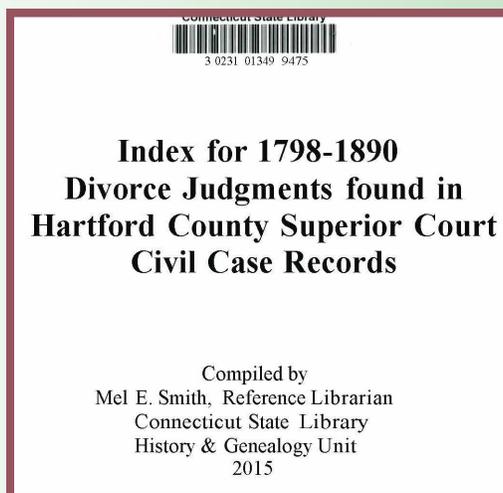
A Colonial Divorce Case

county and were given the authority to grant divorces as well. The Superior Courts were to supplant the General Assembly in the mid to late 19th century as the primary mechanism for divorces.

As the Connecticut State Library is one of the primary central repositories for

Connecticut Superior Court Records, both court files and record volumes, it only makes sense that generations of family historians have visited the State Library to use our records to find divorce information about their families. In fact, to aid patrons conducting such research, two genealogical researchers, Barbara B. Ferris and Grace Louise Knox, combed through five Connecticut counties' superior court files and published two books in the late 1980s which index and provide a brief abstract to the divorces found within the superior court files for the counties investigated. The two books they created, *Connecticut Divorces Superior Court Records for the Counties of New London, Tolland &*

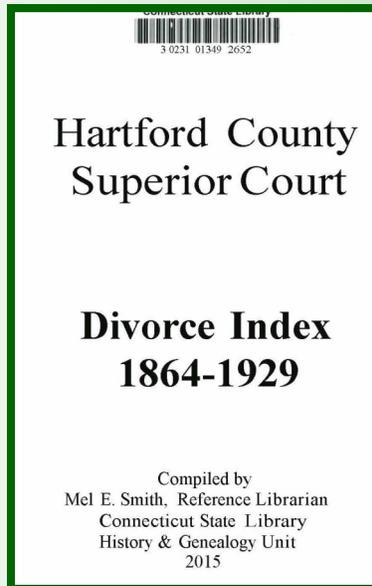
Windham 1719-1910 (CSL call # [F102 .N7 K58 1987](#)) and *Connecticut Divorces Superior Court Records for the Counties of Litchfield 1752-1922 and Hartford 1740-1849* (CSL call # [F102 .L6 F47 1989](#)) are heavily used by all types of family historians.



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Recently, the State Library acquired two new index volumes highlighting additional divorce information for Hartford County. Created by Connecticut State Library reference librarian Mel Smith of the History & Genealogy Unit, the *Index for 1798-1890 Divorce Judgments found in Hartford County, Superior Court Civil Case Records* (CSL call # HistRef ConnDoc [St292hg smin](#)) and *Hartford County Superior Court Divorce Index 1864-1929* (CSL call # HistRef ConnDoc [St292hg sndi](#)) provides patrons with index information for 131 years of Hartford County divorces covering the 1798-1929 time period. These indexes, unlike the two earlier divorce books by Ferris and Knox which used the individual files of the various superior courts, are based on divorces entered into the official record volumes of the Hartford Superior Court.

These two divorce index books are arranged in two sections, first alphabetically by the surname of the husband, and secondly by the wife's former name if known. Each section provides the name of the husband and wife (and former name if known) along with the year of divorce, the volume and page number or court term if no page number is provided, and where the document resides in our State Archives as part of archival record group (RG) #003, Records of the



Judicial Department. Once patrons has consulted the index and found an entry of interest, they may view the original court record(s) by following the [Rules & Procedures for using archival materials](#).

An added bonus is that these two divorce index volumes have been digitized and are available in their entirety via the Connecticut State Library catalog for free at the following links:

- [Index for 1798-1890 Divorce Judgments found in Hartford County, Superior Court Civil Case Records](#)
- [Hartford County Superior Court Divorce Index 1864-1929](#)

While these two indexes have been available for a relatively short time, many patrons, both those who visit the Connecticut State Library along with those who access the volumes remotely, have used them to discover new facts about their Hartford County ancestors and the lives they led. It is anticipated that in the years to come, many more new family historians and genealogists will use these Hartford County Superior Court divorce indexes to shed light on their family histories.

Managing the State of Connecticut's Information Assets

by Public Records and State Archives staff and ECM Consultant Robert Williams

The Information Age has significantly raised the value of information created by public and private organizations and has turned it into an asset that must be managed and protected. Librarians and archivists have always recognized that information is an asset that must be managed properly in order to be freely available to anyone who needs it. They create catalog records and finding aids to categorize information, allowing it to be easily found, used, and returned to its assigned location and available for the next user.

The information created and used by government agencies must also be managed effectively and be readily available to the public. State and local agency employees create, collect, manage, and dispose of an increasing volume of records in both paper and electronic formats. In Connecticut, records management for the executive branch state agencies and municipalities is directed by the Office of the Public Records Administrator at the Connecticut State Library, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §11-8 and §11-8a.

State agencies spend thousands of dollars every year to manage the State of Connecticut's information assets. In order to improve records management efficiencies, the Bureau of Enterprise Services and Technologies (BEST), Department of Administrative Services is developing a statewide Enterprise Content Management system (ECM) in collaboration with the State Library. An ECM

system will improve the ability to manage records more efficiently while at the same time ensuring the ability to produce those records in compliance with all state and federal laws, regulations, and other relevant requirements. For example, agencies must balance right-to-know with right-to privacy and other regulatory requirements regarding confidentiality. The Office of the Public Records Administrator is

working with BEST to define the system's content structure such as document categories and index terms that will allow agencies to make information available to the right people at the right time.

The system will also streamline the records retention and disposition procedures. State agencies are required to retain their records according to schedules set by the Office of the Public Records Administrator, which take into account the administrative, legal, fiscal, and archival values of every records series. By

providing a shared document repository that is built around the state retention schedules, the ECM system will ensure that documents are retained and disposed of in compliance with all requirements. The system will also enable state agencies to improve their internal processes and workflows. For example, the ECM identifies documents used by multiple departments or agencies, such as contracts, hearing decisions, and purchase orders. This functionality removes the need to maintain duplicate copies and guarantees the authenticity of documents through version control.

Ultimately the ECM will also work in conjunction



with the Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA) to ensure the long-term preservation of electronic archival records. The CTDA is a digital repository service being developed by the University of Connecticut Libraries in collaboration with the State Library. It provides long-term preservation services for electronic records of enduring value.



The CTDA will be able to ingest records from the ECM's shared document repository that are identified as having archival value. The Public Records Administrator and the State Archivist determine whether public records have historical value and should be retained permanently, pursuant to CGS § 11-8a(c).

By setting up the ECM and CTDA to work together in this way, the State Library is helping to ensure the long-term preservation of the State of Connecticut's most valuable electronic records.

By working in collaboration with other state agencies on these two projects, the State Library is a key player in developing solutions that will allow state agency information assets to be stored, managed, and retrieved in an efficient and cost effective manner. Ultimately these records management solutions will enable state agencies to more effectively meet their obligations to the public in providing the right information to the right people on a timely basis.



The Chair that Belongs to the Ages

by Robert Kinney, Outreach Services Librarian

On April 14, 1865, Abraham Lincoln became the first American President to be assassinated. The death of the 16th President of the United States marked a dark period in the history of the United States. As the events unfolded, Mrs. Lincoln was too grief-stricken to leave the White House. She did not take the train to Springfield, Illinois for President Lincoln's burial. She stayed in the White House for several weeks grieving the loss of her husband and packing up the family possessions. She packed several items to take with her and at the same time she gave away items that reminded her of her husband. She was quoted as saying that she could not bear to be reminded of the past.



It is believed that she gave items to those who were considered the warmest of Lincoln's admirers.

One of the president's admirers was Gideon Welles, Lincoln's Secretary of the Navy during the Civil War. After Lincoln's death, Welles would go on and serve under President Andrew Johnson for four more years before leaving politics altogether on March 3, 1869. One memento that Welles carried with him on his journey back to Connecticut was the Abraham Lincoln Piazza Chair. The chair that sat in the piazza area of the White House during the Lincoln administration was given to Mr. Welles who brought it to his home in Connecticut. Following Gideon Welles' death on February 11, 1878, the chair was passed down to his son Edgar Welles; it would later be transferred to Lyman R. Ingram who gave the chair to Representative E. Hart Fenn, State Representative from Wethersfield, in 1899. In 1940, Fenn's widow presented the chair to the Connecticut State Library as a museum piece. The State Librarian at the time, James Brewster, said "This is the first time the Lincoln Piazza Chair has passed out of private hands." This is just one example of an interesting find in the Museum of CT History.

History Day Students from Region 15 Schools Visit the State Library

By Steve Rice, Government Information Services Librarian

The State Library recently had visits by fifty young researchers. The researchers were Connecticut students participating in this year's Connecticut History Day competition. The students, from Region 15 Schools serving the towns of Middlebury and Southbury, came to research at the State Library in two groups, on February 4 and 17. This has been a long-running cooperation between the State Library and Region 15 for more than ten years providing service to hundreds of students.

Connecticut History Day is a program for students in grades 6-12 that encourages exploration of local, state, national, and world history. The students themselves chose a wide range of topics on a general theme provided by the organizers of National History Day. The themes, mostly beyond the borders of Connecticut, included:

- Women Spies during the Revolutionary War
- Alexander Hamilton and the Creation of the New York Stock Exchange
- Louis Pasteur and the Creation of the Rabies Vaccine
- The Creation of the Volkswagen under Hitler
- Margaret Mead: Cultural Anthropologist and Activist of our Nation

After selecting a historical topic that relates to an annual theme, students conduct extensive research using libraries, archives, museums, and oral history interviews. Students analyze and interpret their findings, draw conclusions about their topic's significance in history, and create final projects that demonstrate their work. These projects can be entered into a series of competitions, from the local to the national level, where professional historians and educators evaluate them.

State Library reference librarians pulled dozens of books on the various subjects (provided by Region 15 teachers) from the library stacks in preparation for the visits. Several of the library's public access computers were reserved for the students. Many of the librarians made themselves available to help the students and school staff find resources as well as to contribute helpful suggestions.

On the days of the visits there was a flurry of excitement as students found their books, settled in at library desks, and scurried into the stacks to find more publications. There were some technical challenges, such as how to use microfilm readers and how to find books and archival materials in the library's various collections. All challenges were overcome with spirit and persistence. All the Region 15 students came away with something they could use for their paper, presentation, or exhibit.

As it turned out, twenty-two Region 15 students participated in the New Haven and Fairfield Regional contests. The competition was extremely competitive in each division. Thirty-five individuals will advance to the State contest at Central Connecticut State University on April 30. The winning topics were:

- Ada Lovelace and the Exploration of the Computer
- Rochambeau and Washington: The Exploration, Encounters, and Exchanges at the Birth of a New Nation
- World War II: Women Encounters of Opportunities
- The War of 1812: The Battle for Baltimore - the Final Encounter
- Exploration of the Moon: Apollo 13 - Failure Yet Success

Continued



Students and Instructor from Rochambeau Middle School doing research at the State Library for their History Day Projects; Photo courtesy Region 15 schools



Main Reference Area as seen from the Balcony of the CT State Library. Reference Librarian, Kris Aberly seen walking.



2015 Connecticut History Day winners from Rochambeau Middle School. Photo courtesy Region 15 Schools

Winners from the state contest have the opportunity to compete in the National History Day Competition at the University of Maryland on June 12 to 16. We look forward to seeing Region 15 students back again next year. We will have caught our breath by then. We also welcome History Day scholars from all districts to use the resources of the State Library.

**World War I Artifacts Recently Acquired by the
Museum of Connecticut History, by David J. Corrigan, Museum Curator**

In the 1920s State Librarian George Godard assembled a large collection of World War I artifacts by appealing for their donation by the many Connecticut veterans who had survived the war. In typical Godard fashion, he cajoled veterans to donate uniforms, pieces of equipment, battlefield souvenirs, trench art, and miscellaneous artifacts. Museum staff has added to this nucleus over the years, and in light of the 100th anniversary of the conflict, has recently begun to focus more directly on World War I as a collecting venue, seeking artifacts that illustrate and document Connecticut's pre-war activities from 1916 to 1918, its citizen-soldiers' combat role from 1918 to 1919, and the post-war period, notably the service medals awarded by many Connecticut cities and towns to those who served, as well as the many World War memorials that were erected in the 1920s.



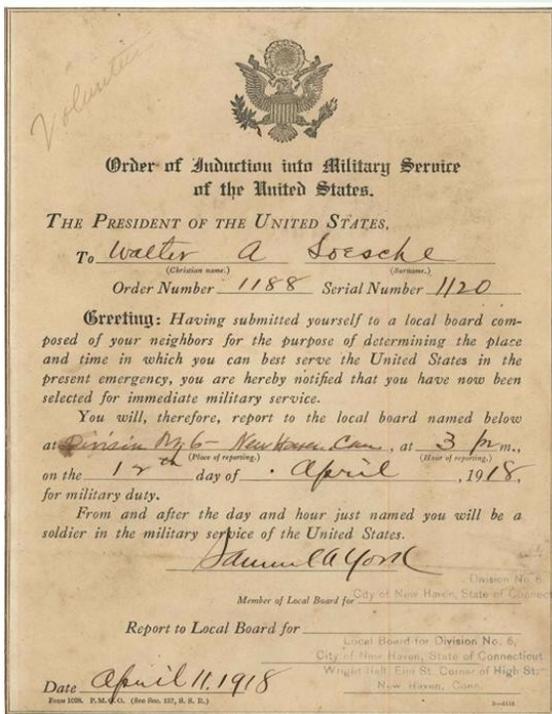
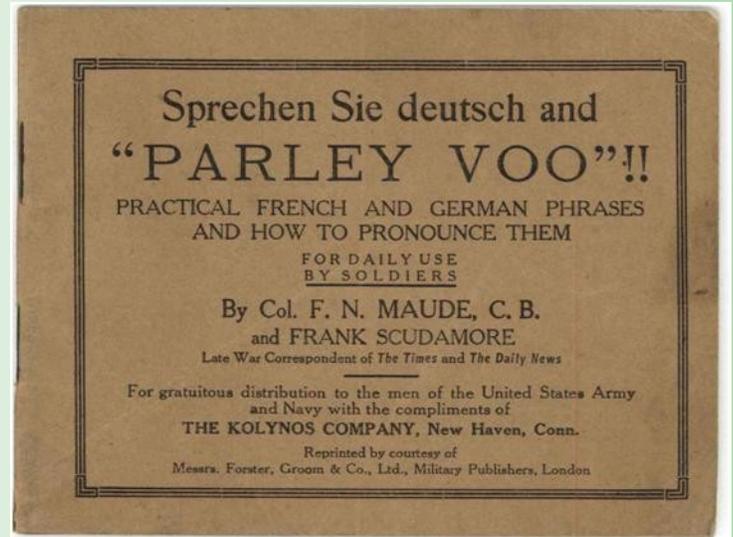
This post card is captioned: “Band—U.S.S. Utah/Preparedness Parade/June 3, 1916 Hartford-Connecticut,” and shows the leader of the band from the Battleship USS *Utah* (then berthed in Newport, RI) saluting dignitaries on the reviewing stand in front of the Old State House during the massive parade held on June 3, 1916. The parade, described by the Hartford Courant as “the largest demonstration in the history of the state,” drew nearly 20,000 marchers and attracted more than 100,000 spectators. In response to President Woodrow Wilson’s proclaimed neutrality in the European war that broke out in 1914, supporters of the Preparedness Movement, which included former President Theodore Roosevelt, believed that U.S. entry into the war was inevitable and urged universal military training for all American males 18 years of age and older, beginning in 1915, as a way to upgrade the U.S. Army. Universal military training never attracted widespread backing during peace time, and the Preparedness Movement quickly waned with the Declaration of War and passage of the Selective Service Act of 1917. (Accession #2015.138)

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Souvenir watch fobs marked "1ST CONNECTICUT INF./ WORLD WAR 1917," commemorated the Connecticut National Guard unit's service in the war as part of the U.S. Army's 102nd Regiment. (Accession # 2016.120)

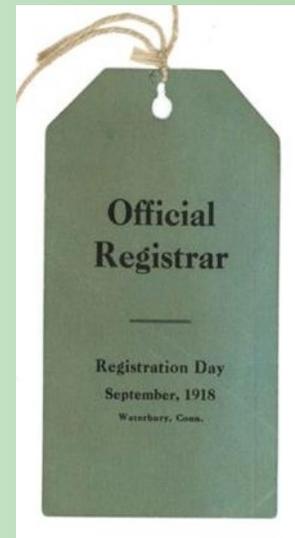
A bilingual pronunciation guide underwritten by the Kolyonos Company, a New Haven manufacturer of toothpaste, was given to U.S. soldiers in 1918 to enable them to converse in French and German. (Accession #2014.182)



Induction Notice sent to Walter Loesch of New Haven, informing him that he was to report to the New Haven Local Board Division No. 6 at 3:00 p.m. on 12 April 1918 "for immediate military service." He served in France as an Artillery Sergeant and was honorably discharged in 1919. In 1923 he received a Bachelor's Degree from Villanova University, returned to New Haven and worked for the U.S. Postal Service for over 40 years. (Accession #2015.37)

Continued

By September 1918, men between the ages of 18 and 45 were required by law to register for the military draft. Dorothy Yale Gibbs of Waterbury wore this tag as a volunteer registrar on September 12th when 16,772 men registered at five sites across the city. (Accession #2014.181)



As part of Connecticut's massive manufacturing effort undertaken to support the war, in July 1918 the Beacon Falls Rubber Shoe Company announced its "Win-the-War" Top Notch brand Service Shoe. Seeking to conserve leather for military uses, these shoes were made of brown canvas duck, with "brown rubber extension soles that look just like leather." The company considered these shoes suitable "for all classes of workers." (Accession #2014.180)

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST 83

The Army of the Rear

THE VICTORY of our boys "over there" depends upon the effort and sacrifices that we make right here at home. The army must have leather for belts, saddles and other equipment. The demand is so great that good leather shoes now sell for \$4.50 to \$6 a pair.

Save leather for the soldiers—you workers in "the army of the rear." Wear "Win-the-War" Service Shoes, made of an extra-quality of strong brown duck, with neat black leather trimmings. They have brown rubber extension soles that look just like leather. These soles relieve the jar and strain of walking or standing on hard floors or pavements. They are water-proof—protecting the health of the wearer, while a cork insole makes the shoe cool and comfortable.

You can buy these shoes for \$3.50 a pair. They are far more durable than shoes of cheap leather or leather substitutes. They fit well. They look well. They are shoes that any man can wear with pride and satisfaction.

"Win-the-War" TOP NOTCH SERVICE SHOE

"Win-the-War" Shoes, for all classes of workers, and for boys and youths too, are made by the manufacturers of the famous Top Notch Rubber Footwear. The Top Notch cross on the heel is a guarantee of service and satisfaction. Write us and we'll tell you where to get them in your town or city.

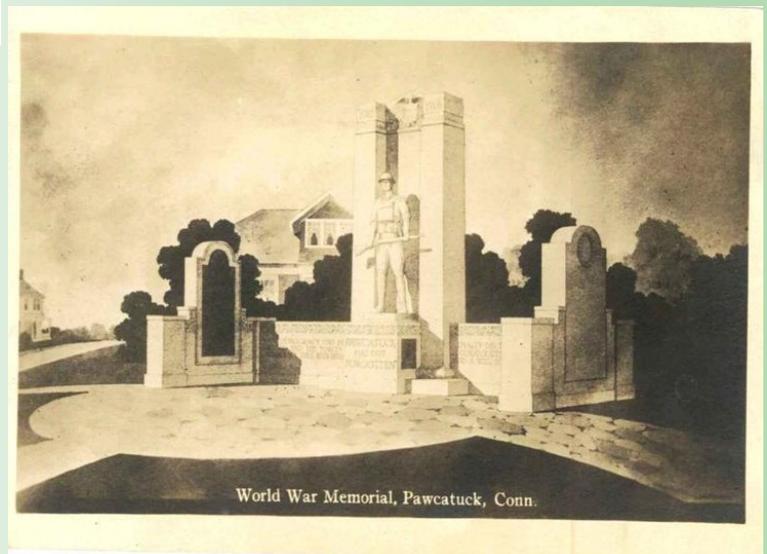
BEACON FALLS RUBBER SHOE CO., BEACON FALLS, CONN.
 NEW YORK BOSTON CHICAGO SAN FRANCISCO
 KANSAS CITY

Manufacturers of "TOP NOTCH" Rubber Footwear

For Clerks \$3.50
 Mechanics
 Farmers
 Teamsters

Factory Workers
 Railroad Men
 Letter Carriers
 Vacation Use

Post card showing artist's rendering of the World War Memorial erected in Pawcatuck, CT. Bronze tablets list the names of residents who served and those who died in the war. (Accession #2015.245)



World War Memorial, Pawcatuck, Conn.

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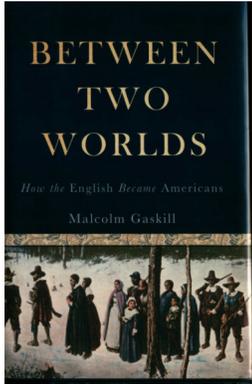
Stamford dedicated its Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument in Saint John's Park on November 11, 1920. Thirty-four feet tall and designed by local architect George A. Freeman, it memorialized 4,400 local residents who had died in service to the country, including during World War I. (Accession #2016.38)

Post card of scene aboard the USS Connecticut as she transported soldiers home from France in 1919. (Accession #2015.130)



The City of Bristol distributed small medals bearing the city's seal, with the clock hands recalling its clock-making history, to its returning veterans. The reverse side reads "Presented by the City of Bristol in Recognition of Patriotic Service." (Accession #2016.140)

New & Noteworthy



*Between Two Worlds:
How the English
Became Americans*

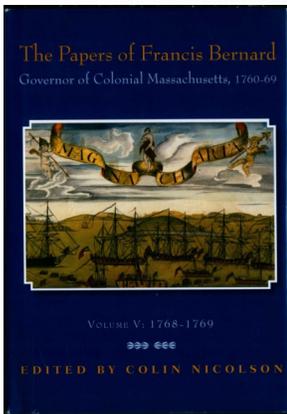
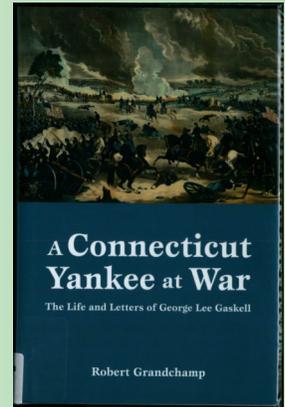
Malcolm Gaskill

[E162 .G38 2014](#)

*A Connecticut Yankee
at War: the Life and
Letters of George Lee
Gaskell*

Robert Grandchamp

[E528.8 1st .G37 2015](#)



*The Papers of Francis
Bernard : Governor of
Colonial Massachusetts,
1760-69*

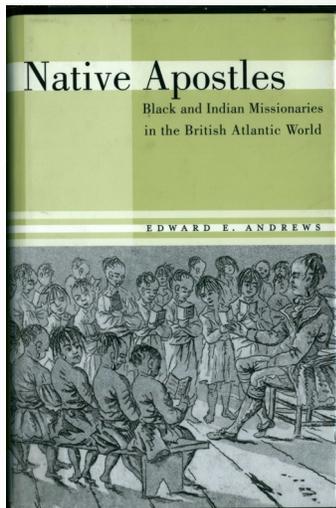
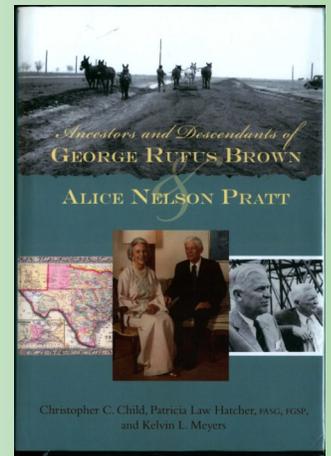
Edited by Colin Nicolson

[F61 .C71](#)

*Ancestors and
Descendants of George
Rufus Brown and Alice
Nelson Pratt*

Christopher C. Child,
Patricia Law Hatcher,
Kelvin L. Meyers

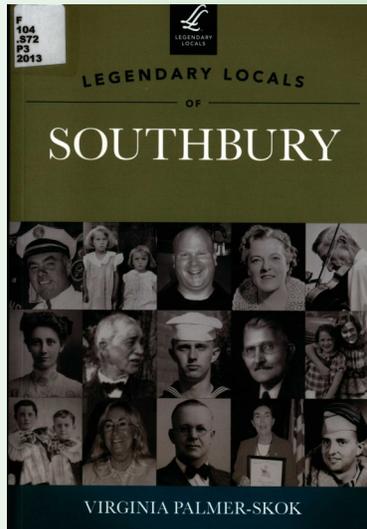
[CS71 .B88 2013](#)



*Native Apostles: Black
and Indian
Missionaries in the
British Atlantic World*

Edward E. Andrews

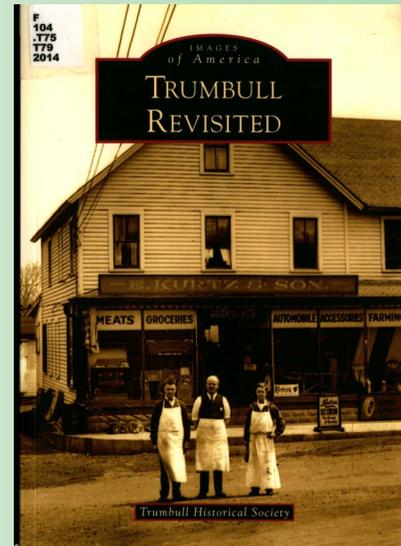
[BV2120 .A53 2013](#)



*Legendary Locals of
Southbury, Connecticut*

Virginia Palmer-Skok

[F104.S72 P3 2013](#)



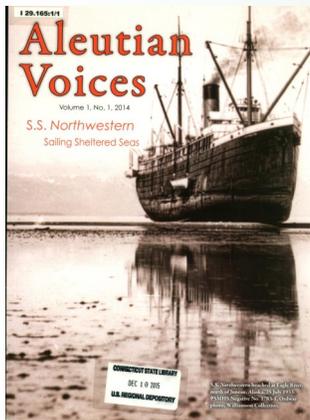
Trumbull revisited

The Trumbull Historical
Society

[F104.T75 T79 2014](#)

Continued

New & Noteworthy

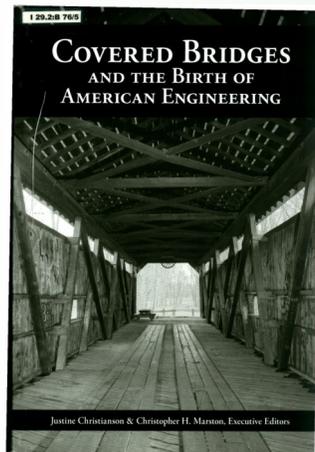


Aleutian voices / U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service; Ounalashka Corporation

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2014-

[I 29.165:](#)

[Available Online](#)

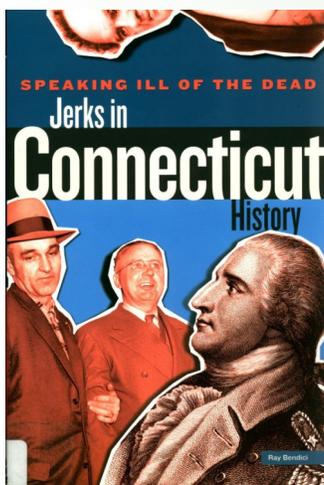


Covered bridges and the Birth of American Engineering

Executive Editors, Justine Christianson, Christopher H. Marston

[I 29.2:B 76/5](#)

[Available Online](#)



Speaking Ill of the Dead: Jerks in Connecticut History

Ray Bendici

[F94.6 .B46 2012](#)

[Available Online for CT State Library Cardholders](#)

New Reference Resources

The following new resources can be accessed remotely with a State Library Card:

- [Directory of Business Information Resources](#)
- [National Survey of State Laws \(HeinOnline\)](#)

Staff News



The Connecticut State Library, Office of the Public Records Administrator is very pleased to announce the appointment of Kristen Gurciullo to the full-time position of Librarian 2 - Public Records Analyst as of Friday, April 1, 2016. Ms. Gurciullo holds a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and English from Florida State University, a Masters in History from Swansea University, and a Masters of Library and Information Science from Florida State University. Kristen recently held the position as Records Management Trainer at the Florida Bureau of Archives & Records Management.



Congratulations to Mary Minow on her retirement as of March 1, 2016! Mary worked as a Reader Advisor at the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped for 29 years. She will be missed by both her colleagues and patrons.

Continued

New & Noteworthy

Looking Back Looking Forward: Connecticut's Role in the Great War-Update!

A \$ 9,700 grant to the "Looking Back Looking Forward: Connecticut's Role in the Great War" project was awarded by the CT Humanities to the Connecticut Heritage Foundation. The grant will support the planning activities for the Centennial Commemoration of Connecticut's involvement in World War One. One of the major planning activities will be the development of a new exhibit at the Museum of Connecticut History that will explore Connecticut's critical role in the war, both at home and abroad. The exhibit is scheduled to open 2017 and will include satellite exhibits that will travel (upon request, and at a nominal fee) to museums, historical societies, libraries, historic sites, etc. throughout the state. There will also be community programs planned to support the exhibit and help tell the World War One story using sources from the Connecticut State Library and institutions across the state.

A World War One "Digitization Day" Held at the Nathanael Green Community Center in Guilford

The Connecticut State Library partnered with the Guilford Parks & Recreation Department to hold a Digitization Day on March 15, 2016 from 6:00 - 9:00 P.M. The public was invited to bring in their WWI keepsakes - photos, letters, souvenirs & more - to be scanned and photographed. Keepsakes do not need to be from Connecticut! In prior events, we have preserved letters from a soldier from Missouri, photos from a soldier in Maine, even a story about a German soldier. To learn more about our submission guidelines please visit our website (<http://bit.ly/WWIGuide>).

The digital images created will be added to a WWI collection in the Connecticut Digital Archive (<http://bit.ly/CTDAWWI>) that is freely accessible to the public and can be used for generations to come. These events bring history to the forefront by providing primary materials for students, teachers, and researchers. The digital platform not only preserves the memory but also allows others to share and explore history. For more information about the project, please contact Christine Pittsley at (860) 757-6517 or visit www.CTInWorldWar1.org.



WWI Project Exhibit at CTPlacesMatter Rally Day at the State Capitol on March 23, 2016

New & Noteworthy**Connecticut State Library Announces Next Set of Newspaper Titles to be Digitized**

The Connecticut State Library is pleased to announce that it has chosen three historically significant newspaper titles to be digitized in collaboration with the National Digital Newspaper Program. The scanning of the new titles is made possible by an award for \$250,000, the second received, from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

The Connecticut Digital Newspaper Project Advisory Board selected New Haven's *Morning Journal and Courier* from 1880-1908, the *Newtown Bee*, from 1877-1909, and the *Waterbury Evening Democrat* from 1887-1908. The digital images will be included in the Library of Congress' newspaper site: *Chronicling America* <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>.

This project will add new towns and time periods to the State Library's effort to advance the accessibility of historic newspapers. The library recently completed the digitization of the 1909-1922 *Bridgeport Evening Farmer* and *Norwich Bulletin*, a project that was made possible by an earlier NEH grant. The State Library also created the Newspapers of Connecticut project [<http://is.gd/Oy4T68>], a website which has runs of approximately 90 titles from 1821-1938 and includes more than 7000 issues from 39 towns.

Volume XXI (1821-1822) of The Public Records of the State of Connecticut Now Available for Purchase

The State Library with funding from the Historic Documents Preservation Fund has issued the next volume in the *Public Records of the State of Connecticut* series. The series began publication in 1894 starting with the 1776 legislative session with funding from the General Assembly. Volume 21 covers the legislative sessions of 1821 and 1822, which witnessed many significant developments including the compilation of a new state legal code; militia reorganization; the reduction of the state's Congressional delegation from seven to six; and the end of a tax exemption on the property of clergymen. New economic energy following the Panic of 1819 was manifested in a variety of legislative actions including the passage of a retaliatory act against New York's steamboat monopoly and the incorporation of the state's first canal companies. An act on "limited partnerships" passed during the 1822 session provided a mechanism for entrepreneurs to generate more capital for their enterprises leading to a vigorous renewal of business incorporations in the state.

The cost for Volume 21 is \$35.00 plus \$5.00 for shipping and handling per volume for orders shipped to Connecticut addresses. A limited number of earlier volumes are also available at a discounted price of \$25.00 plus shipping and handling. The completed order form for Volume 21, available on-line at <http://bit.ly/20JALyx>, should be returned to the address listed on the form with payment. For shipping costs for out-of-state addresses or to request a **free copy** for a Connecticut public, college or university library, please contact State Archivist Lizette Pelletier at lizette.pelletier@ct.gov

Continued

New & Noteworthy

Third Thursday Luncheon Speaker Series



January 21, 2016

Dave Corrigan, Curator of the Museum of Connecticut History discussed the “Goodwin Brothers Pottery in West Hartford 1870-1929”. Dave also gave a presentation on this topic on October 1st as part of the University of Hartford’s President’s College Lecture Series at the Noah Webster House and West Hartford Historical Society and on December 16th for the members of the Noah Webster House and West Hartford Historical Society.

February 18th, 2016

Whitney Battle-Baptiste Ph. D. gave a presentation “The Legacy & Lessons of W.E.B. Du Bois and his connection to Hartford. Baptiste serves as an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and is the Director of the W.E.B. Du Bois Center at UMass Amherst Libraries.

March 17, 2016

Author and Instructor Anthony Riccio discussed his book titled “Farms, Factories and Families: Italian American Women of Connecticut”, at the Connecticut State Library. His book captures the words and images of early women immigrants who lived during the turn-of-the-century, working in sweat shops, farms, and markets throughout Connecticut.



2016 Third Thursdays Spring Schedule



**12:00-12:45 PM, 231 Capitol Avenue
Memorial Hall, Hartford, CT 06106**

APRIL 21, 2016

Author Ray Bendici will lead a discussion based on his latest book "Speaking ILL of the Dead: Jerks in Connecticut History."



MAY 19, 2016

Author Deborah Child will lead a discussion based on her latest book "Soldier, Engraver, Forger."



JUNE 16, 2016

Kandie Carle will lead a discussion and perform some of the most popular dances during the World War I era.



More information is available at www.ctstatelibrary.org or by calling 860-757-6668. Funding for this series is provided by the Connecticut Heritage Foundation.

The State Library and Museum of Connecticut History's Third Thursdays BrownBag Lunchtime speaker series features a variety of speakers on various aspects of Connecticut history. All programs are free and open to the public and attendees should feel free to bring their lunch.

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