

Connecticut Ancestry Society, Inc.

(Founded 1954, formerly Stamford Genealogical Society, Inc.)

Post Office Box 249

Stamford, CT 06904-0249

Objectives

The objectives of the Society are to:

1. Locate, acquire, preserve, and index all classes of genealogical records, and make them available to members and the public.
2. Inform and encourage members in the methods and practices of genealogical research and compilation.
3. Elevate and maintain genealogical standards of excellence.

Society Projects

As a service organization, the Society conducts a number of projects. Anyone willing to help with these or other genealogical programs is cordially invited to join. Current projects include:

1. Annual subject and every-name indices for the May issue of *Connecticut Ancestry*;
2. Computer Interest Group workshops;
3. Consolidating member ancestral charts;
4. Indexing genealogical records; and,
5. Registering family associations.

CONNECTICUT ANCESTRY

Connecticut Ancestry is the Society's quarterly journal containing articles of genealogical interest that relate primarily to Connecticut sources. Published since 1958, it is the oldest Connecticut genealogical periodical and is recognized nationally for the quality of its original research. Indexed in the Connecticut Genealogical Index, the Genealogical Periodical Index, and PERSI, *Connecticut Ancestry* typically publishes more than 150 pages of articles each year, as well as an every-name index.

Regular features in *Connecticut Ancestry* include a Queries Column, to which members may submit free inquiries; the Computer Interest Group

Newsletter; reviews of books and other genealogical materials added to the collections of the Ferguson Library in Stamford or contributed to the Society; a Calendar of Current Events; and a listing of genealogical research materials available for purchase from the Society.

Meetings

The Society holds its Annual Meeting in May and other meetings irregularly during the year. A speaker or a panel of experienced genealogists is featured at most meetings, and special interest meetings dealing with computers and Society projects have been held. Meeting dates and places are published in *Connecticut Ancestry*, with reminder notices sent out to members living in the vicinity of Stamford. All meetings are open to the public.

The Society is on the Steering Committee for the New England Regional Genealogical Conference and actively exchanges data and information with other New England-based societies.

Members May Inspect Connecticut Vital Records

Connecticut law provides that a member in good standing of a genealogy society incorporated in Connecticut is entitled to inspect the original vital records held by any town, city, or state registrar of vital statistics. The membership card furnished by the Society identifies you as a qualified researcher under that law.

Stamford Room, Ferguson Library

From its inception our Society has enjoyed a close working relationship with the Ferguson Public Library in Stamford, which already owned a wide collection of primary and secondary source materials on New England. Over the years the Society has contributed books, microfilm, and original materials to the library, including pedigree charts for its

members, and copies of the more than 50 genealogical periodicals from around the country with whom we maintain exchanges.

In 1986 the Ferguson Library created the Stamford Room, a separate genealogy and local history section to house its collection of thousands of books, periodicals, and other related materials. Bright and spacious and located on its own partial floor, the Stamford Room provides an outstanding and comfortable work area reserved exclusively for serious research. All books in this room are held on Reference Reserve and do not circulate. Coin-operated copy machines are located on each floor, and coin-operated microform reader/printers are provided. (Copies are currently 10 cents--bring dimes.)

The library's holdings also include major microfiche and microfilm sets, such as the Barbour Index, the 1988 International Genealogical Index (IGI) for the United States, Canada, British Isles, and Central Europe (primarily Germany) and the Torrey Index of Connecticut military and census records, among others. Located at 96 Broad Street in the middle of downtown Stamford, Ferguson Library is open 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sundays (closed Sundays from May 16 to Sept 13 and all Holidays).

Donations

The Society welcomes donations of genealogical or local history books and materials, periodicals, manuscripts, diaries, charts, family Bible records, etc., and especially articles for our journal. The Society is qualified as a tax exempt charitable and educational organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are deductible to the extent permitted by law.

To: Connecticut Ancestry Society, Inc.
 P.O. Box 249, Stamford, CT 06904-0249

Please enter my/our name(s) as member(s):

Name of Member

Name of Spouse (for Husband/Wife Memberships)

Preferred Address (e.g., Mr/Mrs/Mr&Mrs/Ms Doe)

Street/Box No.

City/State/Zip Code

Telephone No. () - (optional, for office use only)

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP (Check one):

- Individual (\$25) Library (\$25)
- Husband/Wife (\$25) Society (\$25)
- Sustaining (\$35) Patron (\$50)

Please add \$4.00 Canadian & \$6.00 Overseas to help defray additional Postage.

Make checks payable to "CT Ancestry Society."

Membership Year & Administrative Details

The Society's membership year runs from June 1 to the following May 31. Each member receives four issues of our quarterly journal, *Connecticut Ancestry*, commencing with the September Issue. Applications received after March 1 will be treated as applying to the next membership year unless you instruct us otherwise.

The Society is a federally tax-exempt charitable and educational organization under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). Dues in excess of \$20.00/year and contributions are deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Connecticut Ancestry Society, Inc.

Organized in 1954 by dedicated individuals concerned with protecting the rich historical resources of Connecticut for future family history researchers, our Society has a long tradition of voluntary service and support. As you trace your roots back to your own immigrant ancestors, it is likely that you will encounter one or more lines that passed through the original colonies of New England.

Founded in 1631 by settlers from Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay Colonies as well as new arrivals, Connecticut was a vital part of the early English settlement of America, as well as the later broad European and Mediterranean migrations at the time of the Potato Famine and the Industrial Revolution.

Much work has been done by our members in compiling their own family and local area information, a significant portion of which has been published. Our meetings are informative and give members an opportunity to share information or to seek leads to that next elusive fact or source that has us stymied. Speakers are chosen for their knowledge of genealogy or local history. And our Queries Column is available for members.

The Society actively interchanges event scheduling information with neighboring historical and genealogical societies.

We invite you to share our resources and welcome your contributions of your own research and information.

The Membership Committee

PUBLICATIONS OF THE SOCIETY
 (CT residents must add 6% CT sales tax.)

1. *Stamford's Soldiers*, genealogical biographies of Revolutionary War Patriots from Stamford, CT, by Edith M. Wicks and the late Virginia H. Olson. Details the military service and vital records of some 738 soldiers and close relatives (1976). Indexed, 417 pp. \$23.00
2. Subject and Person indexes:
 - BULLETIN*, Vols. 1-13 12.50
 - CONNECTICUT ANCESTRY*,
 - Vols. 14-20 17.50
 - Vols. 21-25 12.50
 - Vols. 26-27 10.00
3. Back Issues of *CONNECTICUT ANCESTRY* and the *BULLETIN* (if available) 5.00
4. Person Index for *HISTORY & GENEALOGY OF THE MEAD FAMILY*, by Spencer P. Mead, compiled by Edith M. Wicks (1975). 67 pp. 12.00

35 mm MICROFILM

Add for postage: 1-3 reels = \$2.50, 4-7 reels = \$3.50

- Reel 1. Stamford Town Meeting Records 1640-1806. Indexed. Stamford Births, Marriages, and Deaths 1641-1822. 16.00
- Reel 2. Connecticut Cemeteries 1671-1911 (27 in Stamford, 18 in Berlin, Brookfield, Killingly, New Canaan, & New Fairfield, CT). Headstones of 48 Stamford cemeteries, indexed. 16.00
- Reel 3. Abstracts of Stamford & Darien Church Records, indexed. Stamford Town Directory 1872. 13.75
- Reel 4. Abstracts of Records & Tombstones of Greenwich, indexed. 10.00
- Reel 5. Abstracts of Probate Records of Fairfield County, CT 1648-1750, State of CT 1704-1757, indexed. 10.00
- Reel 6. Abstracts of Probate Records for Stamford, Greenwich, & Darien 1729-1848; New Canaan (part) 1719-1802; andc Ridgelyfield 1729-1746, indexed. 10.00
- Reel 7. The Scofields of Northfield, Minn. & Scofield Directory 1950. 15.00

**A BRIEF LOOK AT
THE CONNECTICUT ANCESTRY SOCIETY
AND
FAIRFIELD COUNTY GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES**

**Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council
June 4, 1998**

Frederick C. Hart Jr., CG
1311 Great Hill Road
North Guilford, CT 06437-3649

The Connecticut Ancestry Society

Origin and Background

- Initially a genealogy interest group within the Stamford Historical Society (ca. 1950)
- Organized as the Stamford Genealogical Society in 1954
- First published its journal called the *Bulletin* in September, 1958
- Special projects under Edith Wicks, Virginia Olsen, Pen Mead and Paul Prindle
- Journal name changed to **Connecticut Ancestry** in November, 1971 (abbr: "ConnAn")
- Society name changed to The Connecticut Ancestry Society on 22 July, 1989 "to more accurately reflect the focus of the Society's genealogical coverage, as well as to correspond with the title of our journal, **Connecticut Ancestry**, to which much of our incoming mail is directed" (ConnAn, 31: pink page)

Present and Future Directions

- President, CPGC member Harlan Jessup of Newtown
- Current membership = about 270, nationwide
- Spring and Fall Workshops (total 6) throughout the Region, jointly with repositories
- Designated members provide liaison with major libraries
- "Focus on Southwestern Connecticut" being added to **Connecticut Ancestry's** masthead
- Stronger ties to Fairfield County libraries, historical societies, town halls, and other genealogy groups
- Internet Web site under consideration

Fairfield County Genealogical Resources

Public Libraries in Fairfield County with Significant Genealogical Collections

- Bridgeport (Burroughs) Public Library (outstanding, active, well-managed collection; see ConnAn, 37:134-37)
- Greenwich Public Library (see ConnAn, 26: 60-74)
- Newtown (Booth) Public Library (see ConnAn, 34: 169-70)
- Southport (Pequot) Public Library (see ConnAn, 36: 66-68)
- Stamford (Ferguson) Public Library (the "official" repository of the Connecticut Ancestry Society, see ConnAn, 29: 61-5, 31: 45-9, 31: 156-61, 33: 84-5)
- Wilton Public Library (includes Wilton Historical Society's collection)

Historical Societies in Fairfield County with Significant Genealogical Collections

- Darien Historical Society
- Fairfield Historical Society (see ConnAn, 36: 181-83)
- Greenwich Historical Society
- New Canaan Historical Society
- Norwalk Historical Society - special case, relocating to old Town Hall in S. Norwalk
- Stamford Historical Society (see ConnAn, 40: 48-49)

A Sampler of Some Unique Resources for Fairfield County Families

- **Connecticut Ancestry** and its predecessor, *Bulletin of the Stamford Genealogical Society*, volume 1 (1958) to present.
- Spencer Percival Mead, "Abstract of Probate Records at Fairfield, Co. of Fairfield & State of Connecticut," 2 volumes 1648-1750 and 1704-1757, 1929-34, Connecticut Ancestry Society microfilm Reel #5. An extremely useful every-name index to the Fairfield Probate volumes (not the papers).
- Stamford Historical Society, comprehensive index of Stamford Land Records, created by Edith M. Wicks ca. 1985, includes all names mentioned through about 1800 (see ConnAn, 27:123-28, 188-92.)
- Fairfield Historical Society, "Fairfield's Four Squares and Their Owners," compiled by Oliver Gould Jennings and Annie Burr Jennings, ca. 1939. Traces the ownership of the central portion of Fairfield from the initial settlers to 1779 to two snapshot time periods, the burning of the town in 1779, and the time of compilation (ca. 1936.) Excellent presentation includes maps and abstracts of all land records.
- New Canaan Historical Society, card file index of persons with all sources cited.

- New Canaan Historical Society, Weed Family Genealogical collection, including Edward Franklin Weed papers.
- Genealogists' papers: Paul W. Prindle (Weed Material at New Canaan H. S., all other families at NEHGS Library in Boston): Finch papers (at Greenwich Historical Society); Lester Card (at Fairfield Historical Society and Wilton Public Library); David H. Van Hoosear (at Wilton Public Library); Donald L. Jacobus (at the Connecticut Historical Society and the New Haven Colony Historical Society); William Applebie Daniel Eardeley (at the Brooklyn Historical Society but microfilm available at the CSL); Edith M. Wicks (at the Stamford Historical Society); Edith M. Wicks, Virginia Olsen and Paul W. Prindle, working papers for *Stamford's Soldiers* (at the New Canaan Historical Society).
- Stamford (Ferguson) Public Library, Ancestor Charts of Connecticut Ancestry Society members (currently removed from the shelves for binding and creation of an every-name index.)

Some Genealogies With Reliable Material on Many Fairfield County Families

- Donald Lines Jacobus, *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield*, 2 volumes in 3, Fairfield: The Eunice Dennie Burr Chapter, DAR, 1930-32. This is the place for all Fairfield County researchers to start, and check in occasionally.
- Rev. Charles Melbourne Selleck, *Norwalk - Volume 1 and Supplement*, Norwalk: the author, 1896. Although this book is generally cataloged as a local history, it is really a genealogy of the Norwalk area's families. Useful information, but difficult to read and not documented.
- David W. Hoyt, *A Genealogical History of the Hoyt, Haight and Hight Families*, Providence and Boston, 1871, several reprintings.
- Paul Wesley Prindle, *Ancestry of Elizabeth Barrett Gillespie (Mrs. William Sperry Beinecke)*, The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations, 1976.

Don't Overlook—

- Huntington Historical Society (Long Island)
- Lewisboro, NY Public Library (for Van Norden Manuscripts, other Salem records)
- New Haven Colony Historical Society
- New York Genealogical and Biographical Society
- Westchester County Historical Society and Archives, Elmsford, NY

Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council

**PICNIC
1 PM
JULY 12, 1998**

**57 CLEARVIEW DRIVE
MIDDLEBURY, CT**

From I-84 East, take exit 17. Stay straight through 2 lights, continue 1/2 mile beyond second light - Turn right onto Clearview Knoll, follow to end, last house on left.

From I-84 West, take exit 17. Go left at end of ramp onto Rt 63 (Straits Turnpike), go left at next traffic light. Continue 1/2 mile and turn right onto Clearview Knoll.

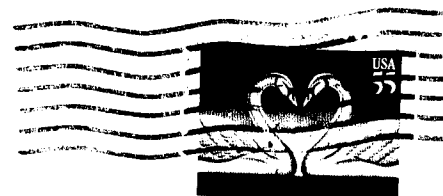
From Rt. 8 north or south, exit onto Rt 84 West and follow directions above.

From Rt. 64 (Woodbury), after gas stations, take a left onto Clearview Knoll.

From Rt. 64 (Watertown / Naugatuck) - take Rt. 63 north or south to intersection of 63 & 64, proceed west to 1st light, then 1/2 mile further - see directions above. Call if you need help - (203) 758-9798.

**BRING A POT LUCK DISH
HOT DOGS FURNISHED BY OUR HOST, ROBERT RAFFORD
!! EVERYONE WELCOME !!
PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND**

**FROM:
Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council
P. O. Box 4273
Hartford CT 06147-4273**



10-98

Barbara J. Mathews CG
18 Blossom Street
Lexington MA 02173-8110

**NEXT MEETING
Thursday - 10:00 A.M.
July 2, 1998
CT State Archive Update
Polish National Home
Hartford, Connecticut

02420/2403

