

THISTLE



Millburn ~
Short Hills
Historical Society

Vol. II, No. 1

September, 1977

WE'RE STILL CROWING ABOUT OUR \$20,000 GRANT for an architectural/historical survey of the Township.

We promised a brief, but effective training program and have organized the first session for our precious and much needed volunteers. David Gibson, Project Consultant, will conduct this program October 26 at 1 P. M. at Gero Park. Mr. Gibson will be assisted in this meeting by persons familiar with repositories of information on Millburn and its architecturally/historically significant buildings. Barbara Cole Smith (379-7219 or 376-0936, office) is in charge.

THE SOCIETY'S AUTUMN MEETING

The autumn meeting of the Society will be held on Wednesday, October 5, at 8 P. M. at the Millburn Public Library.

Mrs. Harold Reintjes will give a short illustrated report on early Hartshorn houses, based on research she has done during her years as a township resident. David Gibson, the professional director of the Architectural Survey, will explore the significance of Millburn's Victorian heritage as evidenced in the homes constructed by Mr. Hartshorn. Mr. Gibson will also explain how the Survey will be conducted, and answer questions about it from the audience. This will be a good forum for members and all township residents to come, listen, and participate in the most important project the Society has yet undertaken.

Our tentative plans call for four additional training sessions. Two will be conducted by a research librarian and two by a professional historical architectural researcher.

We will be asking our volunteer researchers to perform two rather different tasks. The first will consist of recording data on selected

properties in town and will be done at the Tax Assessor's office in Town Hall. The second will involve research at various libraries, historical societies, and Halls of Records to gather relevant historical data on Millburn Township.

The task of the volunteers, working with David Gibson and his staff, will be to provide the data and documentation needed to identify Millburn's historic district/districts and buildings for possible nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Ann Klemme, Project Coordinator, has formed a steering committee. In addition to Ann and Frances Land, Society President, serving ex-officio, the other members are: Barbara Cole Smith, survey chairman; Joan Brody, secretary; Juli Towell, treasurer; Bernice Bertrand, public relations; Tiz Christopherson, funding; Ira Schwartz, photography; Roldah Cameron, research; Malcolm Warnock, legal advisor; Robert Heintz of the Township Planning Board and Ronald Best from the Township Environmental Design Review Committee. Other members will be added from time to time.

ARCHITECTURAL WALK - No need to call, just come hear the architectural stories that exteriors of houses have to tell. Sandy Brown, the New Jersey Representative to the Board of Advisors for the National Trust for Historical Preservation in Washington, D. C., and President of the New Jersey Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians, will lead an informative walk in "old" Short Hills, starting on Forest Drive, No., circling around Montview and Lake Road, and ending with refreshments at Mrs. Harold Reintjes' on East Lane. Mrs. Brown will discuss the architectural styles and how they developed and fit into our unique area.

WHEN: Sunday afternoon, October 23, rain date October 30, 2 - 3:30 P. M. Refreshments following.

WHERE: Meet at corner of East Lane and Forest Drive, No. Parking at Christ Church Nursery. Refreshments at Mrs. Harold Reintjes', 25 East Lane.

NO CHARGE!!

REMINDER - Society memberships are now renewable for the coming year. For information call Mrs. Jane Riedel, Membership Chairman, 305 Glen Avenue, Short Hills, 467-3257.

"A LITTLE HISTORY OF SHORT HILLS" - The Historical Society plans to issue its first publication some time this fall. It will be a reprint of Miss Cora Hartshorn's "A Little History of Short Hills." The pamphlet, written by the daughter of the developer of Short Hills, Stewart Hartshorn, will give residents of the town a picture of its beginnings in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The individual style of the writer adds to the charm of her story. The addition of her original pictures and an introduction written by Mrs. Stewart Hartshorn complete the booklet.

Members of the Committee that has overseen the work for the Historical Society are: Mrs. Harold Gaisford, layout and printing; Albert Sulick, picture reproduction; Anita Seidel, varityping; Mr. Owen Lampe and Mrs. S. Gilmer Towell.

GENEALOGY REVISITED - Due to the great interest in genealogy generated by the courses offered last year, the Society is again offering a beginner and an advanced genealogy course for six weeks during the fall. Harriet Stryker-Rodda, noted genealogist, will be conducting the beginner course, and her husband, also a well-known genealogist, will direct the advanced course.

WHEN: Six consecutive Tuesday afternoons, starting October 11, 1-3 P. M.
WHERE: Taylor Park Recreation Center.
FEE: \$30.00.
Contact: Alicia Roman, 376-1160 or 376-4545.

A TASTE OF VICTORIANA - A series of lectures, co-sponsored by the Cora Hartshorn Arboretum, will feature Victorian architecture (including a look at today's adaptive re-use); interior design and decorative arts; popular music; literature and drama.

WHEN: Wednesday afternoon, January 11, 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15, 1-2:30 P. M.
WHERE: Stone House
FEE: \$13.00 for members of the Society or Arboretum; \$15.00 for non-members.
CONTACT: Fran Land, 379-3376

THE LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATION LEGISLATION will sponsor a midnight tour of downtown Newark on Sunday, September 25, 1977. Places to be visited include: City Hall Rotunda, Lincoln Park townhouses, Essex County Courthouse, James Street Commons Historic District, City Without Walls, New Jersey Bell building, Newark Museum and historic Washington Park. A pre-dawn breakfast featuring pastries from Pitta's Bakery will conclude the walk, which promises to be quite interesting. Those interested in attending should meet on September 25th at 12:00 A. M. at Raymond Plaza West directly across from the Penn Station. The donation is \$2.00 and the rain date is October 2, 1977. The League invites everyone to attend. POLICE PROTECTION WILL BE PROVIDED!!

Once again the Thistle Editors invite members of the Society and other interested township residents to contribute items to the newsletter which would be of interest to our readers. We think the Thistle can provide a forum for ideas and comments on the undertakings and projects of the Society.

Aline Coles 467-8894
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