

THISTLE



Millburn~
Short Hills
Historical Society

Vol. 2, No. 2

January, 1978

A New Year's Resolution - Resolve to join our volunteers in researching some of our town's fascinating old homes for the Historical-Architectural Survey. For those who don't see themselves as research "moles" burrowing away among dusty archives, we can entice you with the job of interviewing town residents and owners of some of those lovely houses.

The Survey is underway and we find we need more help. This is the kind of activity that you can join at any time. We are planning to hold more training sessions as needed and have prepared a comprehensive training kit containing the answers to all the questions you were afraid to ask.

JANUARY MEETING

January 11, 1978 - 8 pm

On January 11, 1978 at 8 pm, the winter meeting of the Millburn-Short Hills Historical Society will be held at the Millburn Public Library. A short business meeting will be followed by a program entitled "Gilbert and Sullivan: An Anglo-American Heritage."

Mr. Frederick W. Branch, head of the audio-visual department of the Bloomfield Public Library, and Miss Marjorie O'Shaughnessy, writer, editor, and Life Member of the Art Students League of New York, will present an entertaining program on Gilbert and Sullivan, with slides, commentary and recorded music. The program is presented through the Victorian Society of America. We look forward to seeing you.

Our consultant, David Gibson, and his associate, Steve Bauer, have managed to cover a lot of territory in their preliminary architectural survey, so

SURVEY (Cont.)

far. They have surveyed the Old Short Hills (Hartshorn) section, the area west of the Short Hills Station and south of Hobart Avenue, and the Wyoming section south of Maple Street. The remainder of the preliminary survey and more intensive surveying will be resumed when weather permits.

The research is like life--answers to some of our questions are hard, if not impossible, to find, and the amount of work to be done is almost infinite (sound like raising a family?). So we need you--to be our detectives. Please join us by calling Ann Klemme, 376-3970, or Barbara Smith 379-7219.

Bernice Bertrand

The display of historic artifacts in the Adult Reading Room at the Millburn Public Library is courtesy of the Millburn-Short Hills Historical Society. We invite you to see this unique collection.

The Society has had architectural historian and New Jersey National Trust representative Sandy Brown prepare a report on the Millburn Railroad Station. The purpose of this report is to make a professional evaluation of a structure that might be of historical significance available to the public before the structure no longer exists. No recommendation of the final disposition of the structure has been made by the Society, whose intention is to generate factual background information.

Copies of "A Little History of Short Hills" by Cora Hartshorn, daughter of the developer of Short Hills, and reprinted by the Society this fall, are available at the Golden Pineapple, the Millburn Camera Shop, and the Midlantic National Bank; or contact Owen Lampe, 376-8827. Mr. Lampe also has a few "Millburn Township" trivets remaining for sale at \$3.50. Miss Hartshorn's booklet is \$.75, and can be mailed for \$1.00.

If you have not renewed your membership for 1977-78, the Society needs and would appreciate your continuing support. Contact Mrs. Jane Riedel, 467-3257, membership chairman, for a form, or mail your check for \$5.00 to Box 243, Short Hills, N. J. 07078. Thank you!

A TASTE OF VICTORIANA - American Life and Styles circa 1850-1910. A six-session potpourri of people and events that characterized the cultural life of the period between America as colonial state and America as international power.

WHEN: Wednesday afternoon, January 11, 18, 25; February 1, 8, 15, 1-2:30 pm.

WHERE: Stone House, except the Jan. 25 lecture and tea which will take place in a private home to be announced.

FEE: \$13.00 for members of Society or Arboretum; \$16.00 for non-members.

Contact: Mrs. James Land, 379-3376 or 376-3587.

*Jan. 11 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW - Dr. Charles K. Krantz, associate professor of history at New Jersey Institute of Technology.

*Jan. 18 ARCHITECTURE - David Gibson, assistant professor of architecture at New Jersey Institute of Technology and consultant for the Millburn-Short Hills Historic Structures Survey. Mr. Gibson will talk about architecture with special emphasis on how local styles influenced international trends.

*Jan. 25 INTERIOR DESIGN - Phillip Curtis, curator of decorative arts at the Newark Museum and director of restorations at Ballantine House in Newark. Mr. Curtis will cover interior design and how it is related to daily living.

The final three lectures will be conducted by the Northern New Jersey Chapter of the Victorian Society in America.

*Feb. 1 LITERATURE AND DRAMA - Author Dorothy Clarke will speak on the Concord Circle (Hawthorne, Emerson, Thoreau, the Alcotts, etc.) and the remarkable careers of the "mad" acting Booth family of Maryland and their travels from coast to coast.

*Feb. 8 SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST: RECYCLING OLDER BUILDINGS - Dennis Mylan, architect and urban planner, will discuss innovative ways to adapt older buildings for present day use.

*Feb. 15 AMERICA'S POPULAR MUSIC IN THE 19TH CENTURY: STEPHEN FOSTER TO SCOTT JOPLIN - Frederick W. Branch, director of the Audio-Visual Department, Bloomfield Library, and Mrs. Marjorie O'Shaughnessy,

life member of the Art Student League and formerly associated with the American Theater Wing and Macmillan Publishing Co.

FOND MEMORIES OF A FINE MAN - The Oral History Committee of the Society has on hand a tape recording of a personal interview with Mr. William B. Gero, whose passing saddened many longtime residents. This recording is available through the Society for your listening pleasure. Please contact Alicia Roman, 376-1160, 376-4545, if you are interested.

Mr. Elric Endersby from the Princeton Oral History Project and Director and Editor of the "Princeton Recollector", published by the Princeton History Project, will lecture here in the near future. Mr. Endersby's expertise will be our guide for future use of oral history in the Township. Watch for a notice in the Item. Interested parties please call the above numbers.

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