
Nathan Hale Schoolhouse
East Haddam, CT


War Office
Lebanon, CT


Nathan Hale Schoolhouse
New London, CT

REAL PROPERTY REPORT

April 19, 2024

James Leatherbee, President, Riverview Cemetery Association, contacted me on February 26th to inform us that they will replace the head and foot stones of Gen. Spencer and his wife on the grounds of the Nathan Hale Schoolhouse in East Haddam. This will be at their own expense. We will discuss surrounding them with a low wrought iron fence after work is complete. The broken stones are also being repaired and will need a home. This brings me to a conversation with several members of the association about the whereabouts of a paper trail concerning ownership of these stones. Advice conveyed to me was don't claim ownership. I'm sure that there should be further discussion on this matter.

On February 26th I connected with Luci DeLorenzo from Clean Restroom Rentals. Discussed plans for a portable toilet at the War Office after we have the Geo-grid driveway installed to accommodate delivery and service.

February 27th met with Joe Patterson from Mason's Touch requesting an estimate to repair the fieldstone entry walkway and the driveway. Since then the estimate has been received.

We applied for a grant with the Society of Cincinnati to assist the 250th Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee, mainly for the First Connecticut Council of Safety Meeting in 2025. We were awarded $1,500. 0n March 11th.

On March 5th I met with officials from the Town of Lebanon and presented our ideas for improvements at the War Office. They were very receptive and

suggested that an application be submitted to the Design Review Board. I will attempt to accomplish that this week.

Maybe some of you don't know that we have a lease agreement with St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in East Haddam which requires them to mow our property. They are not obligated to do the trimming, which means that I have taken on that responsibility. I have now contacted a person that lives in the vicinity that is a member of the East Haddam Garden Club and is willing to take on that chore.

The New London Day ran a frontpage article on Sunday, March 17th, "The Nathan Hale Schoolhouse: A travelogue". Story by John Ruddy, graphics by Scott Ritter. They both did an excellent job with the facts about the six moves over the years. I made contact, with John and he set it up in PDF for me to share. He also found photos of the schoolhouse when it was under the Goldstar Bridge. He made those available for us to purchase, which I have done. Waiting for their arrival. If you would like a copy of the story please contact me.

Our annual Spring cleanup in East Haddam began on Monday, March 25th. Prior to that date, Daniel Natusch, Arborist, from Bartlett Tree Experts and myself conducted our annual examination of the property to plan the extent of the work to be performed. It was decided that the perimeter brush would be cut back, several dead ash trees and fallen trees would be removed with three oaks being pruned and fertilized. Tick control will be done at a later date. Our neighbor behind the school, down the bank, contacted us concerning a dead tulip tree threatening to fall on his garage. I agreed to have it removed. It was taken down yesterday.

Last Saturday, April 13th, the Real Property Committee met at the War Office. All four members were in attendance. The main item on the agenda was the review of the 2024 Budget. It was accepted as written. We are expecting to spend $31,769 with $24,246 of that total coming from the Elijah Manross Memorial Fund. (see Budget Request on line). Several of these items have been taken care of. The flagpole repair at the War Office was fixed on Wednesday, April 17th.

The School Programs will begin on April 26th, Lebanon 3rd grade, War Office; May 29th, Lebanon Middle School, Bike & Hike, War Office; May 31st, East Haddam 3rd grade, Nathan Hale Schoolhouse.

The Docent Schedule will be posted on line soon. Hopefully many will respond and join us in order to keep our Museums open for everyone to enjoy.

There are many items not covered in this report, if anyone would like to discuss anything pertaining to Properties, Please, feel free to contact me.

Respectfully submitted:
David Packard
CTSSAR Real Property Steward