

Subject: Bicentennial Park - Holley Place SAHC Proposed Project Special Permit #2021-0123
From: "Bruce" <bppalmer@verizon.net>
Date: 4/7/2021, 12:28 PM
To: "Abby Conroy" <aconroy@salisburyct.us>

April 7, 2021

Hello Abby,

I am attaching some scanned pages of 1976 Salisbury Bicentennial Guide and would like this email and attachments included in the public record.

The specific issues I am bringing are:

1. SAHC and the Town of Salisbury address what will happen to
 - a. Time capsule
 - b. The items embedded into the wall – see pics
 - c. The trees existing in the park – perhaps they could be transplanted – shame to just cu them down
2. It would be nice to have a dedicated area at Holley Place for the time capsule, trees, plaques to be saved – perhaps this is all in the works
3. Bill Barnett's letter (see pg 4 of TOS_BicentennialPark.pdf) is an important document for this application and maybe preserved at Holley Place some how?

Just so you know, I did contact both Tom Callahan and Lou Bucceri with the hope one or both would help address the above.

The preservation of history is important!

Thanks

Bruce

Bruce Palmer

RECEIVED

APR 7 2021

LAND USE OFFICE
Salisbury, CT

—TOS_BicentennialPark_pic4.jpg—

ORIGINAL



TOS_BicentennialPark_pic3.jpg

LAND USE OFFICE
Salem, CT

ORIGINAL



TOS_BicentennialPark_pic2.jpg



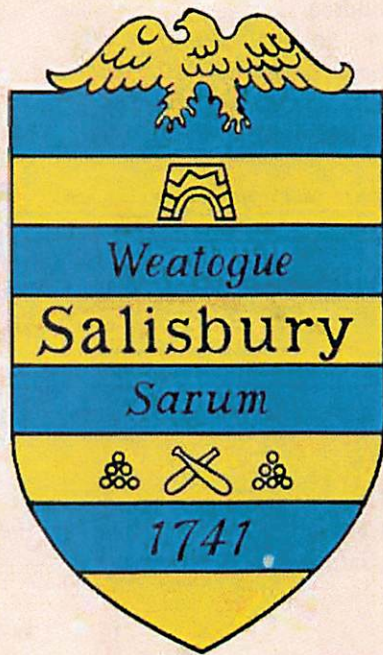
—TOS_BicentennialPark_pic1.jpg—



Attachments:

TOS_BicentennialPark_pic4.jpg	4.5 MB
TOS_BicentennialPark_pic3.jpg	4.5 MB
TOS_BicentennialPark_pic2.jpg	4.3 MB
TOS_BicentennialPark_pic1.jpg	3.8 MB
Salisbury_Bicentennial_Book.pdf	315 KB

SALISBURY BICENTENNIAL




CELEBRATION


MAY 31

JULY 4

1976



INDEPENDENCE DAY



JULY 4

2:30 p.m. Dedication of Bicentennial Park, Lakeville (Route 44 and Holley Street) and the placing of a time capsule to be opened on July 4, 2076.

3 p.m. Town Picnic at the Town Grove. All citizens of the town are invited to spend the afternoon and evening at the Grove bringing their picnic suppers. Cold drinks will be on sale. All of the facilities of the Grove will be available and a recreational program supervised by Art Wilkinson, Recreation Director, will include free use of rowboats for one hour per party, free fire engine rides for children; also the following athletic events:

Family relay swimming races for teams of mothers, fathers and children.

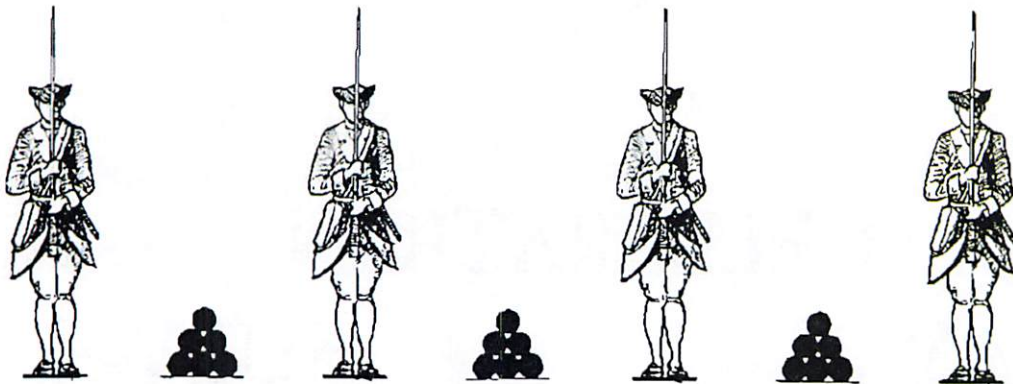
Final swimming event in the Junior Olympics Physical Fitness Program. Also Junior Olympics Physical Fitness awards. Cross country race which will start and finish at the Grove.

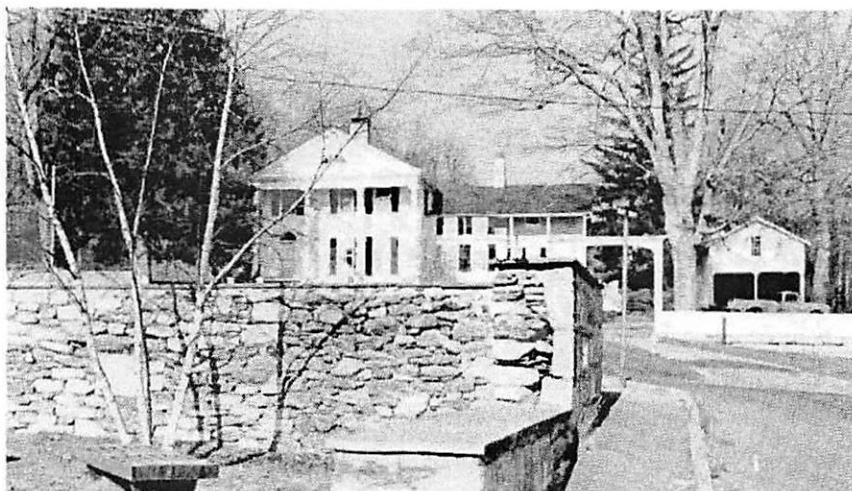
Three legged races, potatoe races and other competitive events.

All prospective competitors in any of the above events should get in touch with Art Wilkinson at 435-9282 for detailed information.

5 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Country Dancing open to all at Pocket Knife Square Music by Fennig's All-Stars, Andy Spence, caller; Bill Spence, hammered dulcimer; Toby Fink, piano; George Wilson, fiddle and banjo.

Fife and Drum Corps parade will lead dancers and spectators back to the Grove for the Closing Ceremony of the Bicentennial Celebration with an address by the First Selectwoman, Charlotte Reid, and the setting off of a large set-piece of fireworks.





Photographs by Mary Lou Estabrook

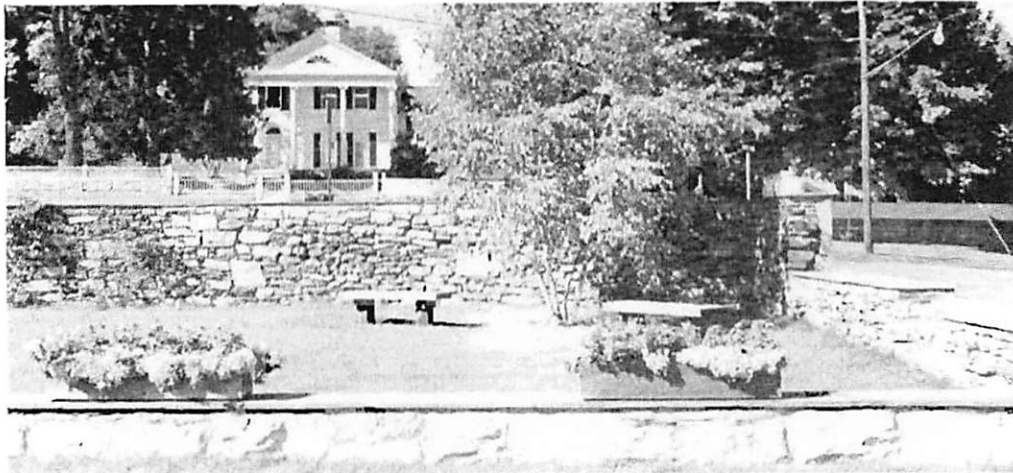
THE HOLLEY-WILLIAMS HOUSE

By Faith Campbell and Lawson A. Carter

The Holley-Williams House in Lakeville, on Route 44 across from Holley Street, was given to the Salisbury Association in 1971. It was first opened to the public in July 1972 as an Historic House for collections of furnishings and memorabilia relating to the Salisbury area.

The house gets its name from two families. The man who built it was John Milton Holley (1777-1836). In 1808 he acquired ownership of the property and added a large wing to a pre-Revolutionary dwelling on the site, transforming the whole into an outstanding example of Greek Revival architecture. J. M. Holley's first wife was Sally Porter (1777-1816), daughter of Salisbury's famous Dr. Joshua Porter, who was superintendent of the Salisbury Furnace at Lakeville (then Furnace Village) during the early years of the Revolutionary War, and a colonel of a Connecticut regiment that saw action at Saratoga. One of the sons of John M. and Sally Porter Holley brought up in this fine house was Alexander Hamilton Holley, who was later to become a governor of Connecticut. The second wife of J. M. Holley was Mary Ann Cogswell (1792-1876). Their daughter Maria Holley married Edwin Brewster Williams of Stockbridge, Massachusetts. She inherited the house and their descendants continued to live there. The last was Margaret Holley Williams, great-granddaughter of John Milton Holley. When she died in 1971, at the age of eighty-nine, she left it to the Salisbury Association subject to a life tenancy in favor of her younger cousin and god-child, Lucy Holley Drummond, who generously relinquished her claim giving immediate possession to the Salisbury Association.

The Holley family has played an important part in Salisbury history from the year 1774, when Luther Holley (1751-1826) moved here from nearby Sharon. He went into the mercantile business "at the Furnace." In 1810, with two partners, he purchased the old Revolutionary War furnace and forge on Mt. Riga, famous for materials for cannon and shot. There they built a blast furnace that manufactured pig iron, reviving Salisbury's iron industry, which had gone into decline after the war.



Photograph by Mary Lou Estabrook

SALISBURY'S BICENTENNIAL PARK

By William Bartle Barnett

It is appropriate that we should dedicate on this July 4th, 1976 a Bicentennial Park located in such an historic section as the Colonial Erhan Allen Furnace area, the Furnace Village center where it may be viewed from the Holley-Williams House.

The Holley Block Building, built in 1883, the foundation of which is now the attractive boundary of the park, was in its heyday an important business landmark for well over a generation.

On the first floor of this three story wooden building were housed some of the leading business establishments of the village. Facing Main Street, in my time, there was a drug store, a rather large grocery and dry goods store and the United States Post Office. The second floor provided living apartments in the front. The rear consisted of "Union Hall" with kitchen facilities. The hall was used as a meeting place for the G.A.R. (Grand Army Of The Republic). Military relics of the Civil War were displayed and the walls were covered with pictures of the conflict and of important Union soldiers. The public could and did rent the facilities for meetings, social parties and dances. The third floor was exclusively occupied by Montgomery Lodge No. 13, Free and Accepted Masons, whose original charter was signed by Paul Revere and Hematite Chapter No. 43, Royal Arch Masons.

The original commercial building on this location was moved off its foundation, westerly, to a new location to make room for the construction of the new Holley Block and is now occupied by a barber shop and a beauty parlor.

The Holley Block structure deteriorated in its last few years until it became obsolescent, uninhabited, a definite fire and physical safety hazard in the village.

It was at this time in 1967 that a family, long interested in the beautification of the town, made possible by a financial contribution the removal of the building and the creation of the attractive space now to be named Bicentennial Park.

It was with mixed emotions that I, as first selectman of a quarter century, supervised the demolition of this proud monument of a passed era but was pleased to see the fine end result designed by S. Norton Miner and was gratified at the thought of how much this garden-like improvement will add to the life of the town.