

# OHC On-line Collection

Building an On-line Collection of the Old Houses  
collection at the Mansfield Historical Society

“The Mansfield Historical Society, founded in 1957, preserves and interprets over 300 years of Mansfield history through exhibits, programs, research and publications.”

- The goal of the Old Houses Committee is to make materials relating to the historic houses of Mansfield available to the Citizen Scholar through the World Wide Web.
  - Capturing historical data (e.g. scanning photos)
  - Describing information
  - Delivering content in a simple, straight-forward manner.

## Bringing the Mansfield Historical Society's collection to the Citizen Scholar's desk.

- The MHS hours, space and resources are limited.
- The collections, in digital format, must be accessible through a variety of browsers and through a variety of connections; such as dial-up, high-speed DSL, school and library computers.
- The volunteer labor to organize, process, scan and describe the collection require that the work-flow process must be straight-forward, standardized, thoroughly documented and easily teachable (up to the point of scanning/cataloging perhaps) to MHS volunteers.

# A Draft Checklist/Wishlist for the Citizen Scholar.

## Specific Information:

- 1. Description
- 2. Surveys
  - 1. Historic American Building Survey Inventory (1966)
  - 2. Historic Resources Survey (1978)
  - 3. UConn Property Inventory (1978)
- 3. Photo Gallery
- 4. Maps
  - 1. Cummings
  - 2. 1934 aerial survey
  - 3. Schematic drawing
- 5. Current Photograph of House
  - 1. Interior
  - 2. Exterior

# A Draft Checklist/Wishlist for the Citizen Scholar.

## **General Information** (if and when available):

- 1. Genealogy Documents of Original Householder
  - 1. Published works
  - 2. Ask George
- 2. Title Documents
  - 1. Ask Roberta
  - 2. Perform Title Search
- 3. Census Schedule for Decennial Censuses
  - 1. Microfilm @ UConn Library
  - 2. Ancestry.com @ Mansfield Library
- 4. Current owner's story

# Cost Analysis

- Use Roots Web Server for free. Simple HTML
- Use simple scanning technology with available software on volunteer's personal scanners. (\$55 Canon LIDE 100)
- Use Freeware or OpenSource software, viz.:
  - GIMP Image processor
  - EZ Thumbnail
  - FileRenamer
  - MarcEDIT
  - Xenu

## Next Steps of **Actions** and Emerging Issues

- Access to collections to scan OHC Folders
- Access to various MHS collections to broaden Houses metaphor (viz. from Photograph Collection, manuscript collections, etc. ***as they relate to the house.***)
- Error checking or Proof-reading.

## Next Steps of Actions and **Emerging Issues**

- Archiving master files.
- Assuring copyrights.
- Managing continuity...
  - Of paper collection
  - Of digital collection
  - Of History



# Work flow - Capture

1. Organize specific folder
2. Scan material
  1. Photos (Color or B&W) at 300 dpi as JPG
  2. Text, typed, written, printed(OCR setting) at 300 dpi as JPG and then PDF
  3. Maps (Color) at 300 dpi as JPG
3. Name files using established logic.
4. Generate *distribution* and *thumbnail* images

# Work flow - Describe

1. Describe with MarcEDIT, save as .mrk

# Work flow - Deliver

1. Using established template, create HTML file
2. Copy to RW server
3. Let George know so he can link to Main Page.

# Roles

- Steward – George is responsible for the RootsWeb liaison, main page and general stewardship of the site.
- Project Manager – Patrick is responsible for general project flow.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ctmanshs/>

Mansfield CT Historical Society, Old Houses Committee - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ctmanshs/ gif.compuserve


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*Mansfield Historical Society*



Old Houses Committee

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[Table Description](#)

**Old Houses Table**

| Address or Name                                    | Style    | Date    | Directory View                 |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------|---------|--------------------------------|
| <a href="#">86 Forest Rd</a>                       | Colonial | 1828    | <a href="#">Directory view</a> |
| <a href="#">Hall, Joseph House (614 Storrs Rd)</a> | Colonial | ca 1694 | <a href="#">Directory view</a> |
| <a href="#">Ravine Rd Locale</a>                   | Locale   |         | <a href="#">Directory view</a> |
| 134 Spring Hill Rd                                 | Colonial | ca 1768 |                                |
| <a href="#">Starkweather House (86 Forest Rd)</a>  | Colonial | 1828    | <a href="#">Directory view</a> |
| <a href="#">614 Storrs Rd</a>                      | Colonial | ca 1694 | <a href="#">Directory view</a> |

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