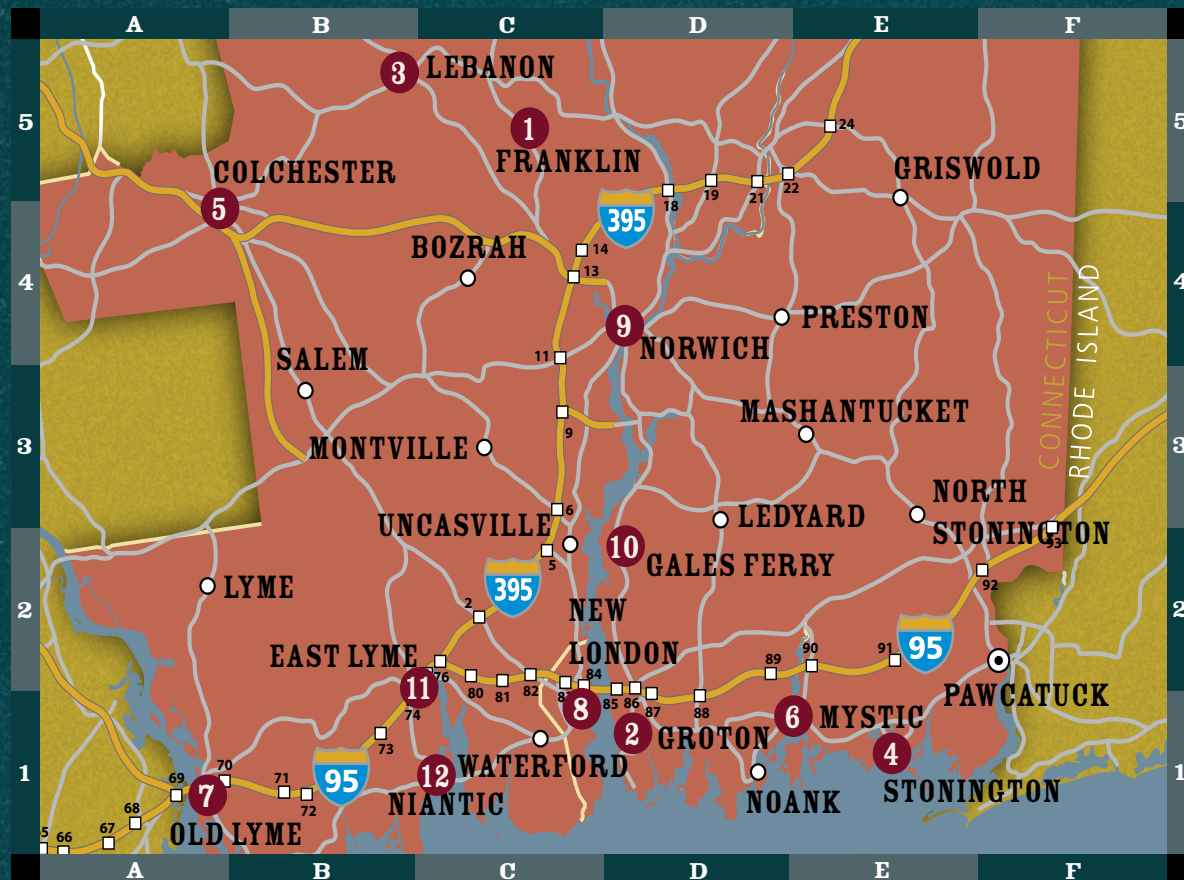


# Historic House MUSEUMS

OF SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT

- How We Lived Then -



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <b>FRANKLIN</b> .....C-5<br>Ashbel Woodward House Museum                                 | 7. <b>OLD LYME</b> .....A-1<br>Florence Griswold Museum                   |
| 2. <b>GROTON</b> .....D-1<br>Avery- Copp House<br>Ebenezer Avery House<br>Jabez Smith House | 8. <b>NEW LONDON</b> .....C-1<br>Hempsted Houses<br>Shaw Mansion          |
| 3. <b>LEBANON</b> .....B-5<br>Beaumont House  | 9. <b>NORWICH</b> .....D-4<br>Leffingwell House                           |
| 4. <b>STONINGTON</b> .....E-1<br>Capt. Nathaniel Palmer House                               | 10. <b>GALES FERRY</b> .....D-2<br>Nathan Lester House & Farm Tool Museum |
| 5. <b>COLCHESTER</b> .....A-4<br>Colchester History Museum                                  | 11. <b>EAST LYME</b> .....C-1<br>Samuel Smith House                       |
| 6. <b>MYSTIC</b> .....E-1<br>Denison Homestead  | 12. <b>NIANTIC</b> .....C-1<br>Smith-Harris House<br>Thomas Lee House     |



MAP #1



## ASHBEL WOODWARD HOUSE MUSEUM c. 1835

387 Route 32, Franklin, CT 06254  
860-642-1988

Open: May-October, 1st Saturday of the month, 11am-3pm

This 19th century home features a look into a country doctor's home, Franklin's historical collections and genealogy library. Living history events are held in the spring and fall.

[sites.google.com/site/ashbelwoodwardmuseum](https://sites.google.com/site/ashbelwoodwardmuseum)



MAP #3



## BEAUMONT HOUSE c.1790

844 Trumbull Highway, Lebanon, CT 06249  
860-642-6579

Open: Mid-May – Mid-October & by appointment.

Call for current hours.

1 & 1/2-story farm house. Home of Samuel and Lucretia Beaumont and the childhood home of Dr. William Beaumont, considered the “father of gastric physiology.” Interpreted as the home of a farmer/craftsman, and his wife and nine children in the early 1800s. [historyoflebanon.org](http://historyoflebanon.org)



MAP #5



## COLCHESTER HISTORY MUSEUM c.1850

24 Linwood Avenue, Colchester, CT 06415  
860 537-4230

Open: April-December, Saturdays, 1-4pm

Operated by the Colchester Historical Society, the museum offers four exhibit rooms housed in a historic house built in 1840 by the Reverend John Ballard. [colchesterhistory.org](http://colchesterhistory.org)



MAP #2



## AVERY-COPP HOUSE c.1800

154 Thames Street, Groton, CT 06340  
860-445-1637

Open: Memorial Day weekend – Columbus Day weekend.  
Friday-Sunday, 11am-3pm

Built on the banks of the Thames River in Groton, Connecticut, the Avery-Copp House tells the story of life in Groton from just after the Revolutionary War through the early 20th century. Tours, events, teas. [averycopphouse.org](http://averycopphouse.org)



MAP #4



## CAPT. NATHANIEL PALMER HOUSE c.1853

40 Palmer Street, Stonington, CT 06378  
860-535-8445

Open: May-October, Wed-Sun, 1-5pm. Tours on the hour.

Victorian mansion built by two brothers, Captains Nathaniel Brown Palmer and Alexander Smith Palmer, and featuring exhibits pertaining to Nathaniel's discovery of Antarctica and the brothers' adventurous lives. [stoningtonhistory.org](http://stoningtonhistory.org)



MAP #6



## DENISON HOMESTEAD c.1717

120 Pequotsepos Road, Mystic, CT 06344  
860-536-9248

Open: June-October (Fri., Sat., & Mon.) 12-4pm & by appt.

Home to generations of Denisons, this historic manor house is situated on land granted to Capt. George Denison in 1654. Restored in 1946 and converted into a museum, the house features five distinctly furnished rooms that reflect different periods of American history. [denisonhomestead.org](http://denisonhomestead.org)





MAP # 2



## EBENEZER AVERY HOUSE c.1750

47 Fort Street, Groton, CT 06340  
860-446-9257

Open: Memorial Day to Labor Day  
Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, 12-4pm & by appointment

This 18th-century house is where wounded soldiers were taken after the Battle of Groton Heights on September 6, 1781. It was moved one block away to its present location in Fort Griswold State park in 1971. [averymemorialassociation.com](http://averymemorialassociation.com)



MAP # 7



## FLORENCE GRISWOLD HOUSE c.1817

Florence Griswold Museum  
96 Lyme St, Old Lyme, CT 06371  
(860) 434-5542

Open: Year-round. Tues-Sat, 10am-5pm & Sunday, 1-5pm

Known as the Home of American Impressionism, the Museum shares the story of an enterprising woman of the early 1900s and the artists who captured on canvas Connecticut's rural landscape while summering at her boardinghouse.

[florencegriswoldmuseum.org](http://florencegriswoldmuseum.org)



MAP #8



## HEMPSTED HOUSES c.1678 & 1759

11 Hempstead Street, New London, CT 06320

860-443-7949

Open: May-October, Saturday & Sunday, 1-4pm

This landmark property tells the story of three great populations whose paths collided in early New London: the Native American, the Europeans who arrived in the 1600s, and the enslaved Africans who were brought here about the same time. [ctlandmarks.org](http://ctlandmarks.org)



MAP # 2



## JABEZ SMITH HOUSE c.1783

259 North Road (Route 117), Groton, CT 06340

860-445-6689

Open: April-November, Sat & Sun 1-5pm & by appointment

An excellent example of 18th-century domestic architecture, this one and one-half story house has remained virtually unchanged since it was built by Jabez Smith. Authentic 18th- and 19th-century antiques and gardens are on display.

[groton-ct.gov/about/jabezsmith.asp](http://groton-ct.gov/about/jabezsmith.asp)

MAP # 9



## LEFFINGWELL HOUSE MUSEUM c.1675

348 Washington Street, Norwich, CT 06360

860-889-9440

Open: April-Oct, Saturdays, 11am-4pm & by appointment

What was built as a simple house in 1675, evolved from a pre-Revolutionary tavern into an elegant home by 1765. The house is filled with a fascinating assortment of pieces representative of its architectural evolution. [leffingwellhousemuseum.org](http://leffingwellhousemuseum.org)



MAP # 10



## NATHAN LESTER HOUSE & FARM TOOL MUSEUM c.1793

153 Vinegar Hill Road, Gales Ferry, CT 06335

860-464-2040

Open: Memorial Day - Labor Day, Tue & Thurs 2-4pm, Sat, Sun, Holiday Mondays & July 4, 1-4:30pm

Step back 200 years into an original colonial farm set on 100 acres. The park offers gardens, picnic areas and hiking trails open dawn to dusk. [ledyardhistory.org](http://ledyardhistory.org)





MAP # 11



## SAMUEL SMITH HOUSE c.1700

82 Plants Dam Road, East Lyme, CT 06333

860-739-2732

Seasonal by Appointment

An outstanding example of a simple colonial-era farmhouse. The house is unique in that it has been lovingly maintained and restored with accuracy to its beginning in 1685.

[samuelsmithhouse.org](http://samuelsmithhouse.org) & [eltownhall.com](http://eltownhall.com)

MAP # 8



## SHAW MANSION c.1756

11 Blinman Street, New London, CT 06320

860-443-1209

Open: May-July, Wed-Sat, 1-4pm

August-April, Wed-Fri. Research by appointment only.

Granite mansion built by Captain Nathaniel Shaw. One of the few structures near the harbor to survive Benedict Arnold's burning of New London. [nlhistory.org](http://nlhistory.org)

MAP # 12



## SMITH-HARRIS HOUSE c.1845

33 Society Road, Niantic, CT 06357

860-739-0761

Open: June- August, Friday-Sunday, 12 pm - 4 pm, or by appointment. Closed July 4th Weekend.

On the National Historic Register as the Thomas Avery House, this fully-restored Greek Revival farmhouse features mid-19th century life and later through the story of the Avery, Smith and Harris families. [smithharris.org](http://smithharris.org)

MAP # 12



## THOMAS LEE HOUSE c.1660

226 West Main St, Niantic CT 06357

860-739-6070

Open: July & Aug., Wed-Sun, 1-4pm & by appointment

It is one of the oldest wood frame houses in Connecticut and still in its primitive state. Barn displays of Nehantic Indians and Ezra Lee, pilot of Revolutionary War Submarine Turtle. [eastlymehistoricalsociety.org](http://eastlymehistoricalsociety.org)

# CONNECT TO CONNECTICUT HISTORY.

Visit the 16 historic house museums in the southeastern corner of the state. Experience stories that will take you from the agricultural beginnings of Colonial Connecticut through the development of communities, the American Revolution, the Civil War, and the transformative effects of industrialization. These houses with 16 unique stories showcase the history of Connecticut...

*Still Revolutionary.*

ON THE COVER: Florence Griswold Museum, Old Lyme. Photo credit: Joe Standart.

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