

## Our museum building has a history all its own

The Unionville Museum's building is also known as the former Unionville West End Library. It is one of 1,689 public libraries built across the nation in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, funded by prominent Scottish-American industrialist Andrew Carnegie.

Carnegie initiated a construction grant program in 1892 which, after 1911, was administered by his Carnegie Corporation. The Unionville Museum is one of the best preserved buildings of the eleven remaining Carnegie libraries in Connecticut.

The single-story library building was constructed in 1917 with a Carnegie grant of \$8,500. Architect Edward L. Tilton was a nationally renowned practitioner of library design and affiliated with a top, prestigious firm, McKim, Meade and White of NYC.

The single-room interior retains almost all of its historic features including wall and ceiling plaster and varnished oak trim. The original brick fireplace centered on the rear wall opposite the front door has a marble bas-relief panel showing a classically themed "Triumph" set in the brick above a simple oak mantle.

The building is architecturally significant as a well-preserved, diminutive example of the Renaissance Revival style typically used in the design of many village libraries across the nation at the time.

The museum building is part of the Unionville Historic District and listed on both the National and Connecticut State Register of Historic Places.

# Help Us Build For The Future...

## Please support our first fundraising campaign to expand our building.



## The planned addition to the Unionville Museum will feature much needed enhancements

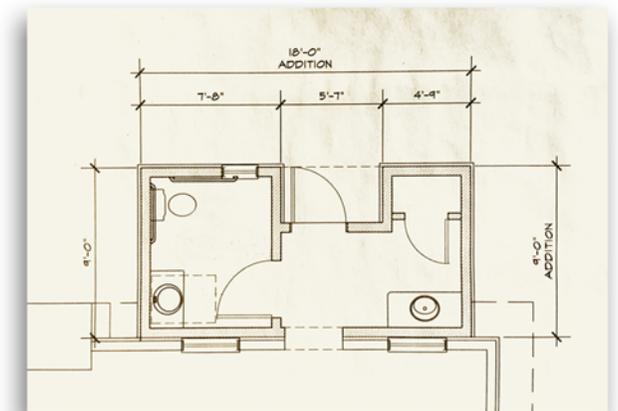
After more than 100 years, the Unionville Museum's building at 15 School Street will be getting a needed addition to better enhance the visitor experience. The project includes adding a handicapped accessible bathroom, galley kitchen, and small storage area off the back door.

Members of the Unionville Museum Board of Directors have been working on this project since 2018 with Town of Farmington administrators, local architects, and members of the Unionville Historic District and Properties Commission. The construction plans were prepared pro bono by Kemper Associates Architects of Farmington, CT.

The addition will not be visible from the front of the building to keep within historic guidelines and to preserve its classic architectural details.

The campaign committee is made up of museum volunteers who plan to cultivate and solicit donations from individuals, businesses, and non-profits.

Funding for the project will be a combination of designated town funds, matching grants, and donations from a museum capital campaign.



FLOOR PLAN OF NEW ADDITION

## Donate Today!

[www.unionvillemuseum.org](http://www.unionvillemuseum.org)  
Questions? 860-673-2231

**2019** Museum construction plans approved, fundraising campaign begins

**The Unionville Museum**  
15 SCHOOL STREET, UNIONVILLE CT

**HISTORICAL TIMELINE**

**1917** Construction completed  
Carnegie Library - Cost \$8,500

## Our Museum

The Unionville Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization housed in a historic Carnegie Library building at 15 School Street in downtown Unionville, CT. Founded in 1984, its collection of over 10,000 photographs and historical items are stored in three area locations.

The museum's mission is to foster an appreciation of the history, culture and traditions of our community, by collecting and preserving artifacts from history and using them to interpret and present Unionville's story.

Throughout the last 36 years, the museum has presented over 80 special exhibitions including Unionville in WWI, wedding gowns, local mills, Flood of '55, Suburban Park, and Farmington High School Basketball Champions.

It has also hosted and co-sponsored many special events and presentations including the history of Hitchcock Chairs, the rededication of the Civil War Monument, Unionville Trolley Day, and the annual Jingle Bell Jubilee.

The Unionville Museum has partnered on exhibitions with Farmington Historical Society, Farmington Library, Tunxis Hose Fire Company, Farmington Public Schools, Unionville Free Masons, Stanley Witman House, and local Boy and Girl Scout Troops.

The Museum is supported by the Town of Farmington, and a wide range of individuals, businesses and civic organizations. It relies on membership dues, donations, bequests, grants, and fundraisers for growing and supporting its endowment.

## Our Needs

In order to improve the visitor experience and position itself for the future, the Unionville Museum is holding its first ever capital campaign to help raise funds for an upcoming building addition and new audio-visual equipment.

**A new addition will be constructed just off the existing back entrance and will feature a new handicapped accessible bathroom, galley kitchen and storage area. This will allow the museum to better serve its guests of all ages and host more comfortable and unique gatherings.**

**A sound system, podium, exhibition television, computer with archiving software, and audio-visual equipment are needed to modernize our exhibition, research, and special event capabilities.**

## Our Campaign Goal

The total cost of the construction project is **\$75,000**. **\$25,000** has been appropriated by the Town of Farmington and another **\$25,000** is expected from grants and other support. The Unionville Museum is seeking to raise the remaining **\$25,000** needed for the construction and an additional **\$5,000** for museum upgrades, for a total of **\$30,000**.



## Why Support Us

Our mission is important to us and the people we serve in the Farmington Valley. When you help us, it means you're helping to maintain our heritage by preserving the past and recording the present for future generations. We're a good investment to your community because we:

- Offer assistance to students and residents researching family ancestry
- Educate and display the work and art of local students
- Provide enjoyable annual events and exhibits for the whole family
- Honor and record the achievements of local veterans, leaders, and individuals
- Support and promote economic development and new business
- Present Unionville themed exhibits featuring the museums collection

We are proud of our fiscal responsibility, building maintenance, annual fundraising efforts, and quality cultural programs. We need your support, and hope you will consider a tax-deductible contribution to our campaign to help us continue to make our town a great place to live, work and play.

## YES!

I would like to help fund the new addition and exhibition needs of the Unionville Museum.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY  ST  ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

Please make my donation anonymous.

\$5,000       \$250

\$2,500       \$100

\$1,000       \$50

\$500       \$25      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER

Your generous support will help us reach our goal of \$30,000.

If you prefer to make an online donation, visit [www.unionvillemuseum.org](http://www.unionvillemuseum.org)  
All major credit cards are accepted.

All gifts are tax-deductible as provided by law.

Please make your checks payable to:



**THE UNIONVILLE MUSEUM**

15 School Street, Unionville, CT 06085

Thank You.

**1984** Museum opens with first exhibit on Women's Suffrage

**1993** Museum presents Tunxis Hose Fire Company 100th Anniversary Exhibit

**1999** Museum building placed on the National Register of Historic Places

**2012** Museum acquires a Pike purchased by abolitionist John Brown