

June 2005 NewsLetter

Old Put Comes Home To A New Location

On June 2nd, Old Put came back to the park. The Mariano Bros. Riggers trucked in a fully cleaned and polished statue, which had been completely refurbished over the winter. The huge crane lifted Old Put off the truck and swung him around to be mounted on a new base near the new visitor center.



The statue being hoisted off the truck. Padding was wrapped around the statue to protect it from the straps.



"Back in the saddle again!"



The crane swinging the statue toward the new base.



A half dozen brass rods will anchor the statue to the base. Epoxy is being forced into the anchor holes to cement the rods. Then the statue will be lowered onto the base.



The statue and the descriptive plaque are now in place at the new location. Park Supervisor, Nathan Hale checks the alignments.



Hauling in the statue, erecting it with the huge crane, leveling off the top of the base to make a perfect seal, and filling the anchor holes with epoxy took about four hours. To watch the crane operator move the multi-ton statue in different directions an inch at a time was truly amazing. You can now see the new location of Anna Hyatt's sculpture, *Putnam's Escape at Horseneck*, with respect to the pavilion.

June FAN's Meeting

The June meeting of the Friends group was held on Monday, June 13th at the Redding Town Hall.

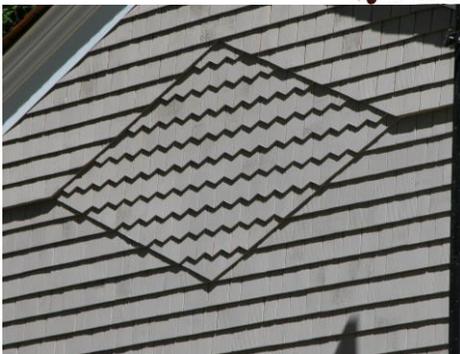


Discussions held included:

1. President Herman was away for this month's meeting.
2. Nancy Cowles presented the schedule for the Summer Craftsmen program. The program will run for 8 weekends at the park beginning July 9th and will end on the August 27/28th weekend. Reenactors and craftsmen have been placed on the agenda for each of the eight weekends. (See back page.)
3. Update of the 1893 Pavilion project.
4. Discussed the contents of the Clough Harbor Study finding which was sent out by the Friends of Connecticut State Parks. The independent study says the CT State Parks are underfunded, understaffed, undersupplied. CT is ranked 47th in the country for funding as a percentage of total state budget.
5. Representatives from the 5th CT Regiment presented preliminary ideas of their organization participating in future events at Putnam Park; also, the topic of possibly constructing a replica of a soldiers hut for educational purposes. We will continue dialog with the 5CT.



Head Hammer



This intricate pattern in the shingle application replicates the east and west gables of the original pavilion.



Tim St. Amand applies the intricate design cut outs in the shingles.

Top gun in the carpentry department on the Kronenberger team is Tim

St.Amand. One can hear Tim's colorful diatribe of instructions to his crew from quite a distance from the work area. Tim would make a great drill sergeant during one of the Living History reenactments in the park. Tim is a perfectionist on the job, and the reconstructed pavilion is testament to his skills.

Pavilion In Final Stretch

The new coat of gray stain on the exterior walls, this past week, was a surprise to everyone passing by.

The wooden flooring is just being finished up. The only unfinished job on the main floor is the installation of custom made iron railings for the stairways. The center half-moon rear window has not been installed yet to permit an entryway for the new railings when they arrive next month.

The dark green window frames give the visual impression that the half-moon windows are still “open”; as they were on the original 1893 Pavilion.



The exterior of pavilion is pretty much completed. A gray stain has been applied to the walls. Note the massive new flag pole in the foreground. The pole is awaiting a crane to lift it into place.



One of the obvious major construction differences in the new building vs. the original is the installation of windows/door in what was open space.



The landscaping portion of the project was set back behind schedule way last fall due to the wetlands permit being held up. The driveways, entrance, parking lots and walkways are roughed- out. Light poles, flag pole and finished walks and roads are still to be done. July is a tough month to seed a lawn.



The overhead space in the new visitor center is a display of color. The shiny metal ducts are now a dark green. The bar lights are a Chinese red.

Park crew cleaning out the reflecting pool behind the pavilion.



Next Meeting

The next FAN's Meeting will be on **Monday Evening July 11th** at the Redding Town Hall. The meeting will start at **7:00pm**. Please come and join with us in the planning of events and projects at Putnam Park.

**Over for Summer
Craftsmen Program**



Putnam Park Summer

Craftsmen Program



Blacksmith

Colonial Crafts demonstrations



Military Camp Life



Army Surgeon

Saturdays & Sundays 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

July 9/10 - Army Surgeon

July 16/17 - Tinsmith

July 23/24 - Apothecary

July 30/31 - Potter/ Weaver



Aug. 6/7 - TBA

Aug. 13/14 - Whitesmith

Aug. 20/21 - Potter/Weaver

Aug. 27/28 - Blacksmith



Apothecary



Whitesmith

