

Welcome to the
**Stratford
Historic
District**

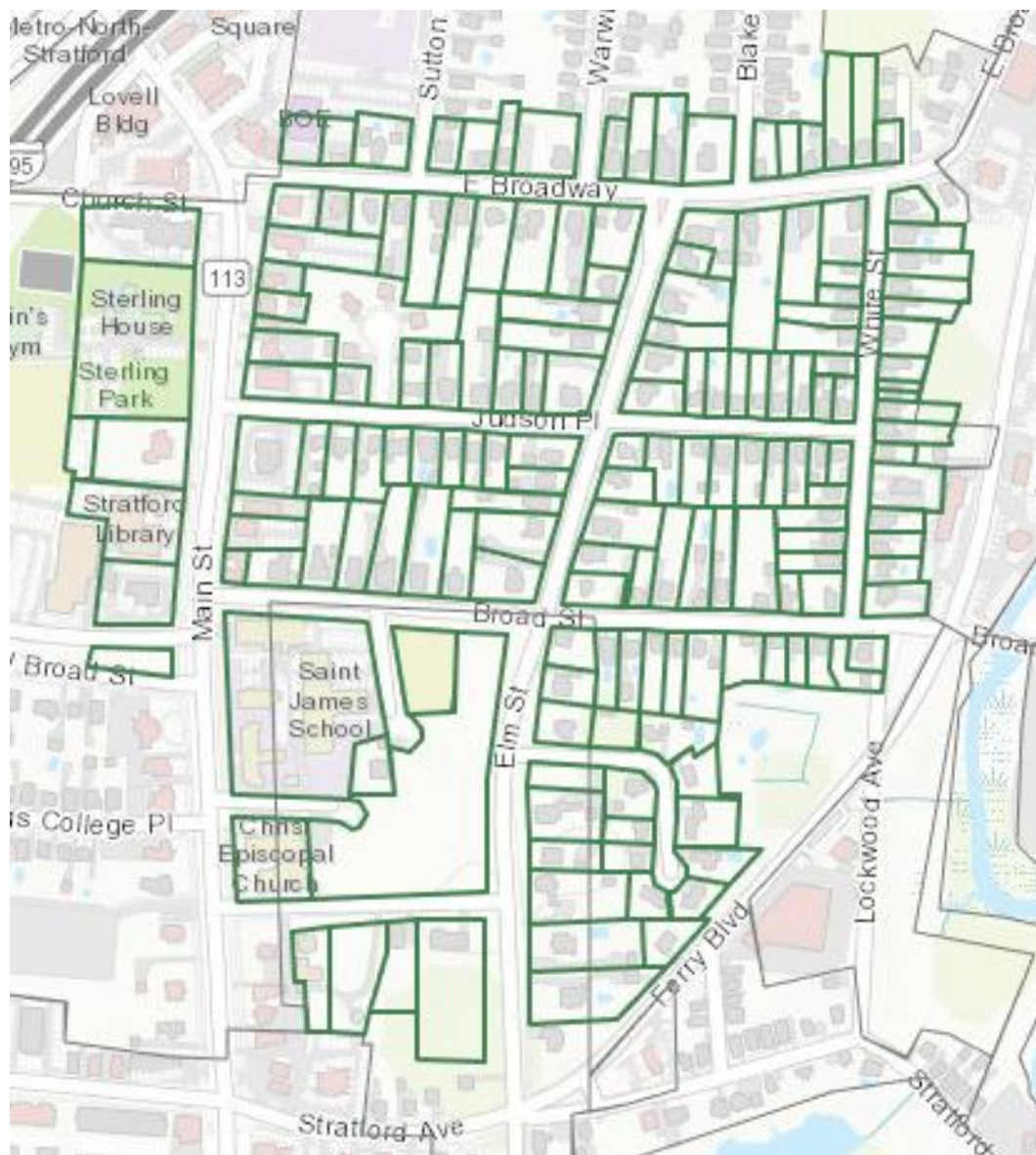
established 1988



Stratford's historic district was established in 1988, and expanded in 1996, to promote the educational, cultural, economic, and general welfare of the public through the preservation and protection of the distinct characteristics of buildings and places.

The district is listed on the National Historic Registry and contains properties from the 17th century to the present day with equally diverse historical architecture spanning Federal, Italianate, Gothic, Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, and Greek Revival styles.

Beyond the homes themselves, there are notable historical figures buried in the Episcopal cemetery including William Samuel Johnson, signer of the US Constitution, his father Samuel Johnson, first president of Kings College (now Columbia University), as well as many veterans of the War for American Independence and members of Stratford's earliest families.



What to Know

All properties located in the Stratford Historic District, regardless of their age, are subject to the same regulations and review process.

Any new construction, demolition, or removal of, or addition to, or alteration of any of the following, if in public view require a Certificate of Appropriateness issued by the Stratford Historic District Commission and subject to review and a public hearing. This list is not limited to but includes:

- All Principal Buildings
- Garages & sheds
- Decks, fences, and masonry walls
- Greenhouses and gazebos
- Trellises, pergolas & arbors
- Exterior air conditioning units
- Architectural elements
- Doors & entranceways
- Porches & sunrooms
- Window frames, sash, and muntins
- Storm doors and shutters
- Architectural trim & ornament
- Removal or replacement of siding & roofing
- Exposed foundations
- Chimneys, dormers & skylights
- Replacement or removal of historic gutters
- Solar panels
- Signs

The following activities and related construction items are allowed by right and do **NOT** require application to the Historic District Commission for Certificate of Appropriateness:

- Construction not visible from public view
- Interior alterations
- Routine maintenance and repairs that exactly match existing materials and patterns
- Landscaping
- Residential playground equipment
- Temporary signs, fixtures and structures
- Mail boxes
- Storm windows
- Exterior lighting for 1- & 2-family residences

A more comprehensive handbook outlining the regulations and requirements can be found at:

www.stratfordct.gov/historicdistrict

An online application for a Certificate of Appropriateness can be found at:

www.stratfordct.gov/content/39832/39846/39877/85789.aspx

Benefits of Historic Preservation

- Preservation strengthens neighborhoods
- Conserves both historical and natural resources
- Local districts protect the investments of owners and residents of historic properties
- Properties within local historic districts appreciate at rates greater than the local market overall
- Preservation complements economic development
- Historic districts can positively impact the local economy through tourism
- Property owners could be eligible for state and federal grants and/or tax credits for conservation/restoration

For more information on Stratford history and historic preservation broadly, please visit these valuable resources:

- **Stratford Historical Society:** www.stratfordhistoricalsociety.org
- **Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation:** www.preservationct.org
- **National Trust for Historic Preservation:** www.savingplaces.org