“Celebrating a Proud Past and a Promising Future”

Our Mission
To identify, protect, preserve, restore and educate people of all ages about the Lower Naugatuck Valley’s unique history, culture and heritage as the primary historical group for Derby and Ansonia.

Who We Are
- Founded April 18, 1946
- Incorporated January 20, 1958
- Headquartered at the General David Humphreys House
- Provides assistance to genealogists, historians, students, municipal organizations, the media and the community.

Comments from students attending the programs:

“The best part was the weaving because I did it and it was very fun... Thank you Mistress Washburn for teaching me how to weave.”

“If I become a fifth grade teacher, I’d bring my class there. I will take what I learned into real life with me.”

“I liked the walk, it was a great way to experience history.”

“I hope I can come back again!”
A Visit from 1759 Program

The Derby Historical Society is excited to offer this program to the area’s third grade students. The program gives students the opportunity to glimpse into our region’s past, and see what it was like to attend school in a one-room schoolhouse from an eight-year old’s perspective.

Two costumed Society docents turn back the clock to 1759 with an exciting, interactive unforgettable experience. Children are shown the following:

- Colonial clothing, including materials used to make them
- Schoolhouse responsibilities, such as keeping the fire burning
- Subject taught and school materials used during the colonial period
- What students would have eaten for lunch
- What it was like to be a teacher
- Toys and games, including samples for students to try

This program immerses students into our region’s history and culture helping to preserve and celebrate our proud past.

Sponsorship Program Opportunities

Mailing Address: The Derby Historical Society PO Box 331 Derby CT 06418

1 Student = $20.00
2 Students = $40.00
3 Students = $60.00

Call us about sponsoring a class.

Please review the information below and see how you can help to continue these unique educational programs. Our goal is to have broad community support for our educational programs and allow these hands-on learning experiences to educate and celebrate our past in the Lower Naugatuck Valley.

Sponsorship Program

The Day in 1762 Program

This program serves the children of the Lower Naugatuck Valley and surrounding areas. Our award-winning hands-on “living history” experience is open to fifth grade students. The program takes place at the home of General David Humphreys, our nation’s first ambassador, Revolutionary war hero, industrial pioneer and Valley treasure.

Each participant learns the conditions existing at the Humphreys House and general vicinity in 1762. Children role-play the lives of real children during that time period and participate in weaving, spinning wool and cooking. Our program is staffed by six professional teachers at all times.

The Day in 1762 Program has served over 30,000 fifth grade students over the past twenty-nine years. This school year the anticipated attendance is over 1,300 students.