

**Town of Union, CT**  
**250th Celebration Event**  
**Self-Directed Revolutionary War Driving Tour**  
**July 4<sup>th</sup> – August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

Step back in time and see the Revolutionary War Era Homes that once stood witness to courage, sacrifice, and everyday life during America’s fight for independence. These historic homes offer a tangible connection to the people, events, and ideals that gave rise to a new nation.

Also included are two honored historical homes in Union, the schools of Union through the years, and a noteworthy gravestone that reflects Union’s rich heritage.

Revolutionary War Era Homes Criteria:



Revolutionary War Era Homes of Union, CT



Homes built prior to the Revolutionary War or during the Revolutionary War



Revolutionary War Years: April 19, 1775 – September 2, 1783

**Drive by only, do not access the driveway or any other part of the properties listed in this document.**

**Home 1:**

Address: 510 Buckley Highway

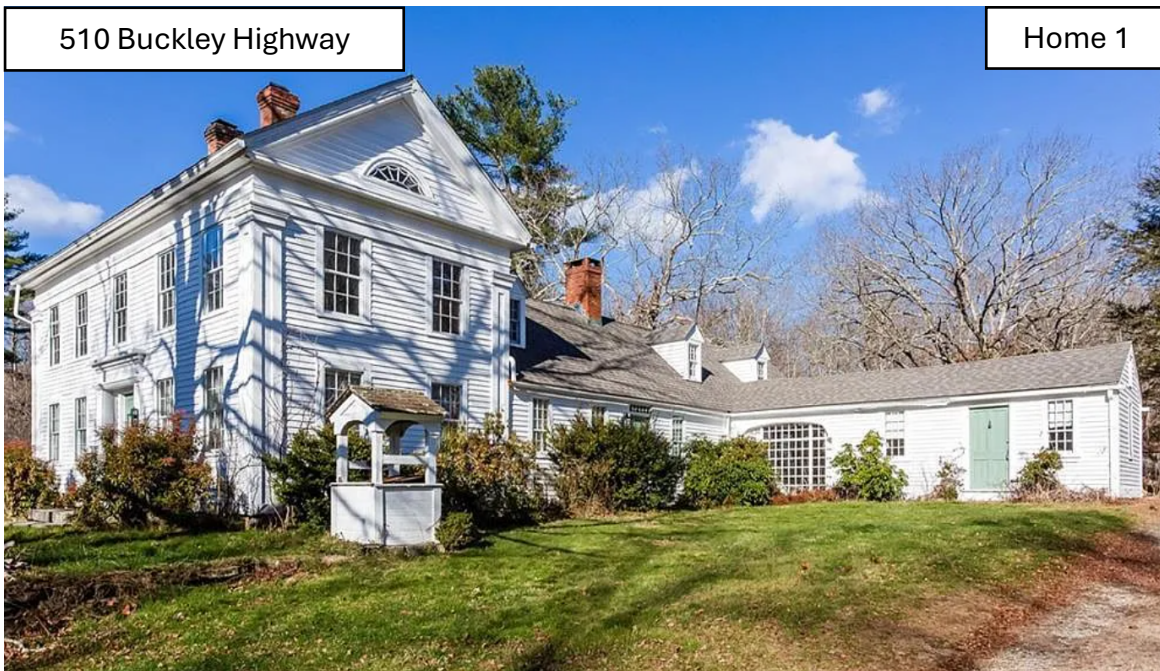
Current Owner: Jason Mission

Dated To: 1750

Tidbits of Information: The last home on the road to Stafford is pictured here. The house was built by Captain Danford Morse. Captain Danford Morse, son of Nathan, married Rebecca Walker on April 1, 1830. They had six children. There was considerable timber on the property. Capt. Morse owned a sawmill across the road. A dam and pond were built to supply power. The home was built in 3 sections with the first part of the home built in 1750. The second part of the home was built in 1845 and then another part was added in 1900.



Early picture of 510 Buckley Hwy.



**Home 2:**

Address: 749 Buckley Highway

Current Owner: Alison Cornell and Nicholas Campolongo

Dated To: 1730

Tidbits of Information: This home was built by Edward Foster around 1730, lived in by Burke Foster, R.F. Towne, then Joel H. Reed and Cora Reed. Joel Reed, II married Lydia E. Willis on October 25, 1872. They had three children: Willis, Alice and Edna. Joel Reed was a descendant of Levi Reed. Levi was the first of the Reed family to settle in Union in 1850, the population was 738 at that time.



Early picture of 749 Buckley Highway



749 Buckley Highway

Home 2

**Home 3:**

Address: 42 Stickney Hill Road

Current Owner: Brian McDuffee

Dated To: 1730

Historical Information: The house was once owned by Ebenezer Fitch who sold it to Nathaniel Walker. Tradition says that Nathaniel Walker was the richest man that came to Union in the first company of settlers. Nathaniel died July 1, 1759, aged 84. The house has changed hands many times; William Foster lived here followed by his son and for many years it was known as the Foster Farm. More recently it was the Sedlak Farm, then purchased by Joseph Vilandre who sold part of it to the Gallisons. The home retains the original cherry floors in a bedroom and in another bedroom there are iron ceiling hooks and original door hinges. In the cellar there are huge foundation stones and also hand-hewn stairs with wooden pegs.



Early picture of 42 Stickney Hill Road



**Home 4:**

Address: 95 Kinney Hollow Road

Current Owner: Julie Hull

Dated To: 1732

Historical Information: This home was built in about 1732 and was occupied by the Fairbanks family, in 1850 by Marvin Howard, in 1931 it was the Yale Forest Headquarters, then owned by Basil Plusnin, who immigrated from Russia. Basil was a colorful member of the town of Union having spent time in the Russian Czar's Army. Basil passed away at 104, his wife at 94.



Early picture of 95 Kinney Hollow Road.



**Home 5:**

Address: 56 Cemetery Road

Current Owner: Lawrence Palmer

Dated To: 1750

Historical Information: Lt. Abner Loomis first lived in this two-story home. Abner was born on April 21, 1729. Abner married Charity Sprague on July 12, 1754, they had five children. Years later the Olin Newell family owned the house. There was a Newell family dispute, and the house was split in half. Olin Newell cut the house in half and did the move, with the top half of the house moved to 56 Cemetery Road and lived in by Zalmon Eaton. The bottom half of the house remained at 74 Cemetery Road but is now gone.



Early picture of house before being split and moved.



**Home 6:**

Address: 1204 Buckley Highway

Current Owner: Ronald Comarella

Dated To: 1730

Historical Information: Originally the James Armour Sr. home. James Armour Sr., a first settler, was a native of Ireland. James was among the early settlers of Union. James married Margaret Anderson, they had eight children. James Armour Jr.'s grave is beside the road, down Rt. 171. Major Smith lived in the home as well.



Early picture of 1204 Buckley Highway



1204 Buckley Highway

Home 6

**Home 7:**

Address: 3 Moore Road

Current Owner: Mabel Whyte

Dated To: 1750

Historical Information: This Greek Revival home was built in 1750 by the Moore Family, prior to Highway 84 going through town. Thomas Moore, Lyman Moore and Lawrence Moore all lived here. In more recent times, Bertha Moore, wife of Lawrence lived here. This home has continuously been occupied by Moore family members.



Early picture of 3 Moore Road.



**Home 8:**

Address: 101 Carion Road  
Current Owner: Arthur and Karen Murdock  
Dated To: 1776

Historical Information: This home was built in 1776, the year the 13 American colonies declared independence. When the early picture below was taken, the home was occupied by Mr. Fayette Crawford. He married a daughter of Joseph McNall, a descendent of the first settler of Union, on April 1, 1848. Fayette’s father, Colonel Samuel Crawford lived here (1779-1858) and was a Selectman and Representative for several terms. Hugh Crawford, great grandfather of Fayette, bought the land from James Enos in 1740. Currently the 3rd generation of Edward and Evelyn Murdock live here.



Early picture of 101 Carion Road



## Honorable Mentions

Two additional homes are noteworthy for inclusion in this document due to their significance to the Town of Union's history. Note that these two homes are circa post Revolutionary War Years of April 19, 1775 – September 2, 1783.

### Honorable Mention 1: Sessions Farmstead

Address: 18 Rindge Road  
Current Owner: Gary & Susan Wirth  
Dated To: 1805  
Historical Information:

The Sessions Farmstead in Union, CT features a circa 1805 Cape Cod style house, connected barn and older shed, exemplifying early 19<sup>th</sup> century architecture. The property, associated with prominent Sessions family members, retains original structures and landscape features like stone walls and open land. The property is noted for the following;

**Architectural Rarity and Significance:** The property features a New England barn connected to the farmhouse, which is rare in Connecticut. This architectural style is more commonly found in Maine and New Hampshire, making this example locally significant.

**Historical Association with the Sessions Family:** The farmstead is closely linked to the prominent Sessions family, particularly Abijah and William Pitt Sessions, both of whom served as town selectmen and played important roles in Union's history.

**Well-Preserved Early 19th and 20th Century Structures:** The site includes several contributing historic structures: a farmhouse (c. 1805), a shed (c. 1805), a barn (c. 1900), and a wood shop (19th century). These buildings retain many original features and construction methods, such as post-and-beam framing and hand-hewn timbers.

**Traditional Rural Landscape and Setting:** The property maintains its traditional rural character, with stone walls, open fields, old apple trees, and woodland surroundings. The setting reflects the agricultural heritage of the region. Stone walls are found along the west and south borders of the property

**Integrity and Condition:** The buildings are in good structural and exterior condition, remain on their original site, and have not been significantly altered. This integrity enhances their historical value.

These features underscore the Sessions Farmstead's architectural, historical, and cultural significance. The Sessions Farmstead has been featured in the following magazines:

- **EARLY AMERICAN LIFE, April 2009, "Rich House on Poor Soil", Holy Izard**
- **A SIMPLE WAY OF LIFE, Spring 2013, "Growing a Ct. Garden", Kris Casucci**
- **AMERICAN COUNTRY, summer 2017, "Early NW Cape", Doreen Piechota**

Current picture of 18 Rindge Road



Early pictures of 18 Rindge Road



## **Honorable Mention 2: Captain Paul's Homestead**

Address: 175 Cemetery Road

Current Owner: Edward Cave

Dated To: 1790

Historical Information:

Captain Chauncey Paul (1798-1888), married Polly Armour and together they had nine children. Chauncey lived all his life in Union, CT. He was educated at the district school and learned about law by attending local legal proceedings. His only legal experience was serving as a Eeputy Sheriff.

Captain Paul was a man of strong convictions and an outspoken nature. He had great personal faith but belonged to no church, he hated rum and slavery. Chauncey signed a temperance pledge after a drunk friend was thrown out of a tavern. He became a staunch advocate of temperance, and together with the local minister, held many neighborhood meetings to encourage others to sign a similar pledge. He earned his title from serving as captain of the cavalry from Union and surrounding towns. The title stayed with him for the rest of his life.

Chauncey held every important office in Town. He was Town Clerk, First Selectman, and spent three years in the Connecticut General Assembly where he had a reputation for urging business to move quickly. In fact, he was nicknamed "Old Previous Question" for the number of times he moved the previous question. Chauncy joined the Republican party when it was formed in 1854. He advised the poor and advocated for widows and soldiers to help them receive their pensions. Captain Paul was a director of the Tolland County Mutual Fire Insurance Company for 50 years. He was a man who lived a simple life and helped his neighbors improve theirs.

The farmhouse has been restored and enhanced by three successive owners. The first of these were the Wellses, members of the family that founded Old Sturbridge Village. With their love of history, their comprehensive knowledge of how things were built and made in early times, and no limitations of cost, the Wellses lovingly restored both the house and its barn. As it stands today, the house consists of the original structure built in the 1700's, a center section added a hundred years later and a wing built with old lumber in the 1930's. Thanks to the care taken by the Wells family and the Larson family, who followed them in ownership, the newest part of the home can hardly be told apart from the inside or out, from the oldest.

In redoing the house to his own taste, the current owner, Mr. Cave, has had the benefit of a unique group of young craftspeople with old skills, who found a market for their talents at Old Sturbridge Village.

Early picture of Captain Paul's Homestead



The following pictures of Captain Paul's home are from Architectural Digest (1984), Traditional Home Magazine (December 1991) and Traditional Home Magazine (May 1994).







**Of Noteworthy Significance:**

**The many School Houses of Union, Connecticut**

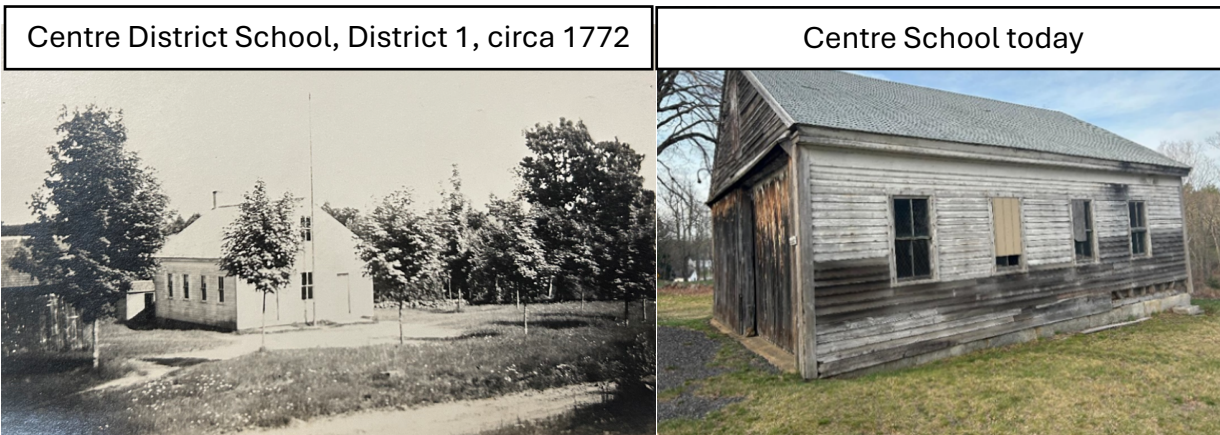
The first schoolhouse in Union was built in 1772. There were 6 different School Districts in Union.

District I	Centre Schoolhouse, built in 1772.
District II	East District Schoolhouse, built in 1860.
District III	Red or Foster Schoolhouse, built in 1799.
District IV	Mashapaug Schoolhouse, built in 1861.
District V	Rock Meadow Schoolhouse, building date unknown, Delia M. Heck, teacher, 1910-1912.
District VI	Northwest Schoolhouse, building date unknown, in 1820 there were 43 students attending.
Consolidated Union School	Opened in 1950; all elementary students were now under one roof.

**Pictures of Union, CT Schools**

**Centre School, District I**

The Centre Schoolhouse was built by Merrick Marcy. It was the third schoolhouse in the Centre District, the first was built in 1772. The last Centre Schoolhouse was built in 1844. The picture on the left below is circa 1846. The Centre Schoolhouse sits at the intersection of Kinney Hollow Road and Town Hall Road with its original 1844 date marker.



Inside Centre District School

**The East District School, District II**

The first school built in the “East District”, formerly known as the “Over Bigelow District”, stood a few feet southwest of the barn on the Benjamin Corbin place. A second schoolhouse was built in 1819 on the site of the first and was used until 1860 when it was taken down and set up as a private residence northeast of the Fayette Crawford place at 242 Bigelow Hollow Road.

East District School, District 2, circa 1819



Current picture of The East District School House as a private residence.

### The Red School House, District III

A very old structure, dating to 1799. The Red School House was kept in good repair, the outside appearance preserved intact. It is said that William Learned Marcy, Secretary of State, in 1852 taught school here, as did Capt. D. T. Corbin and others who have made their mark in the world.

The Red School House was moved from its original location on the corner of Stickney Hill Road and Rt. 190 to 723 Buckley Highway and is now a private residence.

The Red School House, District 3, circa 1799



Inside the Red Schoolhouse. Miss Clare Gormley and her students by the woodstove.



723 Buckley Highway

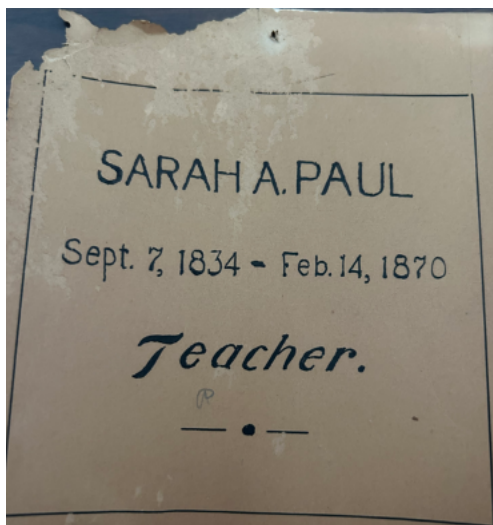
Current picture of The Red School House as a private residence.



## The Mashapaug School, District IV

Mashapaug School was built in 1861 by John Stetson and was located on Moore Road where I84 is today. It was one of the best schoolhouses in Union and is really a monument to the memory of Miss Sarah Paul, 8<sup>th</sup> child of Captain Chauncey Paul, beginning her role as a teacher at 15 and was noted as one of the most enterprising schoolteachers of the time.

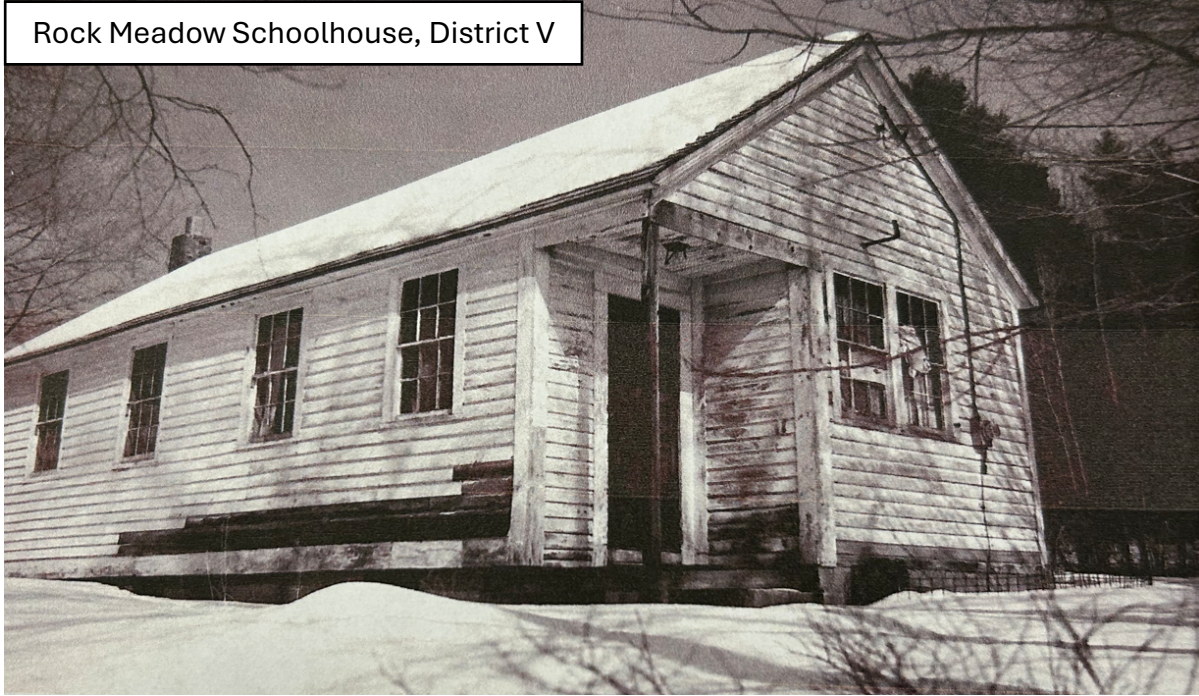
Mashapaug School, District IV, built in 1861



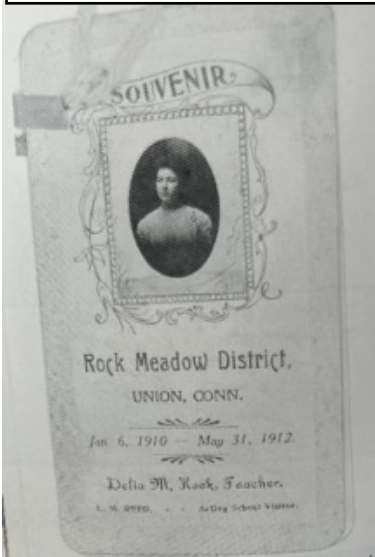
## The Rock Meadow School, District V

Little is known about the construction of Rock Meadow School, District V. It was located at the intersection of Stickney Hill Road and Old Brown Road. An addition was made to the east end of the school in 1918-1919. The Rock Meadow School closed in 1950. It was sold for \$300 and moved to Staffordville Lake.

Rock Meadow Schoolhouse, District V



Delia Heck, Teacher



Students from Rock Meadow and Red Schoolhouses

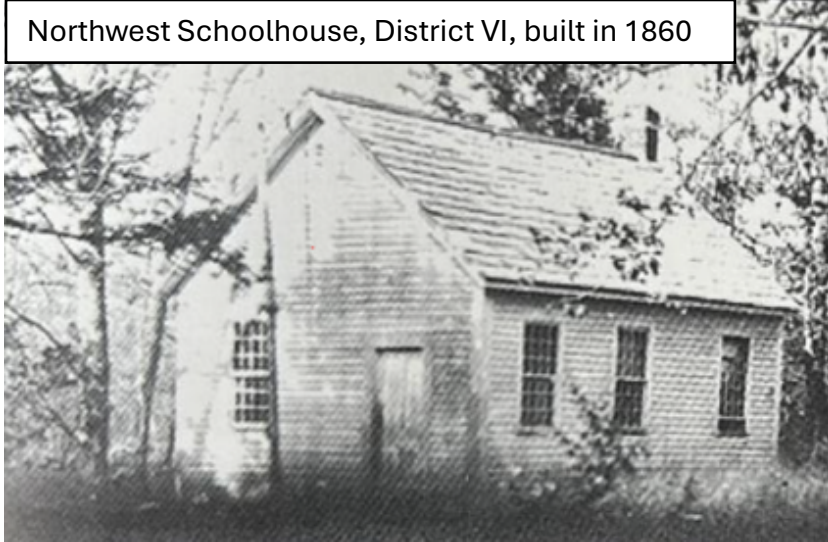


8th Grade, Class of 1932. Left to Right: *Helen C. Bradway, Roxanna Heck*—Rock Meadow School; *Myron Gaudette*—Red School; *John Szych*—Rock Meadow School; *Priscilla Agard*—Red School.

## Northwest School, District VI

Little is known about the Northwest Schoolhouse and its early history. Historical records are scarce, but it is believed that the school was originally located off of Skopek Road, going to Pain Hill. Although many of the details about the school and its teachers are unknown, the schoolhouse is a reminder of the dedication to education that helped shape the Union community in the early years.

Northwest Schoolhouse, District VI, built in 1860

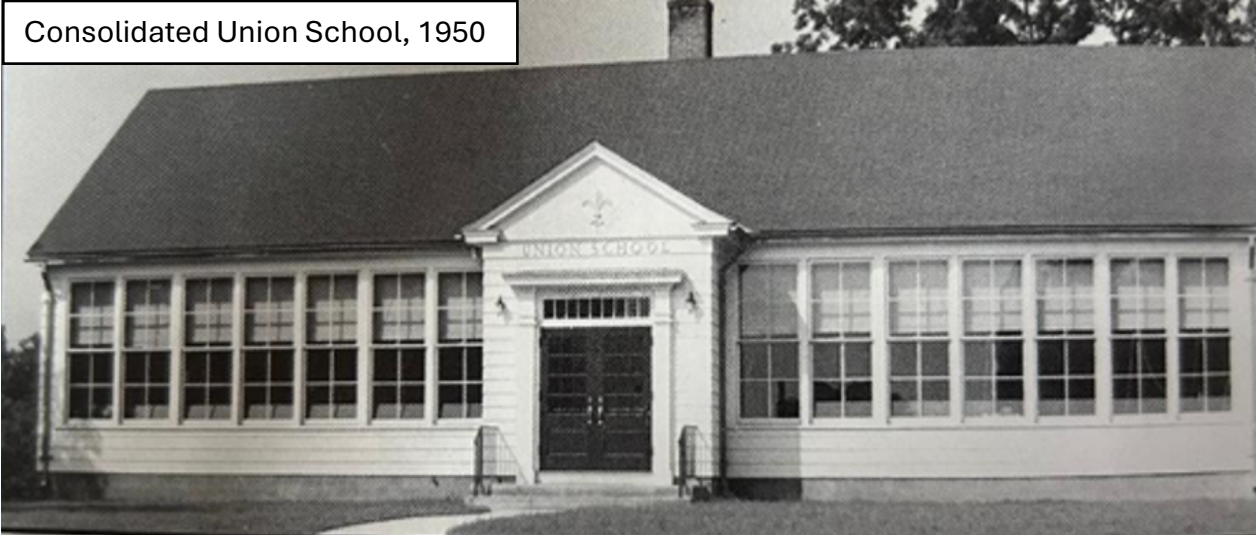


## Consolidated Union School

The new, consolidated Union School opened its doors on January 16, 1950 after Christmas vacation. For the first time all of Union's elementary students were under one roof. The modern school had central heat, running water and indoor plumbing. There were two large classrooms, an office/teachers' room and a kitchen. Later in the spring of 1950, playground equipment was installed.

The Consolidated Union School was replaced in 2010 with the current school at 18 Kinney Hollow Road. The groundbreaking for the new school was 2008, with the first day of school in 2010.

Consolidated Union School, 1950

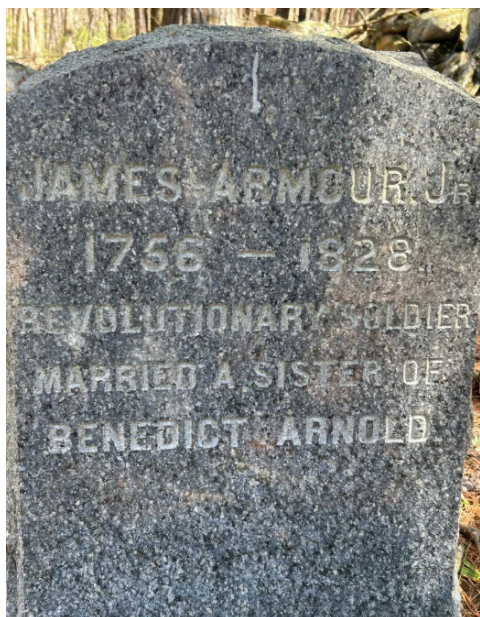
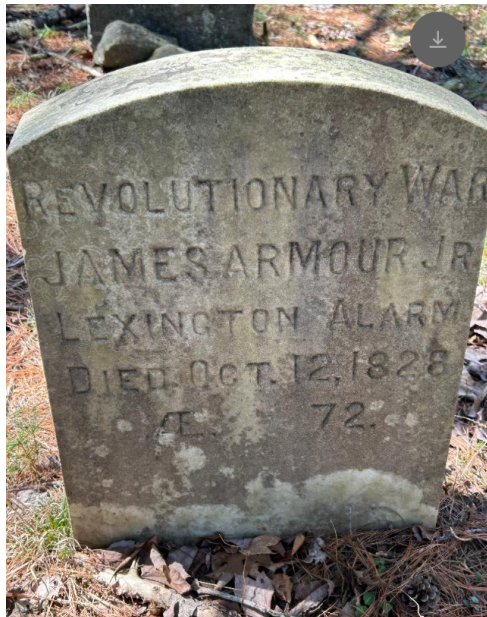


Current Union School, opened in 2010



**Of Noteworthy Significance:  
The Gravestone of James Armour, Jr.**

The gravestone of James Armour, Jr, 1756-1828, Revolutionary War Soldier, who married a sister of Benedict Arnold, and therefore became Benedict Arnolds brother-in-law. James and his wife had 10 children. James was the ancestor of Philip Armour, who became the founder of vast grain and meat packing in Kansas City, Missouri and Chicago, IL (Armour Meats). James is one of 27 men from Union who answered the Lexington alarm. His grave is marked by two stones, one a United States Government issue and a second granite stone that was added much later and erected by Mr. Harry E. Back at his own expense. Located on Buckley Highway, Rt. 171, in the woods on the East side of the road.



**Credits:** *All information in this document is from artifacts at the Union, CT Historical Society Museum on the Green – a very special place! Endless thanks to Betty Bragdon, Carol Mancini, Carol Scranton and Jeannine Upson for their knowledge, help and support in putting this document together.*

*Mary Murdock, Editor, Union, CT  
June 2026*