

Asylum Hill Then & Now – 340 Farmington Ave



Photo courtesy of Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, Hartford, CT.

This month's image is from the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center collection the original of which was collected by Katherine S. Day personally. It shows the C. M. Holbrook house at the corner of Farmington Avenue and Gillett St. directly across from The Day House. It's especially interesting because it was built in 1865, six years before the Harriet Beecher Stowe House, nine years before the Mark Twain house and nineteen years before the Day house across the street.

Other notable homes in that area that we have featured in the past include the Charles Boardman Smith house at 66 Forest St that was for many years the offices of the Antiquarian and Landmark Society, the Beecher-Hooker house at 140 Hawthorn St and the Charles Dudley Warner house from 1874 at 57 Forest St that was behind the Mark Twain house and is now the Hartford Public High School. It's interesting to note that this photo unlike the others is not available at Hartford Public Library or the Library of Congress, and it raises the question of what other photos of lost homes still survive and what can be learned from them.

