



Fairfield Museum AND HISTORY CENTER

370 Beach Road, Fairfield, CT 06824
www.fairfieldhistory.org

About the Fairfield Museum and History Center's Architecture

Centerbrook Architects & Tallman Building Company



The architectural design of the Fairfield Museum and History Center tells a wonderful story. The one-story gabled structure takes inspiration from the town's early agrarian beginnings and tells the story of this New England town, including past, present and future.

Project Architect James Childress, a partner in Centerbrook Architects of Centerbrook, CT considered form and functionality in creating a structure that emulates the sprawling farm owned by Frederick Sturges in the 19th century, "Mount David Farm, the site of the John Buckley Upland Farm. In addition, the architect

took inspiration from the structural design of the connected warehouse buildings that once banked Southport Harbor.

Childress describes the museum's architecture as an assemblage of pieces connected into a "picturesque grouping of farm-like buildings with gables facing in each direction." The larger windowless gallery barn is partially concealed within the smaller structures surrounding it. The library reading room's octagonal shape mirrors the Old Town Hall.



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Onion Warehouses at Southport Harbor

The Fairfield Museum and History Center has been a special project for Paul Tallman, owner and president of the Tallman Building Company. A Fairfield native who majored in history at Lafayette College, Tallman felt a strong affinity to the building.

The Tallman Building Company, located on the Southport/Westport line, has extensive experience in high-end residential and commercial construction. With the Fairfield Museum project, Tallman particularly enjoyed the challenge of working with the museum's Building Committee and Centerbrook Architects to make sure his firm's work met the exacting specifications, high expectations and tight budgetary guidelines. He especially enjoyed meeting the challenge of constructing a multi-use facility that will benefit the Fairfield community for generations to come.