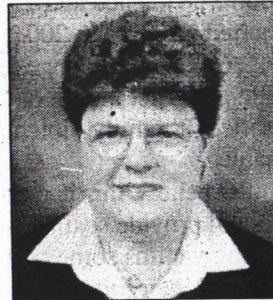


# The funeral home at 69 Main Street built in 1710

The building at 69 South Main Street originally stood at the corner of Eads Street, where the Sliney School stands today. The house was built about 1710 and was known as the Samuel Pond House or the Martin Page House. The Town of Branford purchased the property in 1928 from owner Isaac P. Beach for the site of a new high school. The Isaac Beach House was moved down the street by Oscar C. Kelsey of Stony Creek for \$37.39 and the new Branford High School, now called Sliney School, was built. During the move the center chimney was removed and the rear of the building moved to another street.

Samuel Ames Griswold, a native of Centerbrook, Conn. moved to Branford in 1893. He was a licensed mortician and purchased the funeral home business of Samuel Miller at 216 Main Street, later renumbered 980 Main Street. He operated his funeral



PICTURES OF THE PAST

Jane Bouley

home at this location and later from his home at 75 South Main Street.

Samuel Griswold and his wife, Ruth, remodeled 69 South Main Street, adding a decorative doorway and window treatments. Known as the Griswold Colonial Home, the Griswolds continued their funeral home business at this

location until 1948.

The building became known as Curtis Funeral Home when Erle Curtis purchased the property in 1949. Curtis continued the business until 1993 when he formed an association with Sisk Brothers of New Haven and Hamden.

The Samuel Pond House at 69 South Main Street has been included in several historical building surveys, including those by the Works Project Administration (WPA) and the



Photo by Charles A. Blackstone

*Since 1929, the building at 69 South Main Street – the Samuel Pond House – has operated as a funeral home.*

Colonial Dames. It is a contributing building to the Branford Center National Register Historic District.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Jane Peterson Bouley is the historian for the Town of Branford.