Supplemental Note Added January 18, 2011

While there are minor discrepancies in dates and circumstances among the data on this property compiled from the Farmington land records by former Farmington Town Clerk Mabel Hurlbert, the Historic Resources Inventory, and the "Prentice Report" on Farmington properties, most are mentioned and discussed in the last two of these (chronologically the two most recent). The major contentious point appears to be the origins and date of construction of the portion of this property now attached as an ell to the main house, specifically, whether it was originally a house built for Benjamin Judd about 1693, William Judd about 1690, or a home moved from elsewhere and perhaps built at a later date. Hurlbert lists both the 1693 and 1690 dates. The Historic Resources Inventory argues that an extensive search of the records of the neighboring McCahill house (considered most likely to have been moved a short distance and attached to create the ell (referred to as "The Gundy")), traces its origins back only to about 1860. This casts some doubt on whether the "Gundy" was originally the McCahill house.

A recent book ("Dearest of Geniuses - A Life of Theodate Pope Riddle", Sandra L. Katz, TideMark, Windsor, CT, 2003) provides some insight on this matter. Presumably drawing material from the diaries of Theodate Pope Riddle who joined the two homes together in 1896, the book states that Ms. Pope referred to the Gundy as the small house owned by "unfortunate neighbors for me". She was presumably referring to her earlier clashes with her neighbors, the McCahills, prior to what appears to be her purchase of the McCahill home (Katz, page 41). This would support Ms. Hurlbert's contention that the "Gundy" was indeed the McCahill house moved next door and attached as an ell to Ms. Pope's "O'Roukery" to form the current composite house, and not a period home imported from elsewhere.
Facing west onto High Street, the Daniel Judd House sits on a well-manicured lot trimmed with a wooden picket fence. To the east lies the "Hill-Stead" Museum and related extensive grounds. The surrounding neighborhood contains other historic dwellings dating from the early eighteenth century to the present.
Capped with a ridge-to-street gable roof and large brick, center-chimney, the main block of the Daniel Judd House features a five-bay facade with a hewn overhang between the first and second floors. The entryway exhibits a batten door (with vertical boarding). The door surround appears to be Adamesque in style and exhibits delicate corner pilasters supporting a simple entablature with projecting cornice. A lean-to has been added to the rear elevation giving the roofline a "saltbox" appearance. A large Colonial Revival-style entry portico with classical columns protects the "coffin" door found on the south elevation. Twelve-over-twelve sash are displayed on the first floor and twelve-over-eight windows are found on the second floor. The smaller, one-and-a-half-story, gambrel-roofed ell, which extends from the north elevation is believed to be a late-seventeenth-century dwelling that was joined to the Daniel Judd House in 1896. (see cont. pg.)

This house is believed to be the combination of two dwellings. The larger, main block dates from 1725, while the history of the northern, gambrel-roofed ell is uncertain. The main portion of this house was erected around 1725 by Daniel Judd on land he inherited from his father's estate. Daniel (1675-1748) was the youngest son of William and Mary (Steele) Judd, early Farmington settlers. In 1705 he married Mercy Mitchell of Woodbury and they had eight children. Daniel sold the homestead to his youngest surviving son, James in 1741 (FLR 6:373). James (b. 1713) married Eunice Thompson in 1740/41 and they raised five children. In 1779 he willed the house and land to his youngest son, James Judd, Jr. (FPR 4:471). James, Jr. (1756-1809) is reported to have been a wealthy man, but due to some unfortunate business transactions, he lost all his money and property. In 1805, Andrew Kingsbury, Connecticut's state treasurer, foreclosed on the property which consisted of 32 acres, a house, barn, cornhouse, and woodhouse (FLR 35:483). In April of 1806 Noadiha Hooker acquired the property and shortly thereafter sold it to Norris Stanley of Granby and William Stanley of Farmington (FLR 37:434). Noadiha Hooker again took title in 1816 (FLR 39:44). He immediately sold the house and surrounding 13 acres to Amzi Porter and his wife, Rebecca (FLR 39:373). In 1819 the Porters sold the property to Augustus Bodwell (FLR 40:383). Little is known about Bodwell (1783-1868) except that he owned large amounts of land in Farmington and resided here until his death in 1868. In 1873 John B. Lewis acquired the homestead from the heirs of Augustus Bodwell (FLR 62:266). A year later, in 1874, James O. Rourke purchased the property (see cont. pg.)

Extensive research has been unable to determine the age and original location of the ell. Oriented ridge-to-street, the ell features a six-bay facade with two entry doors and multi-paned sash. The gambrel roof exhibits three shed-roof dormers and central brick chimney. The southern doorway is enhanced by multi-paned sidelights. A small, gable-roof ell connects the main block with the ell and a number of extensions have been incorporated onto the rear elevation.

Cont. 19. (FLR 61:619). In 1890 the house was rented to Miss Theodate Pope, the daughter of wealthy iron magnate Alfred Pope and his wife Ada (Brooks). Miss Pope, a graduate of Miss Porter's School, purchased the house and surrounding 22 acres in 1892 (FLR 68:585). Theodate, an aspiring young architect, took up residence here. Tradition asserts that in 1896 she moved the smaller McCahill Homestead (which stood next door to the north) southwardly and joined it to the north elevation of the old "Judd House". It is impossible to determine whether the ell is actually the McCahill House, which Theodatedid acquire in 1896 (FLR 70:628; 71:202). Local historians, Hurlburt and Lewis claim the ell dates from the late seventeenth century, although an extensive title search of the McCahill property indicates that the building was erected around 1860. It is quite possible the ell may have been moved from another location, for it is architecturally similar to other Colonial-period, gambrel-roofed dwellings. Miss Pope nicknamed the small gambrel-roofed ell "The Gundy" and the main block "The Cottage". The entire complex was also known as the "O'Rourkery". Theodate opened the "odds and ends" shop, a place for Miss Porter's School girls to socialize and enjoy a repast of tea, cookies, and chocolate. She also kept part of the house as it would have appeared in the early 1800s to show students how their ancestors lived. Theodate convinced her parents to move to Farmington and they erected the grand house on the hill to the rear of the O'Rourkery between 1898 and 1901. The Popes new home was called "Hill-Stead" and was designed by Miss Pope. Today "Hill-Stead" serves as a historic house museum. After the main house was built, Theodate retained ownership of this property and often stayed here to escape the pressures of "Hill-Stead" social life. During the early twentieth century, the Shields sisters, Sarah and Matilda, resided here and operated the "odds and ends" shop. Other proprietors of the "odd and ends" shop, which remained open until 1969, included Susan Cargill, Mrs. Elizabeth Spencer, Mrs. McBrien, Mary Boyle and Bridget Boyle. The "cottage" was also used by the Popes to house friends and relatives when "Hill-Stead" was filled up. Theodate, who later married John Wallace Riddle, became a registered architect and is one of the country's first women architects. Her adopted son, Gordon Brockway, and wards, Paul Martin and Donald Carson, are said to have resided here. Upon Mrs. Riddle's death in 1946 title to the "Gundy" and "Cottage" was passed to the trustees of the "Hill-Stead" Museum. The last occupant of the house before it was sold to private owners was Grace Flandrau, the widow of the half-brother of John Wallace Riddle. In 1975 the house was sold by the trustees of "Hill-Stead" (FLR 240:74).

Although there is some question about the history of the ell, the main portion of the Daniel Judd House is a superb example of an early eighteenth-century, Colonial-period farmhouse and the entire complex makes a significant contribution to the character of Farmington's historic village. Historically the house is notable for its association with the Judd, Bodwell, and Pope families and for its ties to the "Hill-Stead" Estate.
THEODATE POPE The GUNDY

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

RESIDENCE

DATE BUILT: ca. 1690 FOR: William Judd

The 2 houses combined ca. 1896

ARCHITECT for combining the 2 houses & connecting addition T. Pope

MASTER-BUILDER R.F. Jones


REFERENCES: "Farmington, Conn., 1906", p. 185

"Farmington Town Clerks, 1943", map p. xxi, Lot no. 81 (OVER)
Former Owners, cont.:

Foreclosure of debt of $8485.03, dwellinghouse, cow barn, barn, 32 acres "where said debtor now lives", 1/9/1805, Vol. 35, p. 433; James Judd from Est. of his father, James Judd, by will, all real estate to his two sons, James and Daniel, being the dwellinghouse where deceased lived and about 35 acres 5/12/1783, Prob. Rec., Vol. 4, p. 293-295; James Judd from his father, Daniel," by way of portion from me to him", 18 acres " being the homelot on which I now dwell" 7/7/1741, Vol. 6, p. 373, w. on highway, e. on Hooker, n. on Matthew Judd; Daniel Judd from his father William Judd, who died 1690. Daniel was then 15 years of age & with his mother and brothers inherited. Daniel Judd acquired this property by exchange with his brother Samuel from the est. of their father, William Judd 4/10/1711, Vol. 2, p. 252. This property was bounded in 1706 by John Judd, son of Benjamin, on the n., which in turn was bounded n. by the John Clark house, 1/28/1706, Vol. 1, p. 83.
OWNER'S NAME RIDDLE, EST. THEODATE POPE - THE GUNDY residence

residence - 1951

ADDRESS: 3 High Street

DATE BUILT: ca. 1735 FOR: Daniel Judd

The 2 houses combined ca. 1896

ARCHITECT for combining the 2 houses: Theodate Pope

MASTER-BUILDER " R.F. Jones

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FORMER OWNERS: Theodate Pope from James O'Rourke 5/6/1892, Vol. 65, p. 565, 22 acres, dwellinghouse

& other bldgs. known as the Augustus Bodwell Homestead; James O'Rourke from John B. Lewis

11/12/1873, Vol. 61, p. 619; John B. Lewis from George Bodwell et al being the Augustus

Bodwell Est. for $2650., same desc., also from other heirs of A. Bodwell, Vol. 62, p. 254,


13 acres, 8/3/1819, Vol. 40, p. 383, reserving to Noahiah Hooker passaway rights through the

front gate to his land e. of the premises in the passaway on the n. side thereof; A. Bodwell

from John Hooker 2 lots which added to the acreage and "also the lane & all my rights in the

same", making about 25 acres, 7/1/1848, Vol. 49, p. 414; Amzi Porter and Rebecca from

Noahiah Hooker for $2300., 13 acres etc., 1/3 to Rebecca and 2/3 to Amzi Porter 3/27/1816,

Vol. 39, p. 373; Wm. Stanley from Norris Stanley ½ interest of 13 acres & bldgs. on back lane

REFERENCES: "Farmington, Conn., 1906", p. 185

(OVER)
Former Owners, cont.: containing 13 acres in all, heretofore owned by both equally 6/22/1810, Vol. 37, p. 434; Noadiah Hooker from William Stanley for $1400, 13 acres, 3/27/1816, Vol. 39, p. 44; Wm. & Norris Stanley from Noadiah Hooker for $3,333.34, 32 acres & bldgs. 8/18/1806, Vol. 35, p. 223; N. Hooker from Andrew Kingsbury, State Treas., for $3,333.34, 32 acres & all bldgs. 4/10/1806, Vol. 35, p. 466; State of Conn from James Judd, by foreclosure of debt of $8,485.03, 32 acres, dwellinghouse, cow barn, barn etc., "where said debtor now lives" 1/9/1805, Vol. 35, p. 483; James Judd from the est. of his father, James Judd, by will, all real estate to his two sons, James & Daniel, being the dwellinghouse where deceased last lived and about 35 acres, 5/12/1783, Vol. 4, p. 293-5, Prob. Rec.; James Judd from father, Daniel, "by way of portion from me to him", 18 acres "being the homestead where I now dwell", 7/7/1741, Vol. 6, p. 373, w. on highway, e. on Hooker, n. on Matthew Judd; As this house appears to have been built ca. 1735, and the land together with the older house next north (now the Gundy) was part of this property Daniel Judd received in exchange with his brother, Samuel, out of the estate of their father, William Judd, it would appear that this house was built for Daniel Judd, about 1735. It was bounded on the w. by the highway, s. on S. Andrus and mountain, e. on land of John Hooker Sr., (later his son Joseph his son Noadiah and his son Edward, and his son John who owned the right of way to the mountain), n. on Matthew Judd, Joseph Smith, Thomas Norton and Thomas North, on the hill.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner's Name</th>
<th>RIDDLER, Estate of Theodate Pope</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>13 High Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date Built</td>
<td>Res. c. 1739, For: James Thomson, Gundy, c. 1693 for Benjamin Judd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architect</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master-BUILDER</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Owners</td>
<td>Residence - James O'Rourke; Augustus Bodwell, Amzi &amp; Rebecca Porter; James Thomson, The Gundy - Thomas, Frank &amp; Anna McCahill; Lawrence McCahill; John Riley; Abner Bidwell; Peter Curtis, Jr.; Adna Curtis; Mathew Clark and His Sister, Mary Clark Huntington; Samuel &amp; Benjamin Judd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Information</td>
<td>The present Gundy Tea shop stood just north of its present location, with a driveway &amp; right of way for John Hooker, between the house &amp; the cottage on the so. This house had a central chimney &amp; has exposed interior framing. When sold by A. Bodwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References</td>
<td>Farmington, The Village of Beautiful Homes page 185, Colonial Dames Collection, State Library</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- The Gundy was the original residence built in 1739. It was later expanded and renovated.
- The Gundy Tea Shop was a popular local destination.
- The house was significant for its architectural style and historical importance.
- It was sold by A. Bodwell in 1950.
This house, actually a combination of two houses, is pictured from various angles on pages 185 and 186 of the Farmington Book. On these two pages three different designations are used:

Odd and End Shop,
The Gundy,
The O'Rourkery.

The name "O'Rourkery", came from Mr. O'Rourke who had owned the larger house of the two. He was the father of John, Margaret and Elizabeth Rourke. The children dropped the "O" from their names. John Rourke lived on Farmington Avenue and the two daughters, married, lived in Farmington also, and their father spent his later life living with the children.

For the purpose of simplicity the writer will use in the early part of this account, the name of "The Cottage" for the south and larger part of the combination house, and "The Gundy" for the north and smaller part. Both these are the names believed to have been given them by Miss Theodate Pope. The Odd and End shop was just a section of the Gundy.

Baker and Tilden's Atlas shows two houses, the south one designated as "Aug. Bodwell" and that on the north as "L. McCahill". The McCahill's lived in their house, but Augustus Bodwell, owner of various properties in Farmington, appears to have held most of them as investments.

The Cottage is known as the former Thompson house, but had been built in the 1730's for Daniel Judd, acquired much later by John Thompson who willed it to his son James.

The Gundy is reputed to have been built for William Judd around 1690 or 1697. The first mention of the house however, is said to have been in the will of Benjamin Judd, leaving it to his son Benjamin, Jr. in a will dated 1697.

Mrs. Hurlburt says on page 365 of "Town Clerks":

"Benjamin Judd married Susannah North January 18, 1693-4. He and Samuel lived on High Street where Mrs. Riddle's house 'The Gundy' now stands, and the house, formerly two separate houses, were probably both built by the Judds, who owned the land from High Street to the mountain".

Miss Theodate Pope, who had been graduated from Miss Porter's School in 1888, was given the "Grand Tour" of Europe by her parents afterward. She did not care for the purely social life which her parents had anticipated for her and she returned to Farmington, which she had enjoyed, and where she wished to be useful.

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Miss Pope leased from James O'Rourke in 1890 the house which she named the Cottage, with the option to buy, and she did buy it in 1892. She lived here for many years, and even after her parents came and she was free to live at Hillstead, she came here where she was free from the disturbances of the social life on the hill. She also used this house to show Miss Porter's pupils the type of house in which their ancestors had lived.

One of Miss Pope's great friends, made while she was a student in Farmington, was Mary R. Hillard, teacher at Miss Porter's school. Miss Hillard lived with her here for a short time, and even after leaving here for Waterbury, she visited here often. Mary Hillard's sister was the mother of Archibald MacLeish. Miss Hillard's niece, Mrs. Phyllis Penn Cunningham of Hartford, makes the following statements regarding her aunt:

"Mary R. Hillard was born in Kensington, Connecticut, in 1864. Her father, the Congregational Minister Elias Brewster Hillard, had a Parish there.

"In 1891, my aunt, after having been at Miss Porter's School when she was 23, moved to be head of St. Margaret's School in Waterbury, Connecticut. At Miss Porter's School no one seems to know what she taught. In one reference it was said that she did guidance work with the girls. She was at Miss Porter's from 1885 to 1891, when she went to Waterbury. She was in Waterbury at St. Margaret's as Head of it -- until 1909, when Westover opened...... My aunt retired in the fall of 1934 and she died in the fall of 1934, after securing a successor at Westover".

Incidentally, Mrs. Cunningham is a great friend of Hillstead, and published at her own expense a booklet called "Hillstead Yesterdays", part of an effort to preserve Hillstead and its treasures. It should make interesting reading.

It was Miss Pope who designed and built Westover School, so that her good friend Mary Hillard would have a school of her own over which to be Headmistress, as she was for 25 years.

On April 30, 1896, Miss Pope purchased what she was to call the Gundy from Frank L. McCahill, who then moved with his family to what had been the Adna Hart house on South Road, pictured on page 142 of the Farmington Book.

The McCahill house stood north of the Cottage, and had been somewhat neglected, but the basic structure was unimpaired, according to a report by Mrs. Hurlburt. This house was moved south and joined to the Cottage. That house, originally of six rooms, was increased to eight. In addition to this a wing was built on the north side, two bedrooms downstairs, one bedroom and a bath upstairs, and it was to this wing that the McCahill house was joined, and that north section was then known as the Gundy. A photo of the combined house appears on page 71 of "A Small House in the Sun", a book of such photos published by the Hastings House, NYC, in 1936.

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It appears that the name "O'Rourkery" may have clung to the Gundy for a time, as an ad in the Farmington Magazine of October 1901 it was advertised under that name as having "fine blended tea" for sale at $1.00 per pound, "Profits, if any, devoted to Charity". Somewhere is has been said that the name Gundy has been used since 1903.

Sarah and Mtilda Shields, who had earlier lived in the house at 15 Main Street, came up here and lived in the Gundy for some years, and it is Sarah who is pictured as the operator of the Odd and End Shop, in the photo on page 186 of the Farmington Book. Sarah was also the housekeeper, as Matilda was frail and had suffered a fall some time before, making it difficult for her to get around. She, born in 1835, died in 1912. Sarah carried on at the Gundy for some years afterward.

A probably apochryphal tale is that Winchell Smith, fond of jokes, called there one day after hearing of a sale of imported items, and asked for Scotch whiskey. He was answered with great spirit: "We don't sell anything here that will harm people".

The Gundy was primarily for students of Miss Porter's School. Miss Pope, having been a student there, was aware of the fact that the girls had few places to go. The Gundy gave them the little shop where they could buy the odds and ends, and tea, cookies and chocolate were served also, and it was a place for socializing. The attendance often exceeded the capacity, but the girls willingly sat around on the floor where they drank the chocolate and ate their sweets.

Sarah Shields retired around 1915 and left Farmington to visit a niece in Pennsylvania.

Susan Cargill of Scotland, sister of Mrs. Henderson on 829 Farmington Avenue, accompanied by Mrs. Elizabeth Spencer of New Haven, took care of the shop for some eight years or so after Miss Shields' retirement.

Around 1923 Mrs. McBrien of Hartford and her sister Mary Boyle moved into this house and took charge of the Gundy. Mrs. McBrien was accompanied by her daughter Elizabeth. Mrs. McBrien was known as "Lady".

At this time the only house on the west side of High Street between #18 and Farmington Avenue was the old, vacant house on the site of the present McCarthy house at #10. On the east side the houses of Mrs. Riddle, the former Miss Pope, were the only ones between #1 and #37, the present Kegley house and the Farmington Museum.

Mary Boyle died in 1926 and her sister Bridget came from Ireland to take her place, helping Mrs. McBrien.

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As time went on and restrictions on the Miss Porter girls were eased, attendance by the girls decreased. Mrs. McBrien and her sister gave up their residence in the Gundy in 1943, and moved to the house at 10 Main Street, which they had purchased. In the early 1960's Mrs. McBrien became very ill and Miss Boyle terminated her connection with the Gundy. Attendance had fallen way off and the operation had been subsidized for some time by the Riddle estate. After Miss McBrien left the Porter School sent someone to the Gundy each day to serve tea, cinnamon toast, ice cream and other snacks for the few girls who went up there, but by 1969 even that was terminated.

During the years that have passed many people have been occupants for short or longer periods, and some of them can be named.

Gordon Brockway, Miss Pope's adopted child, lived here, and Mildred Breed, his governess. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart kept house about this time. After Gordon's death, two boys who were her wards lived here, Paul Martin and Donald Carson. This was probably after Miss Pope became Mrs. Riddle, but dates are not too well known to the writer.

Susan Cargill and Mrs. Spencer also cared for this end of the house while they were caring for the Gundy.

Four Blake sisters, classmates of Miss Laura Dunham at Miss Porter's School before she became Mrs. D. Newton Barney, lived for a time in the Old Red Cottage at 2 Mountain Spring Road. Two of them, Charlotte and Henrietta Blake, later lived here in the Cottage in their later years, and were cared for by Mrs. George M. Tingley. Dr. Emerson Fosdick, pastor of Riverside Church in New York for so many years, occasionally visited Farmington and he called upon the Blake sisters in the Cottage. He fell in love with the Cottage and asked if he could have Thanksgiving dinner there one year, which he did, accompanied by some friends.

One person who stayed here just prior to Mrs. Riddle's death was Baynard Kendrick, in the year 1945. From here Mr. Kendrick made daily visits to Avon Old Farms School, which Mrs. Riddle had built, to gather data for a book which he was writing. Avon Old Farms was at that time not operating as a school, but was being operated by the Army as a rehabilitation center for blinded World War II veterans. It was here that they were trained and prepared for their return to their homes and to civilian life and to useful careers. Mr. Kendrick's book is "Lights Out", a very interesting exposition of the training received by these men. One of the local volunteers who escorted these men to their homes when they were discharged was Irene Slater, now Mrs. George Bent. One of the men who was trained is John McDowell, of whom a short sketch may be found in the account of the Elm Tree Inn.

Over the years the name of the Cottage has been gradually lost, and this whole house has become much better known as the Gundy.

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The last occupant of this house, who lived in the Cottage portion, was here for some years. She was Mrs. W. Blair Flandrau, the former Grace Hodgson.

Mrs. Flandrau was the widow of the half-brother of Mrs. Riddle's husband, John Wallace Riddle. The latter's father, also named John Wallace Riddle, died just a year or so after the birth of his son in 1864, and his widowed mother, the former Rebecca McClure, was married in 1871 to Charles Eugene Flandrau. To that marriage were born two sons, W. Blair Flandrau and Charles Flandrau.

Another Flandrau to have been associated with Farmington, although her relationship to the above noted is not known, was Sarah G. Flandrau, a student at Miss Porter's School from 1883 to 1885. She later became the wife of Franklin W. McCutcheon, and lived in California. She died in June 1947.

Mrs. John Wallace Riddle became acquainted with Grace Flandrau through family visits, became quite attached to her, and a provision in Mrs. Riddle's will gave Mrs. Flandrau the use of this High Street house throughout her life. She died on December 27, 1971.

Mrs. Flandrau's obituary said that "she was widowed about 15 years ago". She established Farmington as her residence at about that time, but probably did not spend much time here until her last illness, as she traveled a great deal, and always wintered in Arizona. As her illness continued she gradually became more in need of attendance, and the staff had to be increased, involving three nurses daily, and a housekeeper to care for them and someone to provide meals. This kept the house quite well filled until her death.

Grace Hodgson's father was an attorney and a banker, the president of Security Trust in St. Paul, but he suffered extensive financial losses in the Panic of 1893. He was determined that his children should have good educations, however, and after Grace's attendance at Mrs. Backus' School in St. Paul he sent his daughter to Paris Girls' School in Paris, France.

"I don't think it had ever been aired or dusted then, or ever has been since", his daughter wrote many years later, but the little girl from St. Paul learned to love France and its language. She often remarked in later years that she "felt more at home there than any place else".

Grace had always been a creative little girl. In their sixth grade in St. Paul, Medora Day and Grace Hodgson had played together after school, and it was always Grace who would decide what they would do, as remembered by Medora.

In 1908 Grace visited the Orient, and in 1909 she married W. Blair Flandrau, son of St. Paul's most notable judge, Charles E. Flandrau. They lived in Mexico for the next several years, partly near Vera Cruz, where Mr. Flandrau had a coffee plantation, and partly in Mexico City, where there was more action.

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It was in Mexico that Mrs. Flandrau's writing career began. "Cousin Julia" was published in 1917, and "Viva Mexico" soon after.

They lived a cosmopolitan life, and Paris was their base later, and until around 1933. "Being Respectable" was published in 1923, and filmed in 1924 as "Entranced". An expedition into Africa was made in 1928-29, with her husband and also her good friend Alice O'Brien, and they explored some largely untraveled areas. Out of this came "I Saw the Congo" in 1929.

Much of the 1930's were spent in California and St. Paul. "Under the Sun" was published in 1936, and short stories, Hollywood scripts, and columns for the Pioneer Press came out of this period, and "Indeed this Flesh", which may have been her last novel.

She spoke as easily as she wrote, and her platform style made her an obvious choice for radio when the microphone came into its own. By the late 1930's Grace Flandrau had a travel series aired twice weekly over KSTP.

In St. Paul the Flandraus lived in the historic home at 385 Pleasant Avenue, where for many years the city's finest minds and sharpest wits spent their happiest hours. By the time the Flandrau house was razed in January 1955, Grace Flandrau had transferred her official residence to Farmington, but still did much traveling, and spent her winters in Tucson.

She returned to Minnesota for occasional visits, and spoke there in 1962, when New Ulm marked the centennial of the Battle of New Ulm. "The speech dealt with her father-in-law, the defender of New Ulm, and it was beautifully done", said Russell Fridley, executive director of the Minnesota Historical Society.

When a national magazine wanted an article on Minnesota, it turned to Grace Flandrau, and she wrote forcefully and well. When the Great Northern Railroad decided to publish a series on Northwest History, again it was Grace Flandrau who got the assignment. The resulting booklets, eight of them, are still in great demand, according to Frank E. Ferrin, director of public relations for Burlington Northern, Great Northern's present reincarnation. These writings were entitled "Historic Northwest Adventure Land".

Mrs. Flandrau was a writer for New Yorker, Atlantic Monthly and other magazines, her articles being greatly sought after. Her husband helped her with editing and proof reading and in other ways. His brother Charles was a brilliant writer in other fields. In her heyday Mrs. Flandrau was active in the League of American Penwomen, St. Paul City Women's Club, New York City Pen and Brush Club, and the Colony Club. She was a trustee of the Minnesota Historical Society, Hillstead Museum, and a director of Avon Old Farms School.

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Mrs. Flandrau's obituary in the St. Paul Pioneer Press of January 10, 1972, closed with the following quoted verbatim.

"Her writing talents brought her a Doctor of Literature degree from Hamline University, but people forget even doctors of literature. When Grace Hodgson Flandrau died two weeks ago in Farmington, Connecticut, a brief obituary appeared in the St. Paul papers listing her several credits as a writer and one-time St. Paulite. Many people probably never saw it at all, or seeing it, wondered why the name sounded familiar, --- 'Isn't there a street by that name?'. She was buried from St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church in St. Paul."

At the present time it is not known what the final disposition of this house will be. The Trustees of Hillstead Estate are being asked to rid themselves of much of the property of the estate, including this house, and to use the proceeds to aid Avon Old Farms School. This is being opposed by many people who consider that the estate should be preserved as it is. The outcome cannot be seen at this time.

Readers of this account of the house at 13 High Street should bear in mind that there is a direct relationship between this house and Hillstead, since Mrs. Riddle, the former Theodate Pope, was first the owner of this house and later the owner of both. A reading of the account of Hillstead will identify her better, especially to any reader who has not previously read of her. The sketch of Hillstead is under the address of 671 Farmington Avenue.

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The settlement of Mrs. Flandrau's estate took some time. A news release of March 1974 tells of some of the bequests made by Mrs. Flandrau.

To the University of Hartford went $1,066,779.89.

Similar bequests to University of Arizona, and St. Paul Foundation.

Harvard received approximately 3.2 million dollars.

The National Council on Crime and Delinquency, the same.

Eleven other bequests included Avon Old Farms, Hillstead Museum and Connecticut Humane Society.

Tucson, Arizona, will be where the Flandrau Memorial Program for The Prevention and Control of Delinquency will be set up as a tribute to Wm. Blair Flandrau, a "living memorial that will help countless children avoid delinquent behavior, help them develop while they are most defenseless, and help them become good citizens." This will be where the bequest to the National Council on Crime and Delinquency will be used.

March 30, 1974