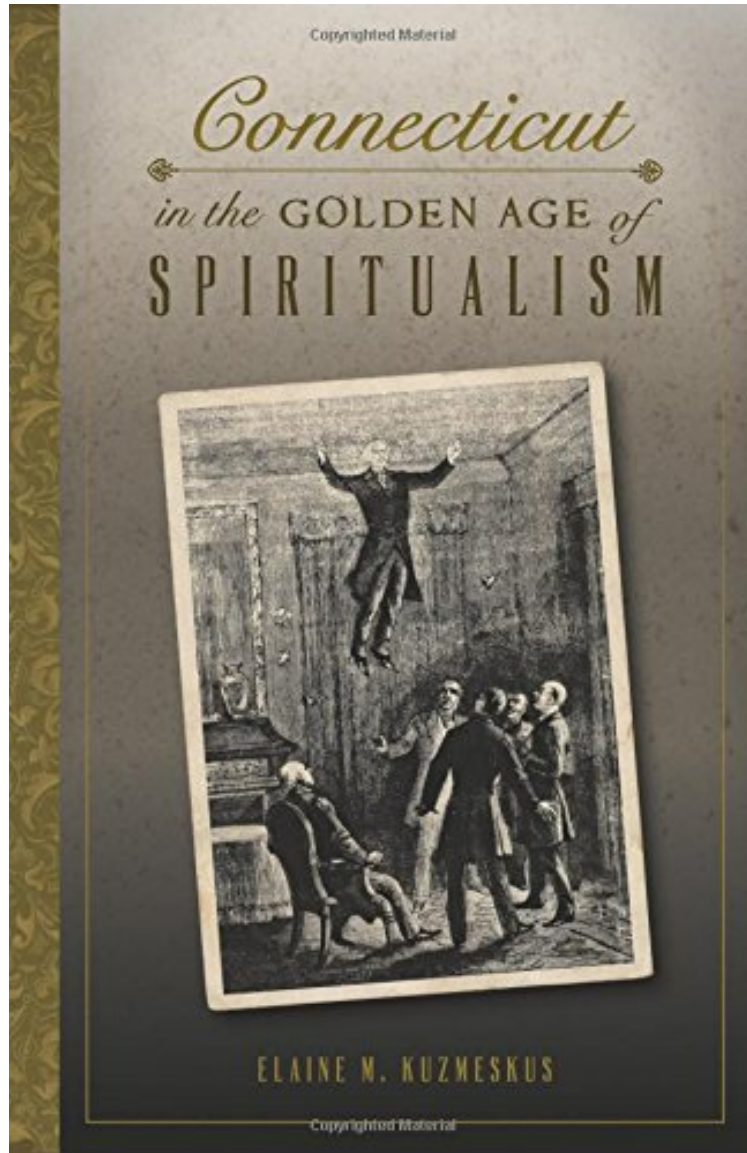


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Connecticut in the Golden Age of Spiritualism

Elaine M. Kuzmeskus

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In the aftermath of the Civil War, distraught Connecticut residents turned to Spiritualism as a means of connecting with their lost loved ones. Daniel Dunglas Home of New London held his first public sance as a teenager in 1851, and he reportedly levitated and handled hot coals without injury. Famous Litchfield native Harriet Beecher Stowe and her husband, Calvin, were believers, and Harriet's sister Isabella Beecher Hooker practiced mediumship. After the death of their son Willie, President Abraham Lincoln and the first lady invited Hartford medium Nettie Colburn Maynard to conduct secret sances at the White House. Even today, believers congregate at the Pine Grove Spiritualist Camp. Author Elaine Kuzmeskus investigates this dramatic, mystical history.

About the Author Elaine Kuzmeskus, M.S., director of the New England School of Metaphysics, is the author of seven books on the occult, including Connecticut Ghosts, The Art of Mediumship and The Medium Who Baffled Houdini. Recently, she was featured on Better Connecticut and the PBS special Things That Go Bump in the Night. During the last twenty years, she has been a presenter at the Learning Annex in New York City, Lily Dale Assembly and colleges throughout New England. She is also a nationally recognized spiritualist medium. In 1997, she was selected to conduct the Official Houdini Sance. Elaine enjoys hearing from readers, so feel free to contact her on her website theartofmediumship.com.