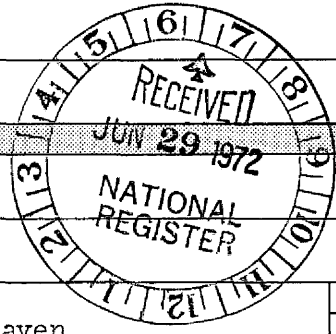


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Connecticut	
COUNTY: New Haven	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
DEC 4	1972



1. NAME

COMMON:
Morris House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
325 Lighthouse Road

CITY OR TOWN:
New Haven

STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09 COUNTY: New Haven CODE: 009

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
New Haven Colony Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
114 Whitney Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
New Haven

STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
New Haven

STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Connecticut Historic Structures and Landmarks Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Connecticut Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
59 South Prospect Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Hartford

STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09

3rd District Congressman: Robert N. Claimo

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Connecticut
COUNTY: New Haven
ENTRY NUMBER: DEC 4 1972
DATE: _____
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)			(Check One)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

*2 1/2 story
gabled roof*

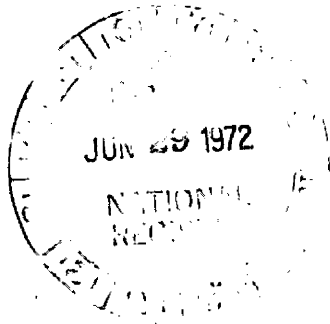
The Morris House sits back from the road and is surrounded by bushes and trees. It is an extensive house, with wings and additions, all testifying to its long years in use. Its massive stone ends are vestiges of its early years, dating from the late 17th century. The rough stone is laid with mortar in which shells can be seen. The south wing presents a very different picture, being made of dressed sandstone blocks with more refined mortar. As would be expected, the chimneys too reflect the difference in the stone, hence, the dates of construction.

The extensions reflect too the growth of the house. The north end is of the same style as the main center part, with an overhang at the first floor level, but the entire section sits about two feet lower than the main part. The foundation is not the old fieldstone, but dressed sandstone, probably giving it a date closer to that of the south wing, the mid 18th century. Beyond the south wing, now occupied by the docent, is a shed and garage.

The wood-shingled roof, small-paned windows, and narrow clapboarding complete the early appearance of the house. The end of the south wing and the shed are covered with wider boards. Window sash is the proper twelve over twelve in most places, with smaller six over six in the wing. Both entries are notable, with cantilevered hoods sheltering the double-leaf doors. The multi-paneled doors have panes of bull's-eye glass set in the top panels.

The entire property is very well-kept and is open to the public under the auspices of the New Haven Colony Historical Society.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

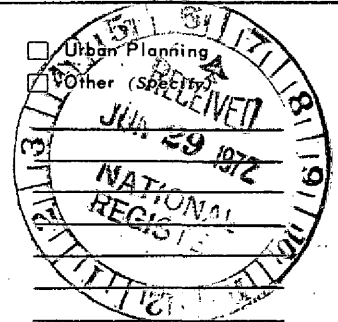
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c. 1700, 1767, 1780's

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The area of Solitary Cove or Little Neck, now called Morris Cove, was granted to Thomas Morris in 1671. One of the early settlers, he arrived in New Haven with his wife Elizabeth in 1638 with the group formed by John Davenport and Theophilus Eaton. Thomas died in 1673 and the land passed to his three sons, John, Eleazer, and Joseph. John and Eleazer began to buy more land in the Solitary Cove meadows and Indian lands as they became available. In 1705 John moved to New Jersey and sold his entire share of the farm to Eleazer; in the deed is mentioned "Ye mansion house now standing thereon". The house is undoubtedly somewhat earlier, for the stone ends show late 17th century work, and the oyster shells can be clearly seen in the mortar.

Eleazer had three sons, John, James, and Eleazer. John, in 1717, received that part of the farm on which stood the house and by 1744 owned the entire farm, having bought the remainder from his brother Eleazer. As John had no children, he left the property to James' children, Daniel and Amos. Daniel moved to Great Barrington, Massachusetts, and Amos became the sole owner. In 1767, Captain Amos Morris added the wing on the south side, with sandstone foundation, as distinguished from the granite of the main section.

On July 5, 1779, British troops under General Tryon invaded New Haven and burned all the homes on their line of march through Morris Cove. The Morris House was the first to be reached after they landed at Lighthouse Point. The stone ends and many of the heavy beams withstood the fire, and served as a beginning for the rebuilding by Amos in 1780 and 1781. A ballroom with vaulted ceiling was added either during this time or a few years later.

In all but two rooms the floors are wide pine boards. The frame of the house is white oak. The two southwest rooms on the first floor have fine stone fireplaces, one of which has a hand-hewn lintel, an oven, and a six-foot log capacity. The kitchen in the wing is now a dining room and the lower

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Crofut, F.S.M. A Guide to the History and the Historical Sites of Connecticut. Yale University Press. New Haven, 1938.
Connecticut: A Guide to its Roads, Lore, and People. American Guide Series. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. 1938.
The Connecticut Guide. Emergency Relief Commission, Hartford, Conn. 1935.
 "The Old Morris House" Pamphlet issued by the Pardee-Morris House Committee of the New Haven Colony Historical Society.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		41° 15' 22"	72° 53' 32"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Susan Babbitt, Administrative Trainee

ORGANIZATION: Connecticut Historical Commission DATE: June 15, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
59 South Prospect Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hartford STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name [Signature]

Title State Liaison Officer

Date June, 15, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 12/4/72

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 11-30-72

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Connecticut	
COUNTY	
New Haven	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
DEC 4	1972

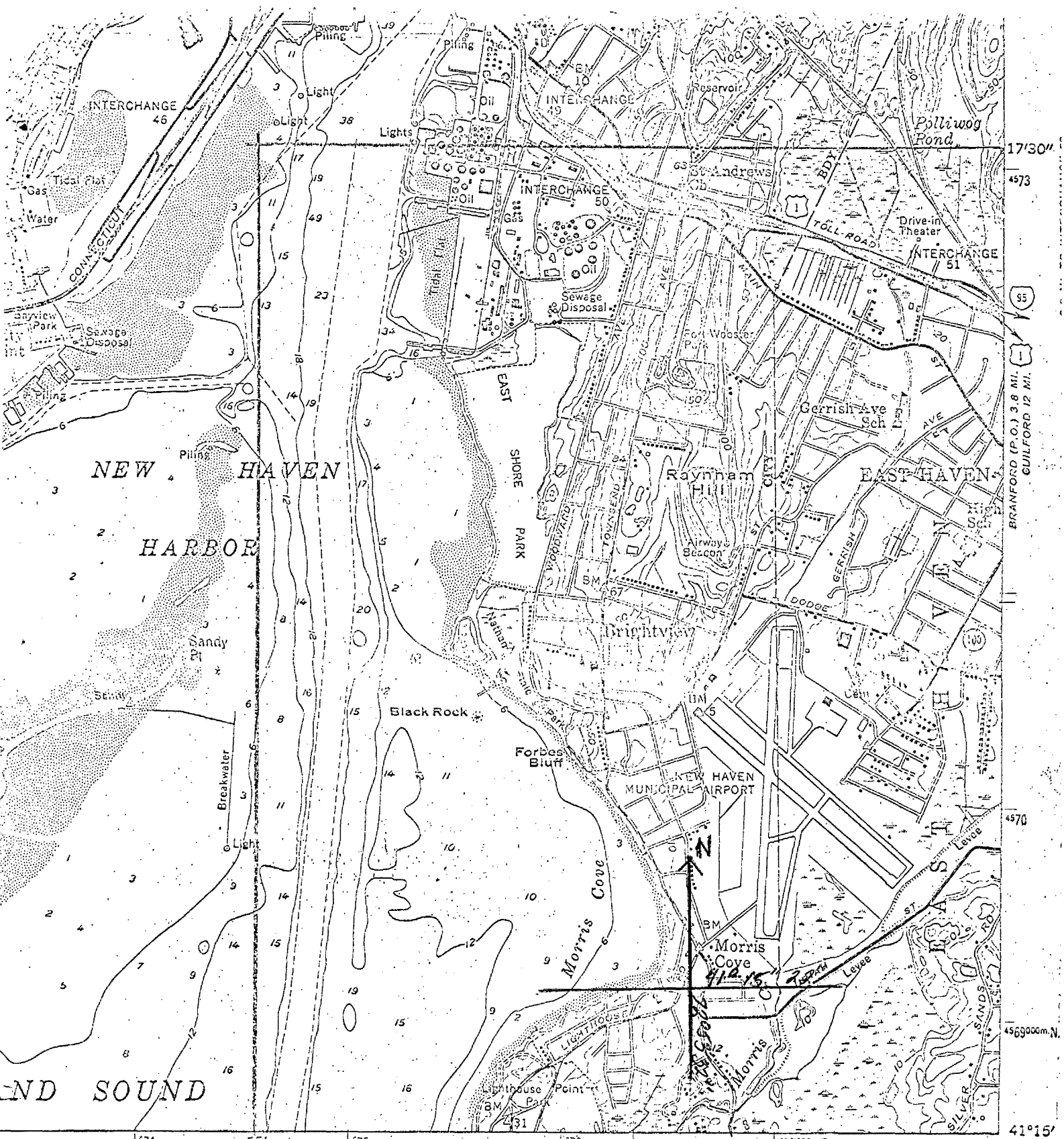
(Number all entries)

#8 Significance

part of two walls is of wide, horizontal wainscoting from the floor to the window sills, with rough sandstone above. At one time it was completely wainscoted.

In 1915 the property was to be sold. William Scranton Pardee of New Haven purchased it, but lived there only three years. Upon his death, it was left to the New Haven Colony Historical Society with an endowment for its maintenance.

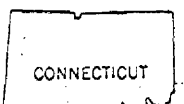
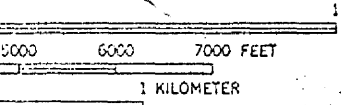




9 • INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.—1964

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty _____
- Medium-duty _____
- Light-duty _____
- Unimproved dirt _____
- Interstate Route
- U. S. Route
- State Route



17°30'
4573
INTERCHANGE 51
TOLL ROAD
Drive-in Theater
Gerrish Ave Sch
Raynham Hill
Brightview
NEW HAVEN MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
Morris Cove
4570
4569000m.N
41°15'
72°52'30"

(B7 6456