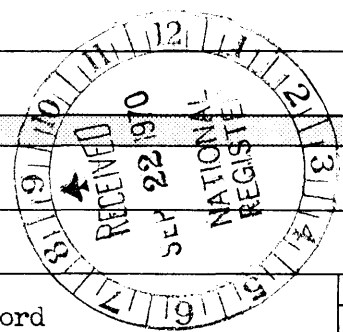


PH0120796

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Connecticut	
COUNTY: Hartford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.12.09.0043	DATE 12/29/79



1. NAME

COMMON:
Old Wethersfield

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Watertown, Pyquag

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
See continuation sheet "2. LOCATION"

CITY OR TOWN:
Wethersfield

STATE Connecticut	CODE 06109	COUNTY: Hartford	CODE 003
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Boating

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
There are approximately 1200 different structures in this district

STREET AND NUMBER:
and an unspecified number of property owners

CITY OR TOWN: Wethersfield	STATE: Connecticut	CODE 09
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Wethersfield Town Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Wethersfield	STATE: Connecticut	CODE 09
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: (1) Historic American Buildings Survey
(2) Connecticut Historic Structures and Landmarks Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: (1)? (2) 1967 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: (1) Library of Congress
(2) Connecticut Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
75 Elm Street

CITY OR TOWN: Wethersfield	STATE: Connecticut	CODE 09
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STATE:	Connecticut
COUNTY:	Hartford
ENTRY NUMBER:	70.12.09.0043
DATE:	12/29/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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

This large historic district comprises about 1200 dwellings of all ages, nearly 100 being colonial buildings. It is clearly defined by railroad tracks on the north and west, highway I 91 to the east and Wethersfield Cove also to the north.

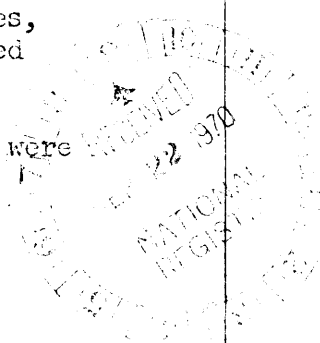
Wethersfield's green is a slender diamond nearly a half-mile long, part shaded, part open. Along both sides are lined colonial houses framed with those of later building. Around the corner from the green is the church. This is one of the few brick structures of its day (1761-4), a well preserved building which after being painted and the paint sand blasted off, retains most of its original appearance.

There are many types of Colonial and Federal buildings in the district. Some dwellings originated as one room structures, others were two story houses with two rooms on each floor. There are gambrel roofed structures, peaked roof houses with one, two, and four chimneys, brick houses of all types, and a few so changed that the original lines are undiscernable. Most of the wooden houses have new clapboarding, roofs, and the chimneys repointed, but they retain their original appearance, except in color; since although they are now white, they were originally colored with dull red, green, yellow and blue.

While most of the buildings are in a good state of repair, a few have undergone complete and painstaking restoration. The Antiquarian and Landmarks Society has restored the Buttolph-Williams House to its 1692 appearance; the Connecticut Chapter of Colonial Dames has preserved the Silas Deane House (1766), the Joseph Webb House (1752) and the Isaac Stevens House (1790). These are open to the public. The Town of Wethersfield owns the Solomon Welles House (1774) and the Henry Deming House (1790), which it uses for offices. The First School Society owns the Old Academy (1801) which is used by the Wethersfield Historical Society as a public museum. The Town of Wethersfield also owns a unique building, the Old Warehouse (c. 1690). This is one of seven built at this site to handle goods brought up the river in sloops and schooners from coastal cities, the West Indies, and across the Atlantic. It is located in a town owned park on the southeastern side of the cove.

A majority of the eighteenth century houses in the town were built by sea captains. They are not elaborate but were comfortable homes, built mostly by ship carpenters, and in their original locations.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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

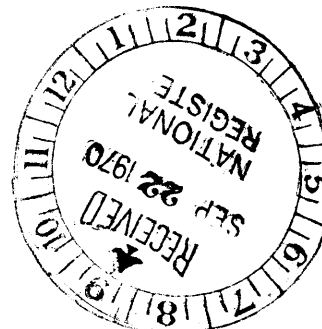
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Connecticut	
COUNTY Hartford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-12-09-0043	DATE 12/24/70

(Number all entries)

2. LOCATION

Wethersfield Historic District is a large district running from Hartford on the north to Rocky Hill on the South. It is clearly defined by the tracks of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad on the north and west, Highway I 91 to the east, and Wethersfield Cove, also on the north.



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

(Continuation Sheet)

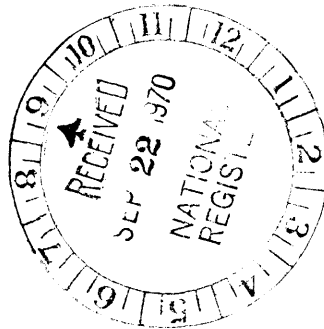
STATE Connecticut	
COUNTY Hartford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70.12.09.0043	12/29/70

(Number all entries)

- 4 -

Statement of Significance
Wethersfield Historic District

on Wethersfield Cove, flowed the trade of the upper Connecticut Valley to and from the Atlantic Coast cities and the West Indies. A unique and most important Wethersfield product was a flat red onion. This was marketed wherever Wethersfield ships sailed and was known as "Wethersfield Red". As many as a million and a half bunches were shipped in some years. The variety is still grown and seeds are sold throughout the world.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1634 to the present

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Wethersfield is one of the oldest areas of settlement in Connecticut. The first white men to acquire land there were a group of adventurers led by John Oldham from the Massachusetts Bay Colony. A number of people from Wethersfield have contributed to state and national history. These include Silas Deane who arranged for supplies for the Revolutionary Army in France and served in the Congress of the United States, Colonel John Chester whose carefully drilled regiment saved the battle of Bunker Hill, and the botanist Charles Wright, who was distinguished for his work in the southwest.

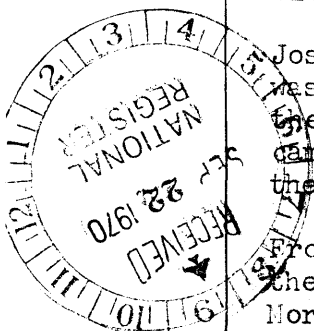
Wethersfield is noted for its military contributions to the colonies, and to the United States. During the Revolution a total of more than 550 men took up arms for at least part of the war. This was a remarkably large enlistment for a town of Wethersfield's population.

Wethersfield was one of the Connecticut towns joined together (Hartford and Windsor were the others) with the adoption of the "Fundamental Orders" in 1639. Some historians see this document as an important landmark in the evolution of democratic government --the first written constitution, the basis of the Constitution of Connecticut, and a model for the United States Constitution. Other important events in the town in the pre-revolutionary period were a voluntary tax collection to help Bostonians embargo English merchandise, the participation of the Company of Colonel John Chester in the "Lexington Alarm," and the confrontation and forced resignation of the Royal Stamp Master, Jared Ingersoll.

Joseph Webb's home in Wethersfield, now a National Historic ^{Landmark} Monument, was the scene of the Yorktown Conference, a dramatic event coordinating the Continental Army, the French Troops, and the French Fleet, in a campaign culminating in the victory at Yorktown, the final battle of the Revolutionary War.

From the earliest days of settlement the men of the town have used the Connecticut River and the Atlantic Ocean for their livelihood. More than half the able-bodied men were ship owners or sailors at least part of the time. Many ships were built here to engage in trade with Atlantic Coast cities, the West Indies and European ports. Wethersfield was until 1700 the head of transportation on the Connecticut River. Through warehouses, such as the one remaining

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic American Buildings Survey (CONN-129, CONN-110, CONN-128, CONN-127).
 Albert E. Van Dusen, Connecticut. New York: Random House, (1961).
 Florence G. Harp Crofut, Guide to the History and the Historic Sites of Connecticut. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1937.
 "Report of the Wethersfield Historic District Study Committee," December 13, 1961.

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
NW	41°	43'	53"	72°	40'	06"			
NE	41°	43'	53"	72°	38'	40"			
SE	41°	41'	12"	72°	40'	06"			
SW	41°	41'	12"	72°	38'	40"			
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:				1300					
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES									
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:		CODE					
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:		CODE					
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:		CODE					
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:		CODE					

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Constance Luster, Administrative Trainee

ORGANIZATION: Connecticut Historical Commission DATE: September 9, 1970

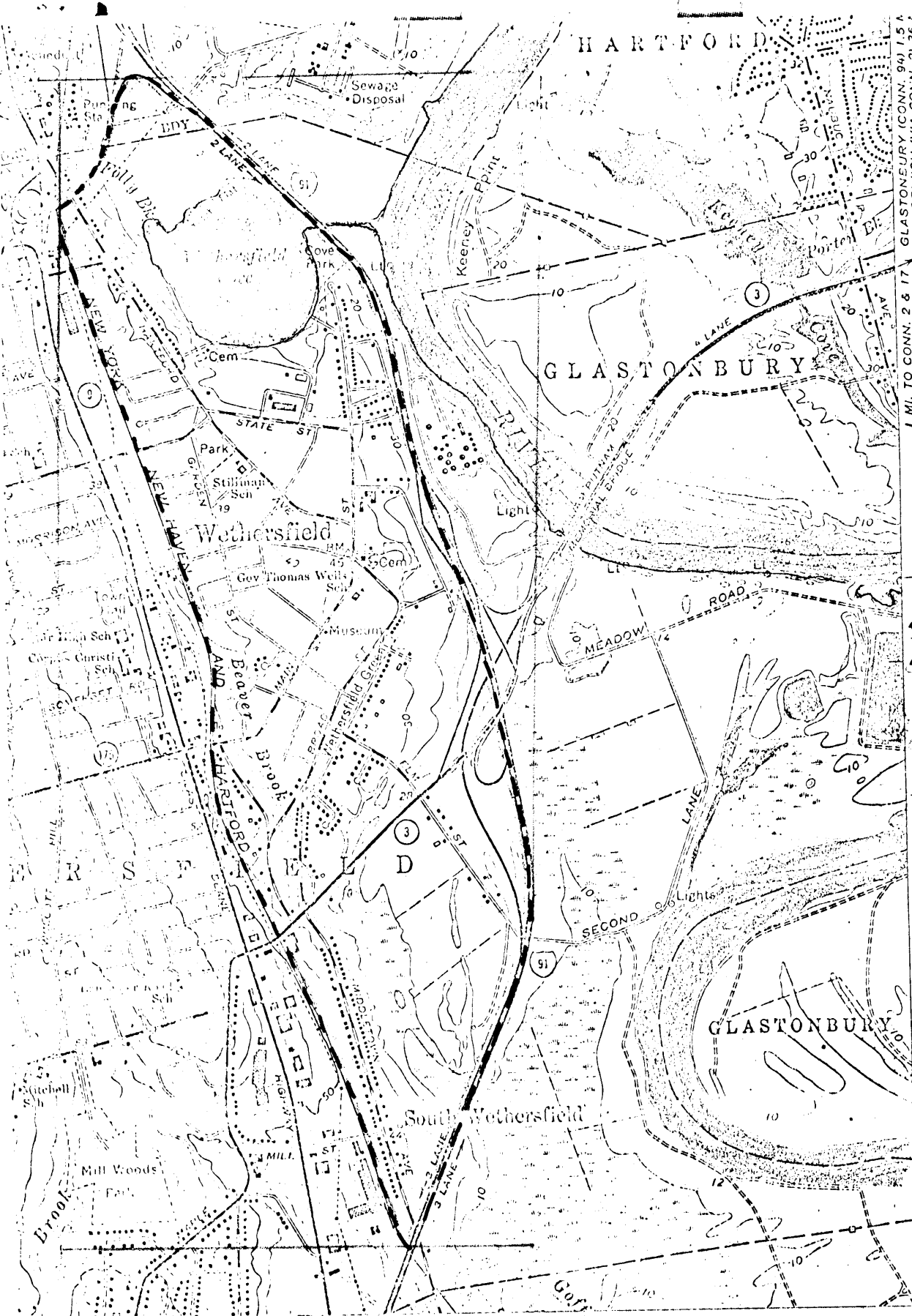
STREET AND NUMBER:
75 Elm Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hartford STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u>[Signature]</u> State Liaison Officer and Chairman Title: <u>Connecticut Historical Commission</u> Date: <u>September 9, 1970</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>DEC 29 1970</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Keeper of The National Register NOV 27 1970</p> <p>Date: _____</p>
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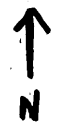
SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Latitude
 CORNER
 NW 41° 43' 53"
 NE 41° 43' 53"
 SW 41° 41' 12"
 SE 41° 41' 12"

LONGITUDE
 CORNER
 NW 72° 40' 06"
 NE 72° 38' 40"
 SW 72° 40' 06"
 SE 72° 38' 40"

1 MI. TO CONN. 2 & 17
 GLASTONBURY (CONN. 94) 1.5
 NORWICH (VA. CONN. 2) 36.4
 4620
 42'30"
 4619
 4618
 (GLASTONBURY)
 8°57' 11" NE



Old Wethersfield Historic District

Boundary Line