

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97001466 Date Listed: 12/15/97

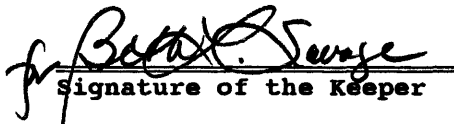
Hubbard Park
Property Name

Hartford
County

CT
State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

12-15-97
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

8. Statement of Significance: Significant Person

Walter Hubbard has not been justified as a significant individual associated with this property, thus his name is removed as such.

This information was discussed with John Herzan, National Register Coordinator, CTSHPO, by telephone.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without attachment)

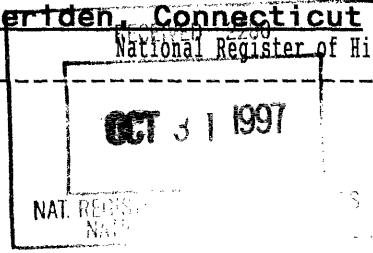
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1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: Hubbard Park

Other Name/Site Number: NA

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: West Main Street Not for publication: NA

City/Town: Meriden, Southington and Berlin

Vicinity: NA

State: CT County: Hartford Code: 03 Zip Code: 06450

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property

Private:

Public-local: x

Public-State:

Public-Federal:

Category of Property

Building(s):

District:

Site: x

Structure:

Object:

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

5

1

3

9

Noncontributing

6 buildings

 sites

5 structures

 objects

11 Total

Number of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: NA

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

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4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria.

John W. Shannahan 10/27/97
Signature of Certifying Official Date
John W. Shannahan, Director, Connecticut Historical Commission

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of Commenting or Other Official Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- Entered in the National Register _____
- Determined eligible for the _____
National Register
- Determined not eligible for the _____
National Register
- Removed from the National Register _____
- Other (explain): _____

John D. Dause 12/15/97
f Signature of Keeper Date of Action

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6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic: LANDSCAPE Sub: park

Current: LANDSCAPE Sub: park

7. DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification:
Romanesque Revival, Colonial
Revival, Rustic

Materials:
Foundation: Stone, Concrete
Walls: Stone, Wood
Roof: Asphalt, steel decking
Other Description: _____

Describe Present and Historic Physical Appearance.

Hubbard Park, 1,803 acres in size, is Meriden's largest park. The base line and southern boundary of the park is West Main Street, east of its intersection with Interstate 691/State Route 66 in the western part of the city. The eastern boundary runs north from West Main Street as a jagged line east of and roughly parallel with Reservoir Avenue/Park Road, then follows Edgewood Drive deep into the Town of Berlin. The northern boundary is parallel with and north of the line separating the towns of Berlin and Meriden, while the western boundary is approximately the town line of Southington. (See park map.) Approximately 995 acres of the park are located in the Town of Meriden; 40± acres are used by the interstate. Of the remaining land, the Town of Southington contains approximately 73 acres and the Town of Berlin has approximately 735 acres.

Hubbard Park is divided into two unequal sections by Interstate 691/State Route 66, which runs east-west through the city. To the north of the interstate, the 1,645± acres of terrain are natural, rough, steep, and rocky, with peaks that allow visitors to view great distances into the landscape (Photograph 10). The area is heavily forested with a mixture of mature deciduous and evergreen trees. This area has changed little over the years. South of the interstate, the land is more gently rolling. The western portion of this section, approximately 50 acres, is forested with mature deciduous trees, while the eastern section, approximately 68 acres, which is considered by most visitors as "the park," is dappled with a combination of deciduous and evergreen trees and tree-groupings, large areas of open lawn, Mirror Lake, and many designed activity areas for visitors to enjoy. The park's current appearance is similar to its original appearance, except that it is now larger in size (originally was 800 acres) and Interstate 691/State Route 66 bisects the park near its southern border.

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Hubbard Park is a diverse landscape. It varies more than 700 feet in elevation, from 300 feet above sea level near West Main Street to more than 1000 feet at its highest point, known as West Peak in the "Hanging Hills." The hills are the highest on the Atlantic seaboard within 50 miles of the coast (Gillespie, p. 41). The vegetation within the park contains many tree and shrub species and tree groupings. The area north of the highway is forested with a mixture of hemlock, pine, cedar, oak, and maple trees and mountain laurel. The southern section maintains two diverse areas. Its western area is cloaked with a forest of oaks and maples, while its eastern area is park-like with an arrangement of single specimen trees and tree groupings, including pine, hemlock, oak, and maple trees, flowering crab apples, and hedges of yew. The park-like eastern area of 68 acres south of the interstate is only 3.8 percent of the park's total area of 1,803 acres.

Circulation within Hubbard Park is provided by a network of bituminous asphalt roads and walkways, and natural trodden woodland paths covered with leaves that wind in and out in every direction, many of them lined by rubblestone walls. These linear routes of circulation provide park visitors with access to the views and the water elements that exist throughout the park, including moss and fern-lined spring-fed streams and brooklets.

Mirror Lake, approximately 6.5 acres in size, is the main water feature in the lower section of the park. A stone undulating edge surrounds the entire lake, along with Mirror Lake Drive (Photograph 7). A gently sloping lawn area contains majestic oak and maple trees with picnic tables placed underneath. At its southeast corner is a man-made dam with spillway (1897) (Photograph 2) traversed by a stone dust footpath that allows visitors to walk around the entire lake. The path is bordered by an Adirondack fence in support of the natural and rustic theme (Photograph 3). The edge of the lake is broken by two boat-launch ramps, reminiscent of bygone days when man-powered boats were rented and enjoyed by many visitors. Located along its western edge are two stone birdhouses (Photograph 7), each about six feet square, dinosaur footprints, and a newly rebuilt springhouse with a cobblestone foundation with wooden posts and railings and an asphalt-shingled hip roof (Photograph 8). Within the lake itself are at least three fountains that add to its interest and beauty (Photograph 9), as well as aerate the water to prevent stagnation.

The overflow from the Mirror Lake spillway and dam feeds a concrete-lined stream bed that twists its way to Trout Pond (Photograph 3). This shallow pond, with concrete sides and base, is located east of the lake, adjacent to West Main Street. Trout were kept in the pond for people to observe and feed. Downstream is the "Maid o' the Mist" fountain (Photograph 4), main feature of which is a jet-type fountain that spouts water about ten feet into the air. This fountain, in its pool with meandering edge and grass-covered banks featuring large oak and maple trees, is located at the original park entrance near West Main Street.

The largest water feature in Hubbard Park is Merimere Reservoir (Photograph 13). Located north of the interstate, it is more than 5,000 feet long and varies between 250 feet and 1000 feet in width. Near its southern end is a four-acre island covered with mature hemlock and pine trees. The entire reservoir is surrounded by mature oak, maple, hemlock, and pine trees. The shoreline is undulating and steep, and trees grow to the water's edge. Along the eastern shore run Reservoir Avenue and Park Road; the western shore is covered with a combination of rocks, rock ledges, and mature trees. A

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water treatment plant, at the southern end of the reservoir, provides drinking water to the City of Meriden.

Throughout the southern 118-acre section of the park there are many seating and picnic areas, stone cookout grills, shelters, open lawns, and designated activity spaces for visitors to enjoy. The northern section has fewer features, which is appropriate considering its natural setting.

There is a large number of buildings and structures within Hubbard Park, some new and many as old as the park (see Inventory). The older structures include the wooden pavilion called the Grecian Temple (1897-98) (Photograph 5), a cast-iron footbridge (1899) (Photograph 4), Castle Craig Tower, made of stone (1900) (Photograph 14), the Trolley Waiting Station (1901) (Photograph 1), the round "Fair View"/Halfway House (Figure 1), and stone Beehive fountains. An icehouse no longer exists. The newer structures include a glass-and-masonry greenhouse (1948), a concrete swimming pool with bathhouse (1950) that was recently renovated, two stone birdhouses (1958) (Photograph 7), Interstate 691/State Route 66 (mid-1960's) (Photograph 12), a brick-and-masonry band shell (1991) (Photograph 6), tennis courts, playground, storage buildings, water treatment plant, and radio and television antennas. Most of these structures are well-maintained.

Distinct time periods of construction have influenced the design and development of Hubbard Park. Most of the historic buildings, roads and walkways that remain today were built between 1897 and 1901. Between 1948 and 1958, an infusion of new buildings and activity areas were constructed, such as a greenhouse (1948), swimming pool (1950), wadding pool (1954), band shell (1956), birdhouse (1958), tennis courts, swings, and seesaws. In the mid-1960s, Interstate 691/State Route 66 was built through the park. This highway is the most intrusive element that has visually and physically impacted the park. In 1991, a new band shell was built to replace an earlier one.

For some years Hubbard Park had a zoo. It was largely displaced by construction of the interstate in the 1960s. A small zoo continued into the 1970s near the intersection of Mirror Lake Drive and Hubbard Park Drive, featuring such species as deer, llamas, and peacocks. The final building of this complex stood until 1996 (Photograph 12).

In the Hanging Hills at the western edge of the park 165 acres are leased commercially to serve as the site of antennas shared by about two dozen broadcast and communications companies. The location is technologically desirable because of its height.

Inventory

C and NC in the first column indicate whether the resources are considered to be contributing or non-contributing to the historical and architectural significance of the park. Dates are taken from the Historic Resource Survey Inventory Form and Meriden Assessor's field cards, and are occasionally determined by visual approximation.

East Peak

C Castle Craig Tower ca. 1900. David Stuart Douglass, architect, Peter J. Quigley, builder. 32' high x 58' in circumference. Constructed of local rubblestone, laid in irregular courses. Stone archway leads visitors through 3'-thick stone walls at base to steel staircase that ascends to steel observation deck, 32' above ground. Deck is secured by stone parapets and iron railings. (Photograph 14)

Sited prominently atop "Hanging Hills" overlooking park and city of Meriden. Distant views to Long Island Sound and Berkshires on clear days. (Photograph 10)

Hubbard Park Road

C Caretaker's Residence ca. 1900. 1 Hubbard Park Road. 1-story rubblestone-without-mortar Rustic house. Front porch columns are tree trunks. 1-over-1 windows. Low pyramidal roof with wide overhang. Low stone chimneys. (Photograph 11)

NC Park Department
Maintenance Facility ca. 1970s. Truck Storage. 1-story 50' x 80' wood and concrete block building.
ca. 1980s. Truck Storage. 1-story frame building.
ca. 1980s. Shop. 1-story concrete block building.
ca. 1980s. Garage. 1-story frame building.
ca. 1980s. 1-story frame storage building.
ca. 1980s. 1-story frame storage building.

C Fair View ca. 1900. Open wooden circular pavilion of 20' diameter resting on knee wall of rubblestone without mortar. Wooden posts. Low conical frame roof. (Figure 1)

Hanging Hills

NC Broadcast Antennas Steel towers and auxiliary buildings.

Mirror Lake Drive

- NC Bathhouse ca. 1950 1-story 13' x 49' rubblestone-with-mortar building with open central section, under hipped roof.
- NC Interstate 691/State Route 66, Elevated Highway ca. Mid-1960s.
- NC Greenhouse ca. 1948. 1-story metal-frame glass house in two sections, 11' x 13' and 28' x 42'.
- NC Springhouse ca. 1970s, rebuilt. Rubblestone knee wall, open wooden superstructure. Pyramidal wood-shingled frame roof. (Photograph 8)
- NC Stone birdhouses ca. 1958. (Photograph 7)
- NC Swimming pool ca. 1950. 44' x 104' concrete pool.

Reservoir Avenue

- NC Filtration Plant c. 1960s. 1-story 53' x 56' concrete block building.
c. 1960s. 7' x 14' steel water tower.
c. 1960s. 8' x 8' chlorinator house.
c. 1960s. 12' x 14' metal gatehouse.
c. 1960s. 12' x 12' brick gatehouse.
c. 1960s. 1-story concrete Water Department office building.

West Main Street

- C Grecian Temple ca. 1898. David Stuart Douglass, architect, Peter J. Quigley, builder. 1-story 43' x 29' rectangular open pavilion easily visible from West Main Street and neighborhood beyond. It stands alone and yet is closely associated with many activity areas in front or lower portion of park. Temple is symmetrically designed with free-standing full-height white Tuscan columns, seven along front and back and five along ends. Columns support wide entablature, also white. Ceiling is wood. Asphalt shingle roof is hipped with center ridge. Floor is poured concrete. (Photograph 5)
- C Iron Bridge ca. 1898. David Stuart Douglass, architect, Peter J. Quigley, builder. 10'-7" x 5'-1" bridge serves as pedestrian way to cross stream south of spillway and allow visitors access into park from West Main Street. Though pieces of ornamentation are missing, bridge is substantially intact. Square cast-iron end posts and round top rail are decorated with twisted wrought-iron

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cross braces and circular medallions, all painted black. Brass balls once adorned tops of end posts. Wood decking has been replaced. Bridge is tied structurally to low stone retaining walls that help channel stream. Structural members of bridge are steel beams, which support pressure-treated wood joists and decking. (Photograph 4) Originally were three such bridges; only one remains. While Douglass and Quigley were responsible for the bridge, it may have been a stock item rather than a custom design.

- NC James J. Barry Band Shell ca. 1991. 1-story 26' x 50' open stage at grade flanked by 13' x 17' wings. Rubblestone-with-mortar construction except for frame roof of stage. (Photograph 16)
- C Mirror Lake Spillway and Dam ca. 1897. (Photograph 2)
- C Stone Bridge ca. 1898. Stone bridge and spillway at eastern end of Maid o' the Mist Fountain. Final feature of the lower park's water system, near original entrance. Provided pedestrian access to park immediately at entrance.
- C Trolley Waiting Station ca. 1901. David Stuart Douglass, architect, Peter J. Quigley, builder. 2-story, 26'-5" x 36'-7" rubblestone structure built into grade, allowing visitors to enter at two levels. Upper level relates to parking area and Mirror Lake, while lower level relates to children's play area and Trout Pond. Foundation, square columns, and chimney are laid with uncut rubblestone in irregular courses. Lower level once housed public restrooms and flower bulb storage area. Porch recessed behind piers. Its wooden deck wraps around building on three sides. Aluminum replacement windows have six-over-six grid. Steel nine-panel door, vertical wooden siding, and tubular-steel railing also are new. Hipped roof with ridge has greenish-colored asphalt shingles and each slope has small dormer with semi-circular vent inset. Overhanging eaves are heavy, extended, and enclosed. Station was on line running from Meriden to Southington, part of statewide system operating at the time. (Photograph 1)
- NC Wading Pool ca. 1954.

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Nationally:___ Statewide:x Locally:___

Applicable National Register Criteria: A___ B___ Cx D___

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): A___ B___ C___ D___ E___ F___ G___

Areas of Significance:	Period(s) of Significance		Significant Dates
<u>LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE</u>	<u>1897</u>	<u>1947</u>	_____
<u>ARCHITECTURE</u>	<u>1897</u>	<u>1947</u>	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Significant Person(s): Walter Hubbard

Cultural Affiliation: NA

Architect/Builder: Peter J. Quigley, David Stuart
Douglass, Olmsted Brothers,
William Clarke

State Significance of Property, and Justify Criteria, Criteria Considerations, and Areas and Periods of Significance Noted Above.

Summary

The landscape architecture and the architecture of Hubbard Park are significant because they are good examples of early 20th-century naturalistic park design, comparable to work found in several Connecticut cities, including nearby Waterbury and Bristol. Far larger than the others, Hubbard Park also encompasses hundreds of acres of forest. While the designers and builders of Hubbard Park were not national figures, they did employ the Rustic style and naturalistic techniques that were standards of their era. The physical integrity of Hubbard Park is excellent. Though the park has grown and some changes have occurred, its feel, appearance, and completeness have survived the test of time.

The history of the origin of Hubbard Park is linked to Walter Hubbard, who had the foresight to establish the park and donate it to the City of Meriden. Hubbard Park has played a major role in the life of Meriden and all those who visit it.

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Historical Background

Hubbard Park began in the late 1890s on the initiative of Walter Hubbard (1828-1911), who gave several hundred acres of land for combination with several hundred acres already owned by the city and given by others (see Figure 2) to launch the park. Hubbard also actively supervised and financed the work of architect and builders (see below) to create the naturalistic roads, pathways, waterways, structures, and buildings of the landscape.

Most of the turn-of-the-century development work was done in the 118-acre southern section, which includes the 68-acre area commonly thought of as "the park" by most visitors. Exceptions built elsewhere were Castle Craig Tower at the peak, and the Fair View frame pavilion, which still is accessible only by foot. As the 20th century progressed, substantial acreage was added from time to time, notably in the Town of Berlin. Non-park-like facilities such as the water treatment plant and broadcasting antennas also were added, but because of the large size of the park did not impinge on park activities and presence.

Hubbard Park has always been a highly active and heavily visited public amenity. Many seasonal activities have occurred in the park throughout the years, such as fishing for children in Mirror Lake, ice-skating and boating on Mirror Lake, a Daffodil Festival in April, July 4th fireworks, hayrides in October, Christmas in the Park, concerts at the band shell, foot races to Castle Craig Tower, which is approximately a 3.1-mile distance along Reservoir Avenue and Percival Road, hiking and sightseeing. The northern section of the park, with its scenic overlooks, Castle Craig Tower, and natural appearance, provides visitors with a pastoral escape from life and work in the city below. The southern section has provided visitors with open lawn areas, water amenities, many different structures and activity areas, and naturalistic meandering roads, walkways, and paths leading throughout the park. The zoo in Hubbard Park was consistent with concurrent practice in other Connecticut parks. Keney Park, Hartford, and Hamilton Park, Waterbury, for example, had zoos contemporary with Hubbard Park's, which also have been discontinued.

In 1854 Hubbard and his brother-in-law founded the Bradley & Hubbard Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of lighting and other metal specialties employing 1,000 people (Gillespie, p. 65). Hubbard also was president of Meriden Gas Light Company, Meriden Electric Light Company, and Meriden Trust & Safe Deposit Company, as well as a member of the boards of directors of many other companies in Meriden. He supported various charities and established a park system, helping to finance construction of City and Brookside Parks as well as Hubbard Park. In 1899 Hubbard became one of several Commissioners of Parks, a position he held until his death. Hubbard Park was left to the city as his legacy.

Other important figures in the design and construction of Hubbard Park were Peter J. Quigley (1842-1920) and David Stuart Douglass (1880-1944). Quigley is remembered for working as a foreman at the Wilcox Silver Plate Company and then as a general contractor in Meriden. In this latter position he became acquainted with Walter Hubbard, who hired him in 1897 to construct the roads in Hubbard Park. In 1899, Quigley became Superintendent of Parks in Meriden and held that position until 1913, when he retired. It was during this time that he laid out and built Brookside Park on Bunker Avenue in Meriden. Quigley's salary as Superintendent of Parks was partially paid by Walter Hubbard.

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Landscape Architecture

Hubbard Park is a fine example of the naturalistic style of park design associated with urban park plans in the United States of the early 20th century. The park is a combination of nature preserve and designed landscape, and has maintained this dichotomy since its conception in 1897. The southern section (118 acres) is a heavily designed landscape with many water features, tree groupings, open lawn areas, meandering roads, winding walkways and footpaths, and a diverse collection of activity areas for visitors to enjoy. The northern section (1,645 acres) is naturalistic with its bold and varying forms of crags, cliffs and precipitous hillsides, surrounded by mature forests that overlook the City of Meriden below and the distant scenery beyond. Human influence and manipulation of the landscape is noticeable, but designed in a manner that takes advantage of the natural terrain to the benefit of the park and its visitors.

Walter Hubbard influenced and oversaw the layout and construction of Hubbard Park even though he was not a park designer. Hubbard invited the renowned landscape architecture firm, Olmsted Brothers, to visit the park and to make recommendations in its design and layout. After visiting, the firm wrote seven letters to Hubbard between 1898 and 1899, two of which were followed closely as evidenced by the fact that they describe the present situation of the park in great length (The Letter Books, Olmsted Associates, Library of Congress). They made several observations and recommendations for improving the park, such as road and walk design and construction, edge treatment for Mirror Lake and Merimere Reservoir, and ways to improve the scenic vistas from the mountain peaks. Hubbard incorporated some of their suggestions, for instance that Mirror Lake Drive should follow the perimeter of Mirror Lake. The Olmsted firm suggested placing a foot path over the spillway and dam instead of continuing the road, thereby diverting horse and carriage traffic while allowing pedestrian access around the entire lake. Research indicates that the Olmsted Brothers did not prepare any drawings for Hubbard Park.

Despite the changes, uses of the park have remained stable. The small southern section remains devoted to intensive park activities, while the large northern part continues as a nature preserve. The original design plan established these uses, which have continued for 100 years.

Walter Hubbard chose William Clarke, City Surveyor, to lay out the roads and Peter J. Quigley, contractor, to build the roads in the park. Their design influence remains because the roads have changed little over the years.

Architecture

The architecture in Hubbard Park is designed in the Rustic mode, which relates easily and well to the naturalistic landscape. The planning was well thought out as a whole. Architecture and landscape architecture mutually support one another in achieving an overall effect, working hand-in-hand to create a unified whole for the experience of entering and enjoying the park.

The Rustic mode was adopted for three of the four principal ca. 1900 Hubbard Park historic buildings: the Trolley Waiting Station, Castle Craig Tower, and Fair View.

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The fourth, the Grecian Temple, reflected a contemporary style of equal preference, the Neo-Classical/Colonial Revival.

The Rustic mode, which embraced influences from the Arts and Crafts movement, was particularly well-suited to naturalistic landscapes and was widely adopted for the purpose. For example, rubblestone masonry without mortar was used at about the same time in construction of buildings in Hamilton Park, Waterbury, and Rockwell Park, Bristol, among others. Buildings were effectively related to the landscape by use of similar masonry for both buildings and walls and bridges throughout the developed area of Hubbard Park, creating a unified visual whole for the entity.

The largest and most striking building, in the characteristic masonry, is Castle Craig Tower. Buildings of this general description had been constructed earlier in the 19th century, as at Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Other similar towers in Connecticut include Haystack Mountain Tower, Norfolk, and Mount Tom Tower, Litchfield, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Both are similar in design and materials, and in purpose of providing scenic views over many miles of landscape. Castle Craig excels in meeting this purpose because of its elevated site at the edge of an escarpment, presenting unobstructed views to east, south, and west.

The Trolley Waiting Station design also is site-specific. Broad low-pitched stone steps on the north side of the building tie the building gently but effectively to the landscape contour.

The Grecian Temple, being entirely different, is physically separated from the range of features designed in the Rustic mode, overlooking the lower end of the park waterway system from its elevated site. It is a spare, restrained design, but cohesive and consistent in its arrangement of Neo-Classical/Colonial Revival details. In concept and function it parallels the masonry Summerhouse Pavilion at Rockwell Park, Bristol. At the turn of the century, eclecticism was in vogue; use of Rustic elements along with Colonial Revival features was popular. Douglass showed he was in tune with the times by using both styles.

David Stuart Douglass is the architect credited with designing the foregoing buildings. Since he was employed as draughtsman and designer by Bradley & Hubbard Manufacturing Company between 1897 and 1904, the years when the park was taking shape, his services presumably were underwritten by Walter Hubbard and his company. In 1904 Douglass moved to New York City to attend Pratt Institute. In 1920 he returned to Connecticut as architect for the developer/contractor T.R. Desmond on a Hartford housing project. Douglass remained in the Hartford area until his death in 1944. Three of his West Hartford commissions have been identified: the Robert D. Hastings House, 4 Bainbridge Road; Leslie P. Abbe House, 21 Colony Road; and Howard Hammitt House, 40 Colony Road. The trio are located near one another in a neighborhood then being developed as residences for Hartford executives. Two of the three houses are in the Colonial Revival style, the third Tudor Revival. All are suave designs in the fashionable modes of the day, well-executed, and displaying no descent from the architect's Rustic work in Hubbard Park.

Two newer buildings in the park have been designed in the Rustic tradition. The Bathhouse, ca. 1950, and James J. Barry Band Shell, ca. 1991, are constructed in rubblestone similar to that used in the original ca. 1900 work, the chief difference being that the new masonry uses mortar. On the whole, the bathhouse and the band shell

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are sensitive to the Rustic tradition, yet self-contained and effective as added buildings.

Hubbard Park combines 1,645 acres of natural, rough, steep, rocky, and heavily forested primordial terrain with 118 acres of developed naturalistic parkland. Most of the buildings, roadways, walks, walls, and other furniture are in the 68 acres often referred to by the public as "the park," which receives by far the heaviest use. The entire entity was conceived by Walter Hubbard and developed under his supervision. The land and buildings of the most heavily used 68 acres are designed in the Rustic style in a simple and straightforward, perhaps amateurish, manner, but with the virtue of clear basic consistency. The Rustic architecture works well with the naturalistic landscape as a foreground to the forested terrain in a manner that has survived with unusual integrity.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Preliminary Determination of Individual Listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- Previously Listed in the National Register.
- Previously Determined Eligible by the National Register.
- Designated a National Historic Landmark.
- Recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey: # _____
- Recorded by Historic American Engineering Record: # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other: Specify Repositories:

City Hall, Engineer's Office, Assessor's Office, Meriden, CT.
 Dan DeLuca, personal research collection, Meriden, CT.
 Meriden Public Library, Meriden Room Collection, Meriden, CT.
 Parks and Recreation Department, informational file, City of Meriden, CT.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: 1,803

UTM References: Zone Northing Easting Zone Northing Easting

A	18	4605550	681810	B	18	4603960	681310
C	18	4603800	681920	D	18	4602320	681700
E	18	4602510	681280	F	18	4601570	680930
G	18	4602580	679280	H	18	4603740	679360
I	18	4605170	680380				

Verbal Boundary Description:

The district boundary is shown by the heavy dashed line on the accompanying Site Map.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary is the present boundary of the park, which is essentially the land assembled ca. 1900, with subsequent acquisitions and small divestments.

NAME

Hubbard Park, Meriden, Connecticut

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II. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title: David F. Ransom
 Org.: Architectural Historian
 Street/#: 33 Sunrise Hill Drive
 City/Town: West Hartford
 State: CT
 ZIP: 06107
 Telephone: 860 953-8626

and

Name/Title: Thomas J. Elmore,
 Org: Senior Associate, Denig Design Associates, Inc.,
 Landscape Architects/Historians
 Street/# 276 Elm Street
 City: Northampton
 State: MA
 ZIP: 01060
 Telephone: 413 585-1644

Date: May 1997

Reviewed by John F.A. Herzan, National Register Coordinator

List of Photographs

The following photographs were taken by Thomas Elmore in October 1994, except Photographs 10 and 11, which were taken by David Ransom in May 1997. Negatives are on file at the Connecticut Historical Commission, 59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT.

Photograph 1

Trolley Waiting Station
View west

Photograph 2

Spillway and Dam at Mirror Lake
View northwest

Photograph 3

Trout Pond
View northwest

Photograph 4

Iron Bridge and Maid O' the Mist Fountain
View southeast

Photograph 5

Grecian Temple
View southwest

Photograph 6

Band Shell
View south

Photograph 7

Mirror Lake, Bird Houses, and Mirror Lake Drive
View northeast

Photograph 8

Spring House
View north

Photograph 9

Mirror Lake
View southwest

Photograph 10

View south from Castle Craig.
Lake at right center is Mirror
Lake (see Photographs 7, 9).

Photograph 11

Caretaker's Cottage
View northeast

NAME

Hubbard Park, Meriden, Connecticut

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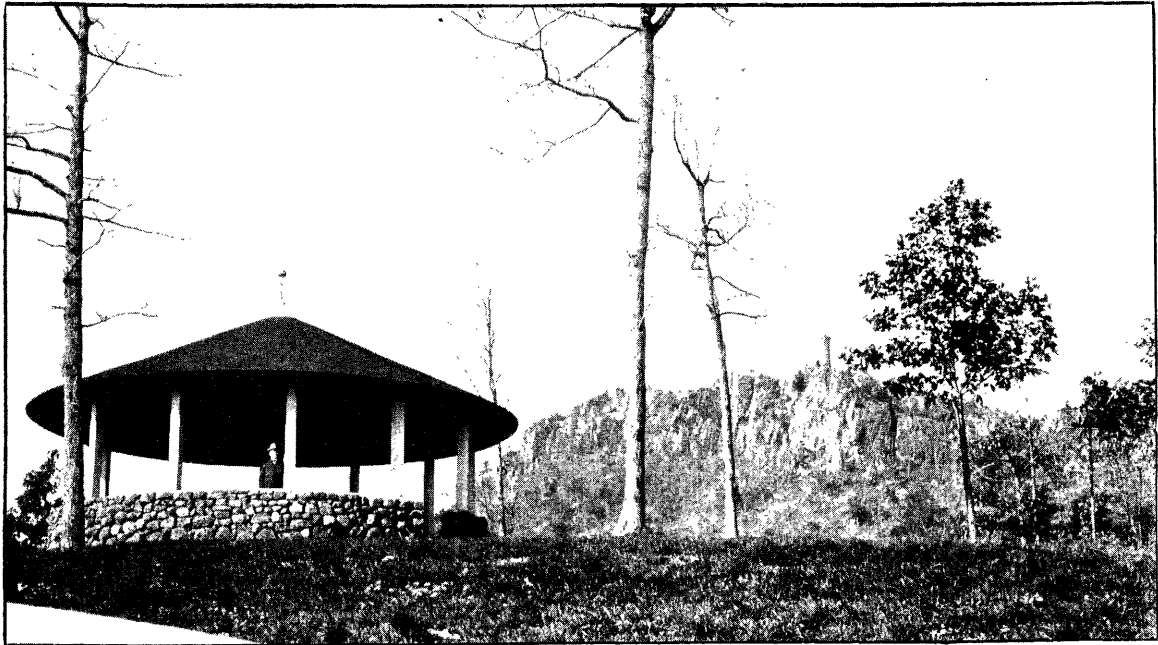
United States Department of the Interior

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Photograph 12
Old Hubbard Zoo
View north

Photograph 13
Merimere Reservoir
View west

Photograph 14
Castle Craig Tower
View south



CASTLE CRAIG TOWER AND PAVILION, FROM FAIR VIEW.

Hubbard Park

Meriden, CT

Fair View

Walter Hubbard standing
next to column

Source: *Hubbard Park, Meriden,
Conn.*, no pagination, no date
(ca.1900)

Figure 1

**HUBBARD PARK
MERIDEN, CT**

T.M. REFERENCES

- 18/4605400/681810
- 18/4603969/681310
- 18/4603800/681920
- 18/4602320/681700
- 18/4602510/681280
- 18/4601570/680930
- 18/4602580/679280
- 18/4603740/679360
- 18/4605170/680380



4606 35' 4605
4604 4603
6467 III SW (SOUTHINGTON) MILDALD 0.8 MI.
WATERBURY (VIA I-84) 8 MI. 2.1 MI. TO INDIAN STATE 84
HARTFORD CO NEW HAVEN CO

RECORD OF TITLE

BERLIN LAND RECORDS				MERIDEN LAND RECORDS			MERIDEN LAND RECORDS								
TRACT	NAME	VOL.	PAGE	ACRES	TRACT	NAME	VOL.	PAGE	ACRES	TRACT	NAME	VOL.	PAGE	ACRES	
1	JOHN C. HALL	44	330	2.9	12	WALTER HUBBARD	107	34	50	37	CHAS. PARKER CO.	100	34	1.0	
2	WM. H. BALDWIN	47	513	180	13	WALTER HUBBARD	107	344	9	38	NAUG VALLEY ICE CO	147	208	1.0	
3	WM. H. BALDWIN	47	513	<u>A</u>	14	M. DANEKINDT	167	462	6	39	TOWN OF MERIDEN	100	265	12.44	
4	MILDRED K. HAMEL	138	226	4.9	15	WALTER HUBBARD	107	33	50	40	M.B. PUTNAM	97	372	6	
5	L. PECK	47	473	4.0	16	WALTER HUBBARD	107	344	8	41	CHAS. H. LYNES	97	417	16	
6	JAMES KENNEDY	44	396	17	17	R. E. JOYCE	179	498	8	42	GEO. A. PRATT	108	101	22	
7	JOHN C. HALL	44	329	27.3	18	S. P. SHIPLEY	167	463	6	43	THE CONN. CO.	164	283	1.0	
8	L. PECK	47	473	10	19	WALTER HUBBARD	114	193	78						
9	MILDRED K. HAMEL	138	226	110	22	WM. JOHNSON	29	375	79.5						
10	WM. KENNEDY	44	331	26	25	H. N. JOHNSON	86	236	100						
11	M. A. BUTLER	60	535	30	26	O. B. ARNOLD	108	53	4						
20	WALTER HUBBARD	44	506	<u>B</u>	27	H. N. JOHNSON	86	236	521						
21	H. N. JOHNSON	42	495	<u>C</u>	28	H. N. JOHNSON	29	684	0.5						
23	J. O'BRIEN	37	60	5.31	29	W. H. MAYNARD	119	446	1.10						
24	W. R. KENNEDY	69	36	25	30	J. B. HALL	184	410	15						
					31	H. JOHNSON	66	56	1/2						
					32	H. N. JOHNSON	86	236	24						
					33	H. JOHNSON	86	236	<u>D</u>	44	GEO. A. PRATT	47	485	<u>E</u>	
					34	S. C. PADDOCK	107	315	2 3/4	45	CHAS. H. LYNES	42	518	<u>F</u>	
					35	W. HUBBARD	111	519	10	46	WALTER HUBBARD	42	620	18	
					36	MARY CONNERS	166	249	4.0		SEE NOTE 'B'				
							SOUTHINGTON LAND RECORDS								
							VOL.	PAGE	ACRES			VOL.	PAGE	ACRES	

A ACREAGE INCLUDED IN TRACT 2 BERLIN.

B ACREAGE IN BERLIN INCLUDED IN TRACT 19 MERIDEN.

C ACREAGE IN BERLIN INCLUDED IN TRACT 27 MERIDEN.

D ACREAGE INCLUDED IN TRACT 25 MERIDEN.

E ACREAGE INCLUDED IN TRACT 42 MERIDEN.

F ACREAGE INCLUDED IN TRACT 41 MERIDEN.

**Hubbard Park
Meriden, CT**

Table of early land acquisitions.
Volume 29 is 1869, Volume 107 is 1901.

Figure 2