

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

832



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Elam Ives House

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 95 Ives Street not for publication
city or town Hamden vicinity _____
state CT code CT county New Haven code 009
zip code 06518

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide locally. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

8-18-10
Date

CCT / SHPO

State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 ___ See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
 National Register
 ___ See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
 National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Edson H. Ball 10-12-10

[Signature]

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 1 </u> buildings
___	___ sites
___	___ structures
___	___ objects
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 1 </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: VACANT/NOT IN USE Sub: _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL/Postmedieval English

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Sandstone
roof Asphalt Shingles
walls Wood Shingles
other Brick

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type,

period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance ca. 1790

Significant Dates ca. 1790

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property .4

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>18</u>	<u>675764</u>	<u>4585651</u>	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	<u>See continuation sheet.</u>					

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title James Sexton, Consultant

organization _____ date 1 May 2009

street & number 274 Clinton Ave. telephone 914.235-8074

city or town New Rochelle state NY zip code 10801

=====
Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority

street & number 90 Sargent Drive telephone 203-562-4020

city or town New Haven state CT zip code 06511-5966

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 7

Elam Ives House
name of property
New Haven County, CT
county and State

=====

The Elam Ives house is a 1 and 1/2 story, timber frame Colonial house with a roughly square plan, asymmetrical pitched roof and brick center chimney. (Photograph 1) The walls are clad in wood shingles, the roof covered with asphalt shingles, and the building sits on a red-sandstone and fieldstone foundation. It was constructed ca. 1790. The building's size, shape and the location of its chimney all identify it as a product of the 18th century. A number of original features also have been preserved on the interior, including both an unusual example of a square plan arrangement and a timber frame labeled with cardinal directions in addition to the more common raising numerals.¹ The house sits on the west bank of the Mill River on Ives Street in the suburban Ivesville neighborhood of Hamden. It faces north on the south side of the street. While the building has been vacant for a number of years, it remains in fair condition. Although the neighborhood around the house has filled in over the two centuries that the building has been standing, many of the surrounding buildings were constructed in the 19th century as the immediate neighborhood grew up around the Ives family's factory across the river from the house. The historic character of the surrounding neighborhood combined with the building's location among large tracts of land preserved by the Regional Water Authority has helped to preserve the integrity of the building's setting.

Exterior

The building's peaked roof is asymmetrical, with the front eaves being higher than the rear. In addition, the rear slope of the roof has a slight bell cast, with the pitch lessening in a gentle curve towards the bottom of the slope. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles. Rising from the center of the roof is a brick chimney lined at the top by a slightly projecting course of bricks.

The facade is composed of a pair of 2/2 windows flanking the simple front entry topped by a four-light transom. All three elements sit directly under a simple cornice molding. A modern aluminum gutter painted white sits against the cornice and is emptied by a leader at the western end of the facade. The building is currently covered in unpainted wood shingles. The decorative trim is painted a contrasting white with the exception of the front door's transom muntins, which are painted green. Shutters flanking the windows on the facade are painted a matching green.

The gable ends of the building are more complex. The eastern end contains a central 2/2 window surrounded by three smaller four light windows arranged in a triangle. (Photographs 1) The eastern gable also has a window sitting between, and

¹ Raising numerals or marriage marks are the Roman numerals that early timber framers used to label the elements of a house so that they could be assembled in the correct manner when the building was raised.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 8

Elam Ives House
name of property
New Haven County, CT
county and State

below, the central window and the southern flanking window. This window is made up of ten small panes surrounding a larger rectangular central pane. On the ground floor a pair of 2/2 windows flank an imaginary line dropped from the peak of the roof. The southern window butts up against a wide five-paneled door. A small 4/4 window is located at the southern end of the elevation.

The western end also contains a central 2/2 window surrounded by three openings. (Photographs 2) At this end of the building the lower openings contain nine light windows while the upper opening is a vent. On the ground floor, a pair of 2/2 windows flanking an imaginary line dropped from the peak of the roof. A small 4/4 window and a 6/9 window sit at the southern end of this elevation.

At each gable end the cornice molding, which is located beneath a slight overhang, continues along the façade to the bottom edge of each gable. In both cases the molding steps down as it reaches the southern end of the elevation. This jog accommodates a change in the height of the overhang as it moves from the portion of the building on a visible foundation to that part where the building appears to sit at grade, rather than on a masonry base.

The rear elevation of the building is divided into three roughly equal parts. (Photograph 2) The eastern and western parts have no fenestration. The central section is recessed under the roof. A door opens into each of the flanking sections while two 2/2 windows are on the wall between this porch and the main block.

The front of the building sits on a foundation of ashlar red sandstone that has been thoroughly repointed with modern mortar. A break in the ashlar occurs to the east of the main entrance, where the gap is filled with undressed fieldstone. (Photograph 3) Because of the grade around the building no more than two courses of stone can be seen; in many places only part of a course is visible. At the rear of the building, below the lowered overhang, the foundation is undressed fieldstone with modern repairs. The front door sits above two large, dressed granite steps while the side door is above modern poured concrete steps.

Interior

The interior of the Ives House is made up of an unfinished basement, nine rooms on the first floor, two rooms with auxiliary spaces on the second floor and a small attic space overhead. (See Plan)

The ground floor contains three groups of rooms: three in front of or next to the chimney, four behind those, and two at the rear of the building. One enters the building into the room directly in front of the chimney. The southern wall of this room contains a small brick firebox with a plain, parged surround. It is surmounted by feather-edge sheathing with a small cabinet in its center. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9

Elam Ives House
name of property
New Haven County, CT
county and State

firebox is flanked by projecting wall sections. Each contains, moving up from the floor, a mop board, plaster wall, a chair rail and vertical sheathing. A cabinet with a paneled door is centered on each space. The flanking walls, i.e. those on the east and west, are each divided into areas with two different finishes. Their southern ends are made up of the rear of the paneling from the flanking rooms and doorways while their northern ends have plaster walls with continuations of the mop board and chair rail. (Photograph 4) Each also has a cased post as their northern terminations. The northern wall contains the two-panel door with transom flanked by plaster wall with mop board and chair rail. The room has a wide board floor and remnants of a plaster and lath ceiling.

The northeastern room has the highest level of finish in the house. The western wall is dominated by raised paneling around the firebox. (Photograph 5)

The door to the entryway is located at the northern end of the paneling. An elaborate crown molding unites the various sections of the paneling. The rest of the western wall, and the majority of the other walls in the room, are plaster with a mop board and chair rail. The northern wall contains a single window roughly aligning with the middle of the room. At the western end of this wall there is a break in the mop board and no chair rail. At the eastern end of the wall sits a large corner cupboard. (Photograph 6) The cupboard is open above with a two panel door below and fluted pilasters at the edge of its face. Both the top and bottom of the cupboard have elaborate moldings and the shelves are curved with three projecting lobes. The eastern wall has a single, centrally located window. The southern wall contains two four-paneled doors, one at the western end into the kitchen area behind the chimney and one at the eastern end to the stairs up to the second floor. The door leading to the stairs is raised above floor level and reached by a single step that protrudes into the room. Each door appears to retain its original hardware. The room has wide board floors and a plaster and lath ceiling that appears to be original.

The room to the west of the current entry shares several features with the room to the east of the entry. The fireplace wall has a section of paneling, a door, and a section of plaster wall. The plaster section of the wall includes, as do the other three walls in the room, a mop board, chair rail, and simple molding at the ceiling. A single window is roughly centered on each of the exterior walls, and the floor is made up of wide boards and the ceiling appears to be original plaster and lath. There are several distinct differences between this room and the northeastern room. The paneling in this room does not incorporate the door. Instead, the paneling ends to the north of the firebox at which point the wall jogs to the west several inches incorporating the surround for the opening into the entry. (Photograph 7) A pair of modern glass doors, each with two columns of five lights, fills the opening between this room and the kitchen.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 10

Elam Ives House
name of property
New Haven County, CT
county and State

The middle rank of rooms is dominated by the kitchen in the center. (Photograph 8) This room was modernized several times over the life of the house. The floor is covered with linoleum, the ceiling is plaster board, and modern conveniences such as running water, a stove, and cabinets were installed. Nevertheless, the room retains many of its original features. The northern wall is plaster with a mop board and chair rail. It contains the cooking hearth in its center flanked by doors into the northeast and northwest rooms. The firebox sits within a simple board surround with simply molded inside and outside edges. It appears to have a bake oven to its east, although this was not fully accessible due to modern appliances. The area above the firebox is clad in narrow board sheathing and shows evidence of a thimble for a stove. (Photograph 9) Both the western and southern walls are plaster, and continue the mop board and chair rail of the northern wall. The western wall contains batten doors with plain board surrounds into the two western rooms. The southern wall contains two windows and a door into the southwestern rear room. The southeastern corner of the room is filled by a closet constructed out of vertical boards with a batten door. The eastern wall of the room is made up of feather edge sheathing with a door into the eastern room. The northeastern corner of the room contains the door to the cellar stairs.

There are two rooms to the west of the kitchen. The northern one has a wide board floor and plaster walls with a mop board and chair rail on all walls except the southern one. This wall appears to be a modern intrusion, perhaps erected at the time the first bathroom was installed in the house. There is a window in the room's western wall. The southern room's conversion to a bathroom removed most traces of its original materials. East of the kitchen sits a small room and the stairs to the second floor. While the room has a modern linoleum floor it retains several important early features. The western wall is extremely wide feather edge sheathing, with boards exceeding 30 inches. (Photograph 10) The eastern wall, which is plaster, includes a window and a five-panel door. The roughly four foot wide door has three narrow raised panels over two wider ones and hangs on what appear to be original strap hinges. This large door may have been the house's original front door. The northeastern corner of the room contains a step up to the landing of the stairs to the second floor.

The stairs run up from east to west, ascending from a landing at the eastern wall of the house that can be reached from both the northeast room and the room to the east of the kitchen. The stairway is clad in both horizontal and vertical sheathing, with the horizontal below the level of the second floor and the vertical above it. Its eastern wall is plastered, with the late-19th century window made up of small panes flanking a larger central one just above the level of the second floor.

The room in the southwestern corner of the house was turned into storage space

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 11

Elam Ives House
name of property
New Haven County, CT
county and State

during the 19th and 20th centuries, and now contains a linoleum or vinyl floor, modern shelving on metal brackets attached to a plaster board wall and a bead board ceiling. One window is located in the western wall. The door into the kitchen is in the northern wall, next to the door to the covered outdoor area in the eastern wall.

The room in the southeastern corner of the house was less modified. While the exterior walls were covered with plaster board, the northern wall is clapboarded and the ceiling has been removed to expose the framing of the roof. (Photograph 11) The preservation of the clapboards suggests that this room, and perhaps its pair on the other side of the covered porch, are additions. Based on the cut nails that can be seen attaching the rafter extensions to the original rafters in the attic, the roof appears to have been extended in the first half of the 19th century to incorporate these two rooms and the open space between them. (Photograph 12) Elsewhere in the house the nails are hand-wrought.

The second floor contains two finished rooms linked by a short hallway and unfinished attic space. The eastern room is quite simple, with plaster walls, a window in the eastern wall and a batten door in the western one. There is modern carpeting on the floor. The western room is larger and contains a wall of vertical feather-edge sheathing surrounding a small fireplace with mantel shelf on the east. The other walls are plaster with a mop board, and the northern wall follows the slope of the roof at its top. The western wall contains a cased post at the point that the slope of the roof is visible in the ceiling. Both a large and small window light the room from the west. A door in the southern wall opens into a modern closet that runs for the width of the room from east to west. The rest of the second floor is unfinished attic space.

An additional level contains a small amount of space over the second floor rooms. The house from the southern wall of the kitchen and adjacent rooms north sits over a dirt floored basement.

A small one-car garage sits behind the house.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 12

Elam Ives House
name of property
New Haven County, CT
county and State

The Elam Ives House is a well preserved example of a small, late 18th century dwelling. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of the square plan house type and is constructed with some of its timbers labeled with cardinal directions, an approach that has not been well documented in the literature on historic timber framing. These characteristics help it to meet National Register criterion C as it demonstrates "the distinctive characteristics of a type" and an unusual "method of construction."

Historical Context

The Elam Ives house has had very few owners in its history. A four acre lot adjacent to the Mill River and south of the highway was purchased on February 5, 1787 by Elam Ives from David Phipps for £37.10s.0d.² Local tradition suggests that the house was built by the time of Elam Ives's marriage to Sarah Hitchcock (1771-1852) in 1790.³ This is bolstered by the fact that Elam Ives is listed in the 1790 Federal Census directly after Jonathan Ives, one of the listed abutters in the deed for the property. The only inhabitants of the house at the time are two adults.⁴ Over the next 25 years Elam and Sarah Ives had 13 children, with the decennial censuses reflecting the growing family.⁵ By the time of the 1840 census the house had returned to sheltering only two adults, Elam and Sarah Ives.⁶

Elam Ives is an important figure in the early industrial history of both Hamden and the region. He is credited by his son in the town's centennial history with two important firsts: starting hardware manufacturing in the town, and being the first to mechanize the production of carriage and harness hardware, contributing to the regional carriage production industry that centered on New Haven.⁷ The Ives factory, located across the river from the Elam Ives house, and the workers' housing that grew up in the area around the factory lead the neighborhood to be called Ivesville. James, Henry, Parsons and Jason Ives, four of Elam's sons, all participated in the carriage fittings and parts business in Hamden and New Haven, occasionally in competition with each other.

² *Hamden Land Records*, v. , p. .

³ Martha May Becker and Nancy Davis Sachse, *Hamden: Our Architectural Heritage* (Hamden, CT: Hamden Historical Society, 1986), p. 144; <http://trees.ancestry.com/owt/person.aspx?pid=12902559>, , viewed September 15, 2008.

⁴ 1790 Federal Census, www.ancestry.com.

⁵ William P. Blake, *History of the Town of Hamden, Connecticut with an Account of the Centennial Celebration, June 15, 1886*, (New Haven : Price, Lee, 1888), 257; Federal Census, 1790-1820, www.ancestry.com.

⁶ 1830 Federal Census, www.ancestry.com.

⁷ William P. Blake, *History of the Town of Hamden, Connecticut with an Account of the Centennial Celebration, June 15, 1886*, (New Haven : Price, Lee, 1888), 19, 144-6.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 13

Elam Ives House
name of property
New Haven County, CT
county and State

After Elam's death, the house passed into the hands of his son Lucius (1813-1892).⁸ Lucius bequeathed the house to his son, Brainerd T. Ives (1838-1896).⁹ After Brainerd Ives's death, his estate remained unsettled until 1912, when an agreement was made between his estate, the estate of his relative George C. Ives and The New Haven Water Company. This agreement gave Martha E. Ives, Brainerd's widow, life tenancy in the property.¹⁰ After Martha Ives's death the house was rented by the New Haven Water Company and its descendants. A successor company of the New Haven Water Company, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority still owns the property. It has not been occupied since ca. 2000.

Architectural Significance

Scholarship on early architecture in New England has recently identified a new house type that had previously been unexamined by scholars, the "square plan house."¹¹ The type is characterized by a roughly square plan with three or four rooms arranged around a chimney located at one end of the house and direct entry into a room with a firebox.¹² In an early paper describing two houses that were thought to have been constructed with this plan type, J. Edward Hood and Holly V. Izard, forcefully argue that the "square plan" houses:

Though related to documented regional architectural plans of "single cell" and other small house plans, the placement of doors and other features suggest a distinctive form or subgroup of houses which have not been identified in standard house typologies for New England.¹³

⁸ *Hamden Probate Records*; <http://trees.ancestry.com/owt/person.aspx?pid=12896814>, viewed September 15, 2008.

⁹ <http://trees.ancestry.com/owt/person.aspx?pid=12893005>, viewed September 15, 2008.

¹⁰ *HLR v. 64*, p. 314.

¹¹ Myron Stachiw and Nora Pat Small, "Tradition and Transformation in Rural Society and Architectural Change in Nineteenth-Century Central Massachusetts," in *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture III*, ed. Thomas Carter and Bernard L. Herman (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1989); J. Ritchie Garrison, *Landscape and Material Life in Franklin County, Massachusetts, 1770-1860*, (Knoxville, Tenn.: The University of Tennessee Press, 1991); Bryan Clark Green and James Sexton, "An Unusual Small House" *Connecticut Preservation News*, vol. XX, no.3 (July/August, 1996), p. 5; Myron Stachiw, *The Early Architecture and Landscapes of the Narragansett Basin*, Volume I:Newport (Vernacular Architecture Forum, 2001).

¹² Myron Stachiw and Nora Pat Small, "Tradition and Transformation in Rural Society and Architectural Change in Nineteenth-Century Central Massachusetts," in *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture III*, ed. Thomas Carter and Bernard L. Herman (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1989); Myron Stachiw, *The Early Architecture and Landscapes of the Narragansett Basin*, Volume I:Newport (Vernacular Architecture Forum, 2001); Bryan Clark Green and James Sexton, "An Unusual Small House" *Connecticut Preservation News*,

¹³ J. Edward Hood and Holly V. Izard, "Two Examples of Marginal Architecture in Rural Worcester County: Identifying & Documenting the Homes of NE's Marginalized Peoples," Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Society for American Archaeology in the symposium "Architecture of New England's Social and Economic Margins: Evidence from the 18th and 19th Centuries", co-chaired by Kristen Heitert and J. Edward Hood, March 25th, 1999, Chicago.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 14

Elam Ives House
name of property
New Haven County, CT
county and State

The Ives house fits this type and includes an unusual variation on it: additional space beyond the chimney and a fourth firebox. (Compare plan of the Ives house first floor with the plan of the Saxton house.)

While little research into square plan houses has been completed, variations on the basic type have already been identified. Two variations on the type were identified in the Newport, Rhode Island area.¹⁴ It has also been suggested that the houses were often built as "start-up" houses for recently married couples or young families with the intention of later adding to them.¹⁵

The Ives house plan is especially interesting because evidence both on the interior and the exterior of the building indicate disturbances in the wall to the east of the current door. On the interior, the floor, mop board, and chair rail are all disrupted in the corner of the northeast front room. (Photograph 13) These disturbances coincide with a break in the foundation on the exterior. (Photograph 3) Taken together, this evidence suggests that the front door of the house may have originally opened into the northeast room. This arrangement would coincide with many square plan houses, where one enters directly into one of the large rooms in the house, rather than into the small room in front of the chimney.¹⁶ This direct entry is also a key difference between square plan houses and the houses based on the more familiar center chimney plan of the period, where one enters a small lobby rather than directly into one of the main rooms of the house. The possibility that the door has been relocated is strengthened by the character of the house's front door, whose two panel arrangement is more in keeping with a Greek Revival style house than the late 18th century decorative features found throughout the rest of the house. It is likely that the door is a later replacement, and may have been installed when the opening was moved to its current central location.

The building also contains a second feature that is quite unusual in timber-framed buildings from the end of the 18th century. In addition to marriage marks, the timbers in the Elam Ives house contain references to the cardinal directions. Posts and braces in both the front and the back of the house are labeled with *N* for north and *S* for south, respectively. (Photographs 14 and 15) This feature has been observed in only two other houses in Connecticut - the Jabez Bacon house in Woodbury and 140 Liberty St., Madison, Ct. Electronic correspondence with the members of the Vernacular Architecture Forum did not turn up any other

¹⁴. Stachiw, *Naragansett Basin*, p. 24-26.

¹⁵. Hood and Izard, "Two Examples."

¹⁶. Myron Stachiw, *A Conservative Cluster: The architecture of the Emerson Bixby House and Its Barre Four Corners Neighbors Resists the Force of Change,*

http://www.osv.org/explore_learn/document_viewer.php?Action=View&DocID=1039, viewed March 1, 2009.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 15

Elam Ives House
name of property
New Haven County, CT
county and State

architectural historians who had encountered this approach to labeling the timbers of a house and a literature search did not uncover any reference to the practice in 18th century Connecticut.¹⁷ Timber frames during this period were normally laid out and shaped away from the building site. The frame was partially assembled and elements were labeled with Roman numerals so that timbers could be reunited with ease at the time of raising. These marriage marks or raising numerals labeled the pieces relative to each other with no external reference. The introduction of the cardinal directions onto the Ives house frame suggests a new way of understanding the house and its place in the world. Rather than simply relating the pieces to each other or perhaps to a nearby landmark, such as making sure that the front of the house faces a nearby street, the builder of the Ives house is thinking in terms of a more abstract concept, the cardinal directions.

These two features demonstrate that the Elam Ives house embodies the distinctive characteristics of both a distinctive type, the square plan house, and an unusual method of construction, labeling a timber frame with cardinal directions.

¹⁷ One other example was described in conversation by timber framer Jack Sobon, however Mr. Sobon did not respond to attempts to contact him for this nomination.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 16

Elam Ives House
name of property
New Haven County, CT
county and State

Major Bibliographical References

Becker, Martha May and Nancy Davis Sachse. *Hamden: Our Architectural Heritage*. Hamden, CT: Hamden Historical Society, 1986.

Blake, William P. *History of the Town of Hamden, Connecticut with an Account of the Centennial Celebration, June 15, 1886*. New Haven: Price, Lee, 1888.

Cummings, Abbott Lowell. *The Framed Houses of Massachusetts Bay Colony: 1625-1725*. Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press, 1979.

Garrison, J. Ritchie. *Landscape and Material Life in Franklin County, Massachusetts, 1770-1860*, (Knoxville, Tenn.: The University of Tennessee Press, 1991)

Green, Bryan Clark and James Sexton. "An Unusual Small House." *Connecticut Preservation News*.

Hamden Land Records.

Hamden Probate Records.

Hood, J. Edward and Holly V. Izard. "Two Examples of Marginal Architecture in Rural Worcester County: Identifying & Documenting the Homes of NE's Marginalized Peoples." Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Society for American Archaeology in the symposium "Architecture of New England's Social and Economic Margins: Evidence from the 18th and 19th Centuries", co-chaired by Kristen Heitert and J. Edward Hood, March 25th, 1999, Chicago.

Isham, Norman Morrison and Albert F. Brown. *Early Connecticut Houses: an Historical and Architectural Study*. Providence: Preston and Rounds Co., 1900.

Kelly, J. Frederick. *Early Domestic Architecture of Connecticut*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1924.

St. George, Robert Blair. *Conversing by Sign: Poetics of Implication in Colonial New England*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina, 1998.

Stachiw, Myron. "A Conservative Cluster: the architecture of the Emerson Bixby House and its Barre Four Corners neighbors resists the forces of change." OSV Documents [on-line].

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 17

Elam Ives House
name of property
New Haven County, CT
county and State

http://www.osv.org/explore_learn/document_viewer.php?DocID=1039 .
Downloaded March 1, 2009.

Stachiw, Myron. *The Early Architecture and Landscapes of the Narragansett Basin, Volume I: Newport*. Vernacular Architecture Forum, 2001.

Stachiw, Myron and Nora Pat Small. "Tradition and Transformation in Rural Society and Architectural Change in Nineteenth-Century Central Massachusetts." In *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture III*, ed. Thomas Carter and Bernard L. Herman. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1989.

United States Federal Census. 1790-1930.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 18

Elam Ives House
name of property
New Haven County, CT
county and State

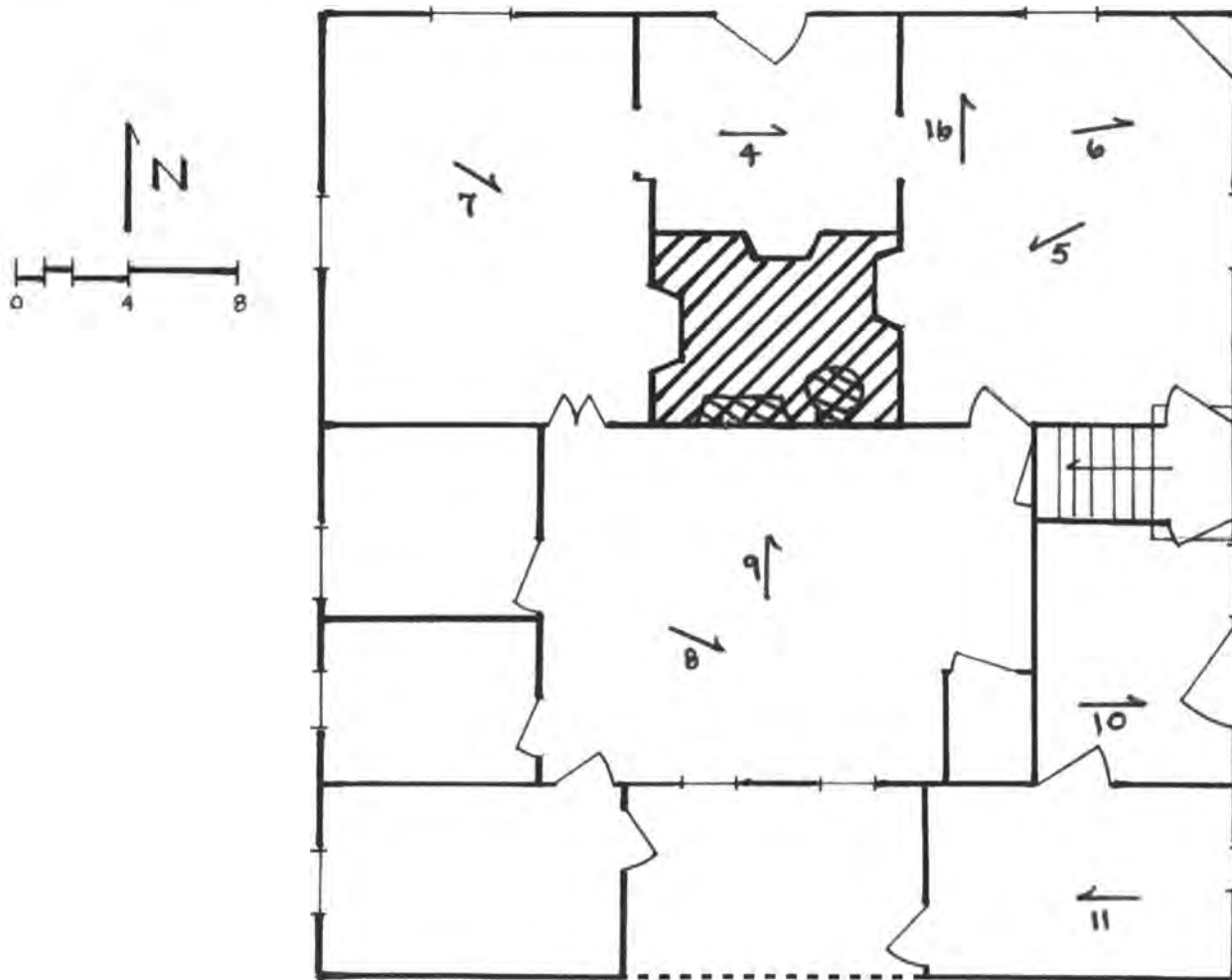
Boundary Description

The nominated property includes a .4 acre parcel as shown on the accompanying scaled Site Plan: beginning at the northwest corner of the portion of Lot 2831-033-00-0000 that lies south of Ives Street (CT State Plane NAD 1983 X:960199 Y:707737) proceed south along the western boundary of the property 160 feet; then proceed 105 feet directly east; then proceed north 144 feet to the southern right-of-way line of Ives Street; proceed 140 feet west along the southern right-of-way line to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

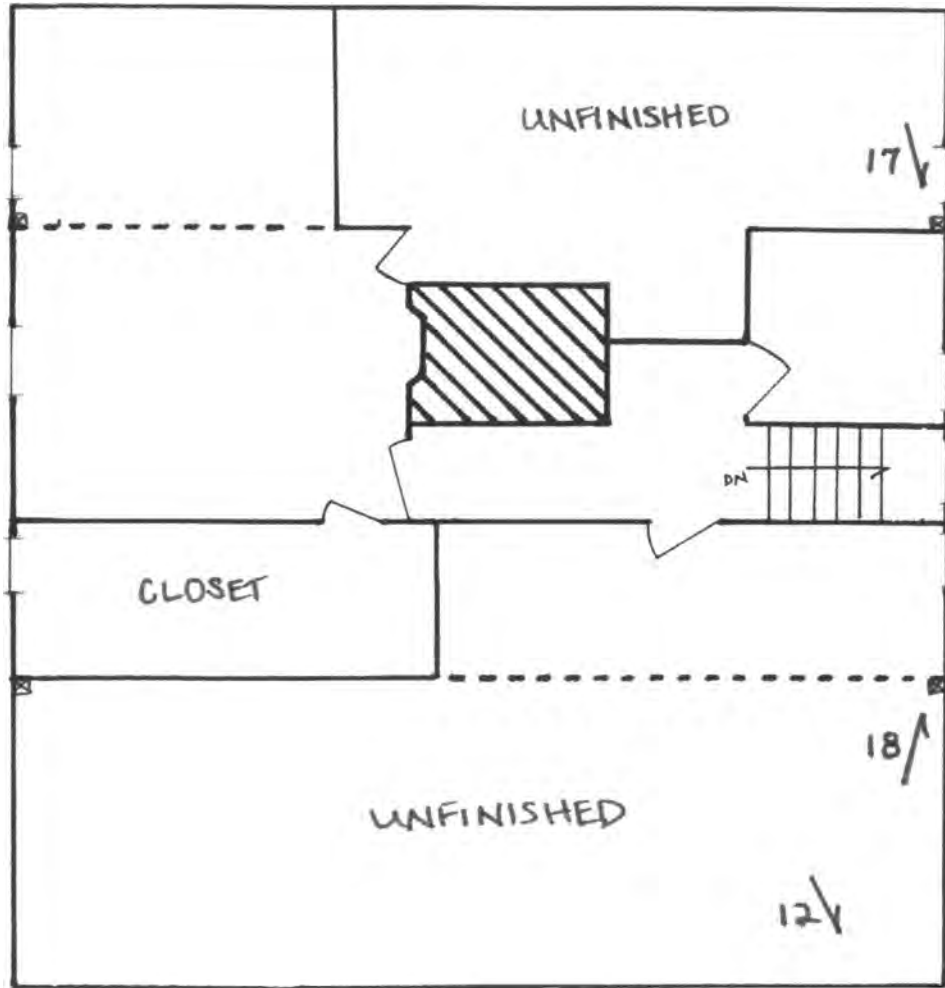
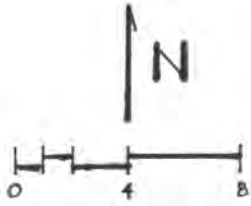
The boundary includes sufficient land to include the house and garage.

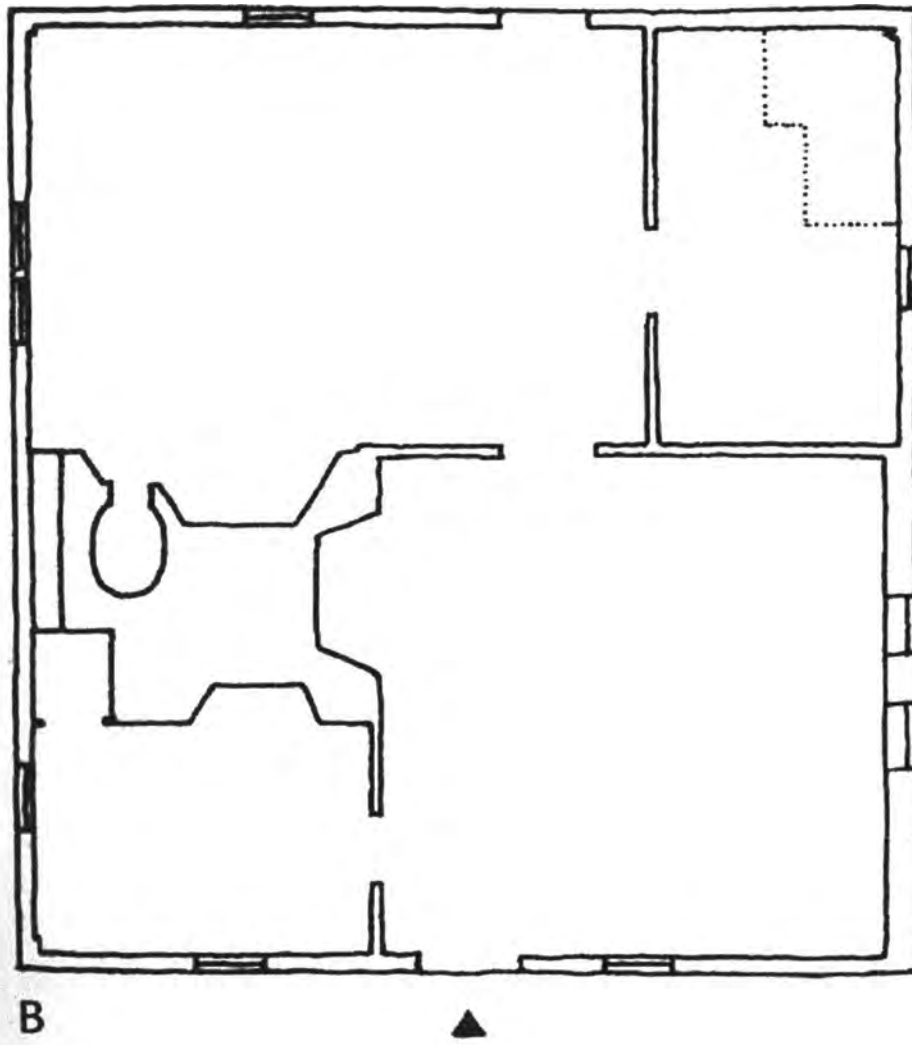
Floor Plans, Photo locations indicated - First Floor



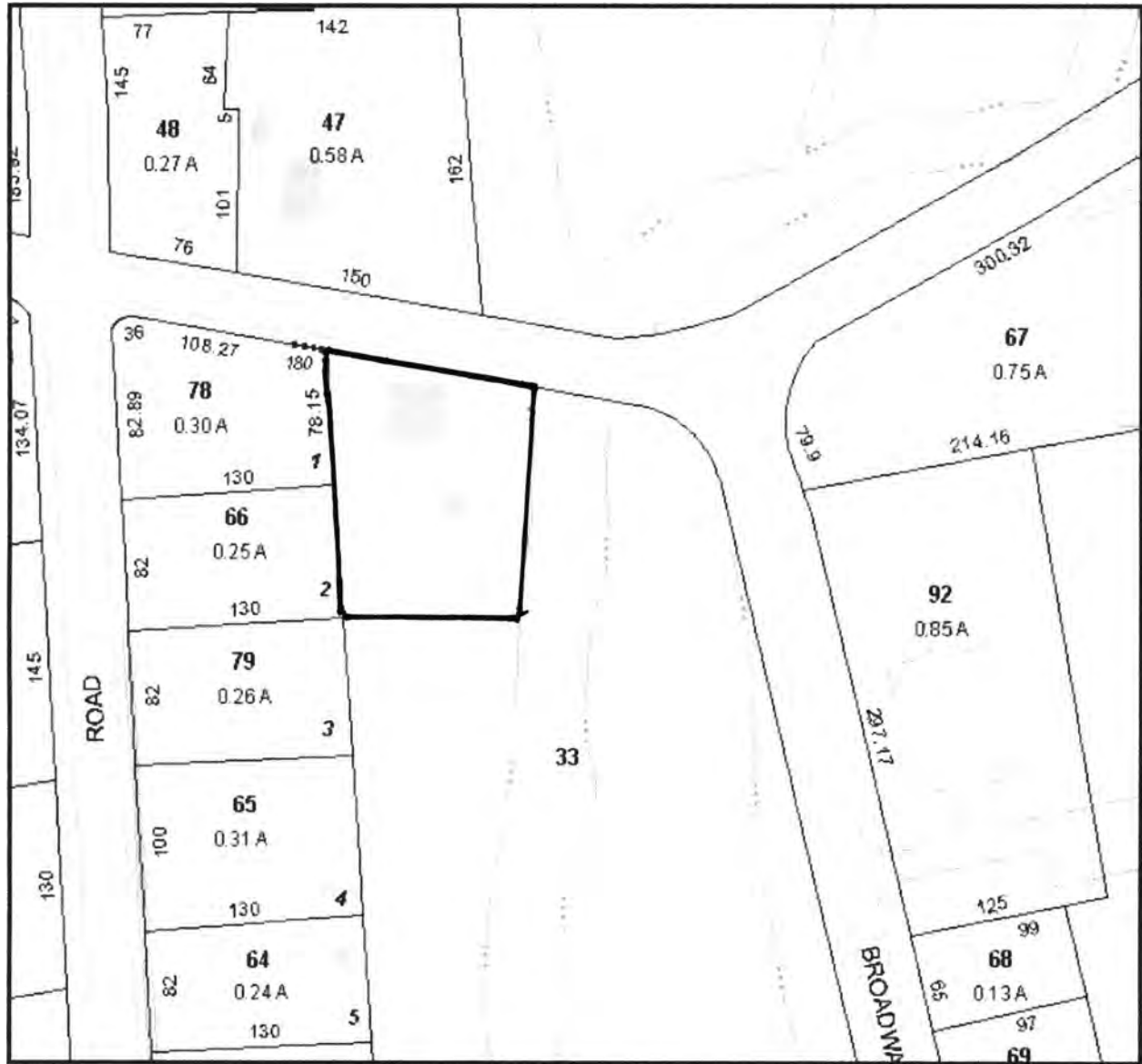
The southern firebox and oven have been covered over.

Floor Plans, Photo locations indicated - Second Floor





Square plan house - Reconstructed plan of the David Saxton House, Deerfield, Massachusetts (1761). Drawing by Robert Blair St. George, *Conversing by Sign: Poetics of Implication in Colonial New England* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina, 1998).



Approximate Scale: 1 inch = 100 feet



Site Plan

USGS Topographic Map



Mt. Carmel Quadrangle
Photo Revised 1984
18 / 675764E / 4585651N

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Elam Ives House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: CONNECTICUT, New Haven

DATE RECEIVED: 9/01/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/27/10
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/12/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/16/10
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000832

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 10.12.10 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
Photograph 1 The house from the northeast
April 2007 James Sexton



The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
Photograph 2 The house from the southwest
April 2007 James Sexton



The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
Photograph 3 The house from the north
November 2008 James Sexton



The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
Photograph 4 The east wall of the entry
April 2007 James Sexton



The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
Photograph 5 The paneling in the northeast room
April 2007 James Sexton



The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
Photograph 6 The corner cupboard in the northeast room
April 2007 James Sexton



The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
Photograph 7 The east wall of the northwest room
April 2007 James Sexton



The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
Photograph 8 Looking southeast in the kitchen
April 2007 James Sexton



The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
Photograph 9 The cooking hearth
April 2007 James Sexton



The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
Photograph 10 The exterior door in the east wall
April 2007 James Sexton



The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
Photograph 11 Looking up and west in the southeast room
April 2007 James Sexton



The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
Photograph 12 The roof framing in the southeast attic
April 2007 James Sexton



Photograph 13

The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
The disturbance in the front wall of the northeast room
April 2007 James Sexton



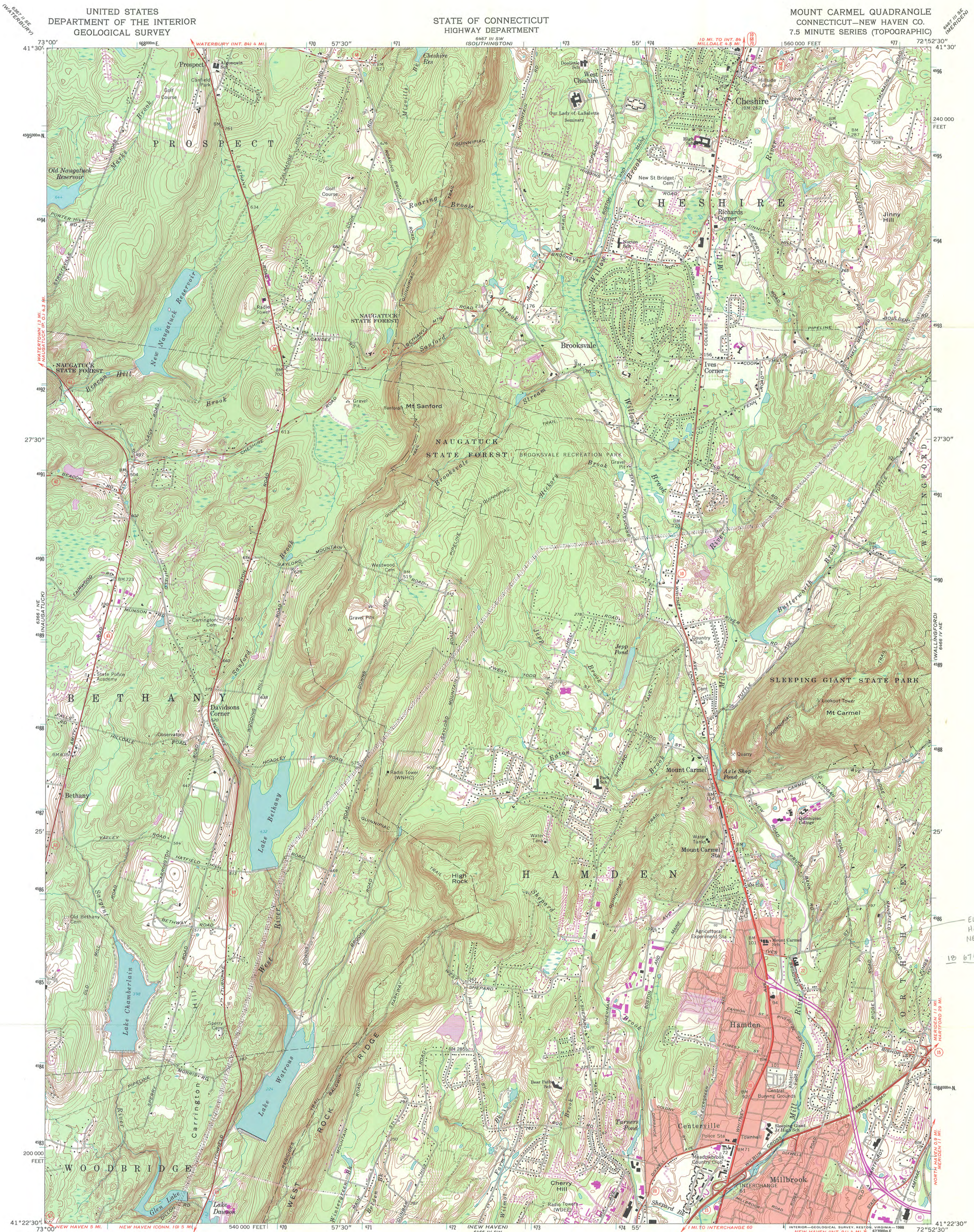
Photograph 14

The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
The letter N on the brace rising from the northeast arcade post
April 2007 James Sexton

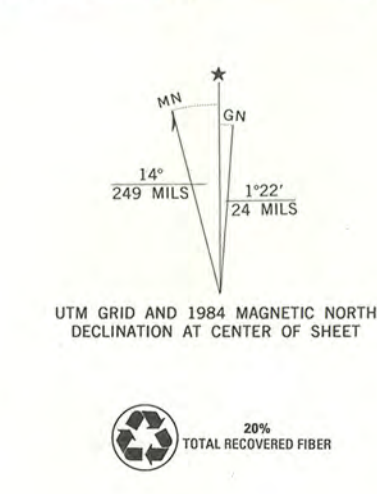


Photograph 15

The Elam Ives House
Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut
The letter S on the brace rising from the southeast arcade post
April 2007 James Sexton



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Connecticut Geodetic Survey
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1949 and 1950. Field checked 1954. Revised from aerial
photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1967
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Connecticut
coordinate system
1,000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 5 meters south and
37 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map



SCALE 1:24,000
1 MILE
1 KILOMETER
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface
Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
U. S. Route
State Route
MOUNT CARMEL, CONN.
41072-D8-TF-024
1967
PHOTOREVISED 1984
DMA 6466 IV NW—SERIES V816
Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation
with State of Connecticut agencies from aerial photographs taken
1982 and other sources. This information not field checked
Map edited 1984
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

ELAM IVES HOUSE
HAMDEN
NEW HAVEN COUNTY, CT
10 075704 4505651





Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism

Arts
Tourism
Film
History

One Constitution Plaza
Second Floor
Hartford, Connecticut
06103

860.256.2800
860.256.2811 (f)

MEMORANDUM



TO: J. Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Stacey Vairo, National Register Coordinator

DATE: August 31, 2010

SUBJECT: National Register Nomination

The following materials are submitted on this 31 day of August

2009, for nomination of the Elam Ives House, Hamden Connecticut to the National Register of Historic Places:

- Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form
- Multiple Property Nomination form
- Photographs
- Original USGS maps
- Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)
- Pieces of correspondence
- Other _____

COMMENTS:

- Please insure that this nomination is reviewed
- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- The enclosed owner objections do _____ do not _____ constitute a majority of property owners.
- Other: _____

CONNECTICUT
www.cultureandtourism.org

An Affirmative Action
Equal Opportunity Employer