

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received **AUG - 3 1988**
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic N/A
and or common 18TH AND 19TH-CENTURY BRICK ARCHITECTURE OF WINDSOR
THEMATIC RESOURCE

2. Location

street & number See inventory forms N/A not for publication
city, town Windsor N/A vicinity of
state Connecticut code 09 county Hartford code 003

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thematic	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
<input type="checkbox"/> Resource	<u>N/A</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: offices

4. Owner of Property

name See inventory forms
street & number
city, town Windsor vicinity of Windsor state Connecticut

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Windsor Town Clerk
street & number Town Hall - 275 Broad Street
city, town Windsor state Connecticut

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Town of Windsor Historic Survey See continuation sheet
has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date August, 1981 federal state county local
depository for survey records Connecticut Historical Commission
59 South Prospect Street
city, town Hartford state Connecticut

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 6 Page 1 18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (continued):

State Register of Historic Places
1988 - State

Records deposited with: Connecticut Historical Commission
59 South Prospect Street
Hartford, CT 06106

The following properties have been determined eligible for
inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places:

Former passenger depot (35 Central Street) and former freight
depot (40 Central Street) of the Hartford & New Haven Railroad.
The complex formed by the two buildings was determined eligible
2/26/85.

Records deposited with: Connecticut Historical Commission
59 South Prospect Street
Hartford, CT 06106

The following properties included in the thematic group are
listed on the State Register of Historic Places as of 1975:

Colonel James Loomis house, 208-210 Broad Street .

Elijah Mills house, 45 Deerfield Road

Captain Benjamin Allyn 2nd house, 119 Deerfield Road

Former New Haven & Hartford Railroad depot, 35 Central Street

Captain Nathaniel Hayden house, 128 Hayden Station Road

House, 130 Hayden Station Road

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 6 Page 2 18 and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (continued):

Hezakah Chaffee house, 108 Palisado Avenue

Taylor Chapman house, 407 Palisado

Eli Phelps house, 18 Marshall Phelps Road

William Shelton house, 40 Pleasant Street

Giles Barber house, 411-413 Windsor Avenue

Captain James Loomis house, 881 Windsor Avenue

Former Stony Hill School, 1195 Windsor Avenue

The following properties included in the thematic group are listed on the National Register of Historic Places:

- / Elijah Mills house, 45 Deerfield Road, listed 8/23/85.
- / Captain Benjamin Allyn 2nd house, 119 Deerfield Road, listed 6/26/79.
- / Oliver W. Mills house, 148 Deerfield Road, listed 2/19/82.
- Hezakah Chaffee house, 108 Palisado Avenue, listed 7/31/72.

The following are contributing buildings in the Palisado Avenue National Register Historic District, listed 8/25/86:

- Hezakah Chaffee house, 108 Palisado Avenue
- ✓ Former First Church parsonage, 160 Palisado Avenue

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 6 Page 3 18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (continued):

- ✓ Horace H. Ellsworth house, 316 Palisado Avenue
- ✓ Patrick Murphy house, 345 Palisado Avenue
- ✓ Henry Magill house, 390 Palisado Avenue
- ✓ Taylor Chapman house, 407 Palisado Avenue

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Summary

This thematic group includes all pre-1885 brick buildings in the Town of Windsor, Connecticut, which appear to meet Criterion C (architectural significance) for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. These 38 buildings represent a variety of types, styles, uses, and sizes, and are linked by the use of brick in their construction. Residential examples predominate, but a few early commercial and institutional buildings are also included. The earliest houses are from the 18th century with center-chimney and center-hall plans, and the ridge of their gable or gambrel roofs parallel to the street (Photographs 7, 11, 12, 17, and 22). There are a substantial number of Federal and Greek Revival-style brick houses, including examples which combine characteristics of both styles. In general, these examples are characterized by a street-facing gable end containing a full pediment, a 3-bay facade, and an offset front entry topped by a transom or fanlight (Photographs 1, 8, 9, 18, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, and 35); other examples from this period have the ridge of their gable roofs parallel to the street (Photographs 3, 6, 25, 26). In four of the houses brick corbelling is used to define the gable pediment and create the impression of modillion blocks (Photographs 9, 25, 26, 35). Italianate-style examples have a boxy form, flat roof with projecting eaves, decorative wood porches, and, in one case, a belvedere (Photographs 5, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 23, 33, and 36). Buildings in the Second Empire style exhibit the characteristic slate-covered mansard roof with dormers (Photographs 4, 21, and 24); one example has an engaged square tower with mansard roof and small dormer windows (Photograph 24).

The brick buildings in the thematic group are scattered throughout the town, with the primary concentrations located along Deerfield Road and Windsor Avenue in the southern portion of the town, in the town center, and along Palisado Avenue in the northeast portion of the town (see distribution map). The buildings exist in a variety of settings, from small lots surrounded by other structures (both historic and modern) in the town center, to large expanses of open agricultural land in the northern portion of the town.

Several of the houses have historic outbuildings. These include three 19th-century barns (Photographs 9, 18, and 30), six sheds, and three

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

DESCRIPTION (continued):

carriagehouses. There are also four modern garages (noncontributing), as well as a number of small structures such as tool sheds which are not substantial in size, scale, or historical significance.

The thematic group includes 54 buildings; of that number, 38 are individually eligible brick buildings, and 12 are frame outbuildings (noted above) that enhance the significance of the eligible buildings. (There are no outbuildings in this thematic group that are considered to be eligible by themselves.) There are four outbuildings (post-1950 garages) that, because of their recent construction, do not enhance the significance of the buildings with which they are associated.

Information on the Survey

The nomination is based on a comprehensive survey of historical and architectural resources of the Town of Windsor completed in 1981 by historic preservation planning consultant Preston Maynard. The survey, sponsored by the Town of Windsor and conducted according to the guidelines of the Connecticut Historical Commission, covered the entire town and identified a total of 429 resources. Of those resources, 63 were brick buildings from the 18th and 19th centuries.

Lacking a survey of Windsor's 18th- and 19th-century brickyards, estimated to have once numbered over 40, no attempt was made to include archeological resources in the nomination. Rather, the nomination is based on architectural and historical themes as related to brick buildings in Windsor.

Selection Criteria for Nominated Buildings

For the purposes of this nomination, brick buildings were identified as buildings in which brick comprises the primary building material, i.e., buildings constructed of brick at least to the eaves. Buildings constructed both of brick and other materials or buildings in which

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

DESCRIPTION (continued):

brick was used only as a decorative element were not considered. Of the 63 18th- and 19th-century brick buildings identified in this manner from the 1981 comprehensive survey, two have since been demolished, 38 were judged to meet National Register-eligibility criteria for architectural significance, and 23 were judged not eligible under this criterion. The following four buildings are already individually listed on the National Register and form part of the thematic group:

45 Deerfield Road, Elijah Mills house. Photograph 6.

119 Deerfield Road, Captain Benjamin Allyn 2nd house. Photograph 7.

148 Deerfield Road, Oliver W. Mills house. Photograph 8.

108 Palisado Avenue, Hezekiah Chaffee house. Photograph 17.

The following six buildings in the thematic group are listed on the National Register as part of the Palisado Avenue Historic District:

108 Palisado Avenue, Hezekiah Chaffee house. Photograph 17.

160 Palisado Avenue, former First Church parsonage. Photograph 18

316 Palisado Avenue, Horace H. Ellsworth house. Photograph 19.

345 Palisado Avenue, Patrick Murphy house. Photograph 20.

390 Palisado Avenue, Henry Magill house. Photograph 21.

407 Palisado Avenue, Taylor Chapman house. Photograph 22.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3 18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

DESCRIPTION (continued)

Twenty-three brick buildings identified in the survey were excluded from National Register consideration for the following reasons: (1) they lacked architectural integrity due to the replacement of historic window sash and doors, the addition of modern exterior materials, and other modifications which compromise their architectural character; (2) they lacked the architectural distinction necessary to support the theme of the nomination; (3) better-preserved comparable examples exist elsewhere in town and are included in the nomination. Some of the buildings not included in this thematic nomination may be eligible for their historical significance or as parts of districts.

Because of the large number of Federal, Greek Revival, and Italianate style brick houses identified in the survey, more selectivity was applied to these buildings and only the most nearly intact examples were chosen. The Italianate examples in particular were evaluated upon the removal or alteration of porches: verandas are an integral feature and identifying characteristic of that style. Thus, the buildings which make up the thematic group represent the most architecturally distinguished examples of brick construction in Windsor.

Several relatively well-preserved late 19th-century brick buildings-- a large 1886 Catholic Church, an 1896 schoolhouse, and a large 1890s high school building-- were excluded from the thematic group. They were constructed after the decline of brickmaking in Windsor, they are not associated with events or persons concerned with Windsor brickmaking, and they represent building types commonly constructed of brick: the use of brick for schools, churches, and other institutional buildings was standard throughout the state by the late 19th century. In contrast, the former Stony Hill School at 1195 Windsor Avenue, built in 1856 and altered in 1899 (Photograph 37), and the c.1882 former firehouse at 14 Maple Avenue (Photograph 13) are included. In scale, age, and construction the two buildings support the theme of early and indigenous brick architecture in Windsor.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

DESCRIPTION (continued)

Integrity of Included Buildings

Despite some alterations over time, these brick structures have retained their historical appearance and the architectural qualities associated with their period and method of construction. The most common changes have been the addition of storm doors and windows, the alteration of porches, and the removal of decorative elements. In some cases, altered buildings were included when they retained important features which supported the theme of distinctive brick architecture. For instance, although its original garage entrance has been changed, the former firehouse at 14 Maple Avenue (Photograph 13) exhibits a denticulated cornice, relieving arches, and other decorative brickwork which are distinctive examples of the masonry craftsmanship of the period.

Format of the Nomination

The nomination form follows the format in "How to Complete National Register Thematic Group Nomination Forms - Interim Guidelines." Individual inventory forms from the survey are included for the buildings not already individually listed on the National Register. The inventory forms include a physical description, discussion of alterations, and a statement of significance for each property. Property owners were verified in Windsor records (as of March 1988), acreage and deed references were added to the identification section, and UTM map coordinates were completed. All buildings, including those already listed on the National Register, are illustrated in 8" x 10" photographs accompanying the nomination, and all are plotted on a general location map and U.S.G.S. maps for Windsor.

Inventory forms for the following properties are included:

208-210 Broad Street, Colonel James Loomis house, Federal, 1822.
(Photograph 1)

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5 18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

DESCRIPTION (continued)

301 Broad Street, Grace Church rectory, Gothic Revival, c.1870.
(Photograph 2)

464 Broad Street, Edward Moore house, Federal, 1806.
(Photograph 3)

35 Central Street, former Hartford & New Haven Railroad depot, Second
Empire, c.1869-70. (Photograph 4)

40 Central Street, former Hartford & New Haven Railroad freight
depot, vernacular, c.1865. (Photograph 38)

44 Court Street, Sidney Hayden house, Italianate, c.1873.
(Photograph 5)

184 Deerfield Road, Timothy Dwight Mills house, Federal/Greek
Revival, c.1833. (Photograph 6)

32 East Street, Hathaway Store, Greek Revival, 1850.
(Photograph 10)

128 Hayden Station Road, Captain Nathaniel Hayden house, Georgian,
1763. (Photograph 11)

130 Hayden Station Road, house, vernacular c.1760.
(Photograph 12)

14 Maple Avenue, former fire station, Romanesque Revival, c.1882.
(Photograph 13)

88 Maple Avenue, William Higenbotham house, Italianate, c.1874.
(Photograph 14)

111 Maple Avenue, John Bruce house, Italianate, 1872.
(Photograph 15)

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6 18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

Description (continued):

- 18 Marshall Phelps Road, Eli Phelps house, Italianate, c.1860.
(Photograph 16)
- 160 Palisado Avenue, former First Church parsonage, Greek Revival,
1852. (Photograph 18)
- 316 Palisado Avenue, Horace H. Ellsworth house, Italianate, c.1873.
(Photograph 19)
- 345 Palisado Avenue, Patrick Murphy house, Italianate, c.1873.
(Photograph 20)
- 390 Palisado Avenue, Henry Magill house, Second Empire, 1861.
(Photograph 21)
- 407 Palisado Avenue, Taylor Chapman house, vernacular, 1764.
(Photograph 22)
- 458 Palisado Avenue, Isaac Sweetland house, Italianate, c.1845.
(Photograph 23)
- 736 Palisado Avenue, house, Second Empire, c.1865.
(Photograph 24)
- 27 Park Avenue, Daniel Payne house, vernacular, c.1830.
(Photograph 25)
- 40 Pleasant Street, William Shelton house, Federal, 1830.
(Photograph 26)
- 436 Rainbow Road, Benomi Case house, Greek Revival, c.1834.
(Photograph 27)

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 7 18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

DESCRIPTION (continued)

- 253 Windsor Avenue, Henry Wilson, Jr., house, vernacular, c.1840.
(Photograph 28)
- 411-413 Windsor Avenue, Giles Barber house, Federal/Greek Revival,
c.1825. (Photograph 29)
- 860 Windsor Avenue, Warren M. Barber house, Federal, c.1827.
(Photograph 30)
- 881 Windsor Avenue, Captain James Loomis house, Federal/Greek
Revival, c.1828. (Photograph 31)
- 992 Windsor Avenue, Martin Barber house, Federal/Greek Revival,
c.1835. (Photograph 32)
- 1003 Windsor Avenue, George G. Loomis house, Italianate, 1856.
(Photograph 33)
- 1021 Windsor Avenue, Gordon Loomis house, Federal/Greek Revival,
c.1835. (Photograph 34)
- 1053 Windsor Avenue, Ira Loomis, Jr., house, Greek Revival, c.1833.
(Photograph 35)
- 1173 Windsor Avenue, William H. Harvey house, Italianate, c.1868.
(Photograph 36)
- 1195 Windsor Avenue, former Stony Hill School, Greek Revival, c.1856,
altered 1899. (Photograph 37)

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates See individual forms Builder/Architect Not known

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Summary

The 38 buildings that constitute the Windsor thematic group are architecturally significant examples of brick construction, a relatively uncommon building method in 18th and early 19th-century Connecticut, and they embody distinctive characteristics of particular architectural styles (Criterion C). The buildings also have historical significance for their association with brickmaking in Windsor (Criterion A). Brickmaking was an important economic activity in Windsor in the 18th and 19th centuries when the town produced a large percentage of the state's total brick output. The exceptional concentration of brick buildings in Windsor reflects this association and provides a strong physical link to this period in the town's history. These diverse buildings, spanning two centuries and representing a variety of styles, types, and uses, are linked by their brick construction, architectural integrity, location in Windsor, and origin within the period when brickmaking was an important Windsor industry.

Architectural Significance

The buildings in this thematic group are significant for their construction in brick, a building material not widely used in 18th and early 19th-century Connecticut (especially for domestic architecture), and one traditionally connoting wealth, formality, and prestige. Although sharing similar forms, proportions, scale, and stylistic characteristics with their frame counterparts, brick buildings exhibit several characteristics unique to this method of construction: belt courses separating stories; the use of segmental and jack arches and cut-stone lintels and sills for door and window openings; raised-brick drip molds; and the use of brick to create corbelled dentils and other ornamental features such as sawtooth courses. Brick construction also influenced the plan of buildings; in colonial houses it was possible to build the chimneys into the end walls, rather than in the center of the house, thereby altering the traditional center-chimney plan.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 118th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

SIGNIFICANCE (continued):

The buildings are also significant as representatives of major architectural styles: Georgian and 18th-century vernacular, Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Gothic Revival, and Second Empire. Most of the styles are represented by at least one architecturally distinctive example, and, because their period of popularity corresponded with the height of brickmaking in Windsor, examples of the Federal, Greek Revival, and Italianate styles are particularly numerous.

Brick houses were uncommon in colonial New England¹ and Windsor boasts some of Connecticut's earliest examples. The Hezekiah Chaffee house (Photograph 17), constructed in 1765 at 108 Palisado Avenue, and the 1763 Captain Nathaniel Hayden house (Photograph 11) at 128 Hayden Station Road, with their gambrel roofs and front-entry transom lights, are the most representative colonial-period buildings in the town. A less elaborate example of 18th-century brick architecture is the Captain Benjamin Allyn 2nd house (Photograph 7), constructed c.1760 at 119 Deerfield Road.

Federal-style characteristics, representing a refinement of the Georgian style, are embodied in the fanlight, pedimented entry porch, and attenuated columns of the 1806 Edward Moore house (Photograph 3) at 464 Broad Street. Similar Federal characteristics are exhibited in the Oliver W. Mills house (Photograph 8), constructed c.1824 at 148 Deerfield Road; among these are a full pediment, an oval window with louvered panels in the gable-end, and an elliptical entry transom. The 1827 Warren M. Barber house (Photograph 30) at 860 Windsor Avenue is nearly identical, except for the use of an elliptical, rather than round, window in the gable end.

Representative of the Greek Revival buildings in Windsor is the Benomi Case house (Photograph 27), constructed c.1834 at 436 Rainbow Road. It has the heavier proportions and more rectilinear shapes associated with the style, including rectangular gable windows with geometric tracery. Other examples of the Greek Revival style include the c.1835 Martin Barber house (Photograph 32) at 992 Windsor Avenue and the c.1835 Gordon Loomis house (Photograph 34) at 1021 Windsor Avenue, both having typical full pediments formed by

(continued)

¹Brick houses were thought to be cold and damp.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

SIGNIFICANCE (continued):

denticulated cornices. Although both houses have Federal-inspired elliptical windows in the gable ends, their front entries are topped by a rectangular transom and cut-stone block lintel, features associated with Greek architecture.

The Italianate style is epitomized by the Eli Phelps house (Photograph 16), constructed c.1860 at 18 Marshall Phelps Road, with its flat roof, projecting eaves with paired brackets, and square belvedere with bracketed roof and arched windows. Except for a belvedere, similar Italianate features are exhibited by the 1856 George G. Loomis house (Photograph 33) at 1003 Windsor Avenue, the c.1868 William Harvey house (Photograph 36) at 1173 Windsor Avenue, the c.1873 Patrick Murphy house (Photograph 20) at 345 Palisado Avenue, the c.1874 William Higenbotham house (Photograph 14) at 88 Maple Avenue, and the 1872 John Bruce house (Photograph 15) at 111 Maple Avenue. The Sidney Hayden house (Photograph 5), constructed c.1873 at 44 Court Street, is an example of a double house rendered in the Italianate style: the main two-story brick block is flanked by matching brick dependencies with entry porches having bracketed cornices and square posts.

Examples of the Second Empire style include 736 Palisado Avenue (Photograph 24), constructed c.1865; the 1861 Henry Magill house (Photograph 21) at 390 Palisado Avenue; and the former Hartford & New Haven Railroad depot (Photograph 4), constructed 1869-70 at 35 Central Street. All exhibit the characteristic mansard roof pierced by dormers, slate roofing material, and corbelled or bracketed cornices. In addition, 736 Palisado Avenue features a corner tower with a bell-cast mansard roof, an asymmetrical plan, and segmentally arched window openings.

The Gothic Revival style is represented by Grace Church rectory (Photograph 2), constructed c.1870 at 301 Broad Street. The 2 1/2-story dwelling has the steeply pitched slate roof, decorative bargeboards, wall dormers, grouped windows, and stick braces which typify the style.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3 18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

SIGNIFICANCE (continued):

Historical Development of Windsor

As the location of the first permanent English presence in Connecticut, Windsor has been under continuous settlement since 1633. Settlers from Massachusetts's Plymouth Colony arrived that year and established a trading post surrounded by a palisade for protection from Indian attacks. They were joined by additional settlers from the Massachusetts Bay Colony and by English immigrants in the following decades.

Agriculture, brickmaking, and small paper, cloth, and woolen mills formed the economic base of Windsor throughout the 18th and 19th centuries. Commercial activities were initially centered at the Palisado settlement, which carried on an active shipping trade on the Connecticut River. These functions later shifted to Windsor Center, which emerged as the town's civic and commercial center in the 19th century. The most industrialized area of town, Windsor Locks, was made an independent town in 1854. Windsor's rural character was maintained into the 20th century by the extensive cultivation of tobacco. By that time, the town's proximity to Hartford created a surge in residential and industrial development, a trend that has continued to the present day.

The buildings in the thematic nomination illustrate the history of Windsor. They range from the large farmhouse constructed in 1763 by Captain Nathaniel Hayden at 128 Hayden Station Road (Photograph 11), to the more modest William Higenbotham house (Photograph 14), constructed c.1874 at 88 Maple Avenue in Windsor center. Institutional and commercial buildings, such as the former Stony Hill School (Photograph 37) at 1195 Windsor Avenue, the Hathaway Store (Photograph 10) at 32 East Street, the former firehouse (Photograph 13) at 14 Maple Avenue, and the former Central Street passenger and freight depots of the Hartford & New Haven Railroad (Photographs 4 and 38), represent aspects of Windsor's social and economic development in the 19th century. In addition, the significant number of houses associated with 19th-century brickmakers provides a strong physical link to this important period in the town's history.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 418th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

SIGNIFICANCE (continued):

Brickmaking in Windsor

Brickmaking has been an important Windsor industry since the 18th century and the town can claim some of the earliest known brick houses built in Connecticut. In the 18th century it was common for local farmers to make bricks during the off-season. Bricks for the Captain Benjamin Allyn house, constructed c. 1760 and reputed to be the oldest brick house in Windsor, are said to have been produced by Thomas Eggleston (b. 1741), a fisherman and brickmaker. Brickmaking emerged as an important industry in Windsor in the early 19th century as local landowners took advantage of clay deposits on their property to produce large quantities of brick. Bricks were shipped to Hartford and other cities by oxcart or by boat on the Farmington and Connecticut Rivers

A contemporary account described the process used in Windsor to manufacture bricks:

Two loads of sand and four loads of clay and sufficient water to wet them properly are put into a shallow pit and thoroughly mixed by means of a cragg, which is a heavy wooden beam in which are set many wooden spikes. One end of the cragg is attached to a strong upright post set in the center of the pit. Horses are hitched to the outer end of the cragg and driven around the pit dragging the cragg through the sand, clay, and water for three or four hours until the contents of the pit are ready for molding into bricks. The mixture is then put into molds by hand. Next the molds are inverted on smooth level ground and the bricks are allowed to slip out.²

To prevent the bricks from sticking to the wooden molds, the molds were dipped in water or in sand before being filled with clay, giving them the name of "water struck" or "sand struck" bricks. To bake them,

² Daniel Howard, Glimpses of Ancient Windsor From 1633-1933 (Windsor Locks, Connecticut: The Journal Press, 1933), 40.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 518th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

SIGNIFICANCE (continued):

the bricks were built into kilns in the form of arches under which a wood fire would be kept burning for five to seven days until the bricks were thoroughly fired. This hand method of brickmaking was used in Windsor until the late 19th century, when the industry became dominated by a few firms which produced machine-formed bricks in large factories.

In 1845 brickyards in the Town of Windsor (which then included the present Town of Windsor Locks) employed 82 workers and produced nearly 6.5 million bricks, over a quarter of the state's total brick production for that year. From that point on the industry steadily declined, except for a brief resurgence following the Civil War: in 1870 22 firms employed over a hundred workers in the manufacture of over 11 million bricks. By 1880, however, the industry had shrunk dramatically, with the eight surviving brickyards producing only 2.5 million bricks. By 1932 only the Mack Company was still operating in Windsor; the firm's recent closing ended this chapter in the town's history.

Prominent Windsor brickmakers in this period included the Barber, Loomis, Mack, Mills, and Wilson families. Several generations of these families were involved in the brickmaking operations which once dotted Windsor Avenue and Deerfield Road. The area retains a significant concentration of brick houses associated with these families. Those residences nominated as part of the thematic group include the houses of: Giles, Martin, and Warren Barber (411-413, 992, and 860 Windsor Avenue); George, Gordon, Ira, and James Loomis (1003, 1021, 1053, and 881 Windsor Avenue); Elijah, Oliver, and Timothy Dwight Mills (45, 148, and 184 Deerfield Road); and Henry Wilson, Jr. (253 Windsor Avenue). (Photographs 29, 32, 30, 33, 34, 35, 31, 6, 8, 9, and 28)

Planning Activities

Some of the nominated buildings are listed in the State Register of Historic Places and are thus included in the statewide planning

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

Section number 8 Page 6

SIGNIFICANCE (continued):

process for historic sites. Locally, the Windsor Historical Society and the Community Development Department of the Town of Windsor have supported preservation activities and have conducted public information activities to promote interest in the town's historic resources, including the nominated brick buildings.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1 18th and 19th-Century Brick Architecture
of Windsor Thematic Resource

Bibliography:

- Baker and Tilden. Atlas of Hartford City and County. Hartford, 1869.
- Fowles, Lloyd, and William Uricchio. The Fowles History of Windsor, Connecticut. Windsor, Connecticut, 1976.
- Hayden, Jabez. Historical Sketches. Windsor Locks, Connecticut, 1900.
- Howard, Daniel. Glimpses of Ancient Windsor From 1633-1933. Windsor Locks, Connecticut: The Journal Press, 1933.
- Keith, Elmer D. Some Notes on Early Connecticut Architecture. Hartford: Antiquarian & Landmark Society, 1938; reprinted 1976.
- Kelly, J. Frederick. Early Domestic Architecture of Connecticut. New York: Dover, 1963; reprint of 1928 ed.
- Stiles, Henry. The History of Ancient Windsor. Hartford, 1891, 2 vols.
- Tyler, Daniel P. Statistics of the Condition and Products of Certain Branches of Industry in Connecticut for the Year Ending October 1, 1845. Hartford: Secretary of State's Office, 1846.
- U.S. Census Office, Manuscript Census Returns, Products of Industry, 1850, 1870, and 1880. Microfilm, State Library, Hartford.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name 18th and 19th Century Brick Architecture of Windsor TR
State Hartford County, CONNECTICUT

Nomination/Type of Review	Date/Signature
Cover Substantive Review	for Keeper <u>Beth L. Sarge 9-15-88</u>
1. Barber, Martin, House DOE/OWNER OBJECTION Substantive Review Determined Eligible	for Keeper <u>Beth L. Sarge 9-15-88</u> Attest _____
2. Barber, Warren M., House DOE/OWNER OBJECTION Substantive Review Determined Eligible	for Keeper <u>Beth L. Sarge 9-15-88</u> Attest _____
3. House at 88 Maple Avenue DOE/OWNER OBJECTION Substantive Review Determined Eligible	for Keeper <u>Beth L. Sarge 9-15-88</u> Attest _____
4. Wilson, Henry, Jr., House DOE/OWNER OBJECTION Substantive Review Determined Eligible	for Keeper <u>Beth L. Sarge 9-15-88</u> Attest _____
5. Barber, Giles, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Jayne M. McPherson 9/15/88</u> Attest _____
6. Case, Benomi, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Jayne M. McPherson 9/15/88</u> Attest _____
7. Chapman, Taylor, House	for Keeper <u>Beth L. Sarge 9-15-88</u> Attest _____
8. Ellsworth, Horace H., House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Jayne M. McPherson 9/15/88</u> Attest _____
9. First Church Parsonage Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Jayne M. McPherson 9/15/88</u> Attest _____
10. Former Fire Station Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Jayne M. McPherson 9/15/88</u> Attest _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name 18th and 19th Century Brick Architecture of Windsor TR

State Hartford County, CONNECTICUT

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| 11. Grace Church Rectory | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Jayne M. Shepherson</u> | <u>9/15/88</u> |
| | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 12. Hartford & New Haven Railroad Depot | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Jayne M. Shepherson</u> | <u>9/15/88</u> |
| | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 13. Hartford & New Haven Railroad--
Freight Depot | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Jayne M. Shepherson</u> | <u>9/15/88</u> |
| | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 14. Harvey, William H., House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Jayne M. Shepherson</u> | <u>9/15/88</u> |
| | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 15. Harthaways Store | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Jayne M. Shepherson</u> | <u>9/15/88</u> |
| | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 16. Hayden, Captain Nathaniel, House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Jayne M. Shepherson</u> | <u>9/15/88</u> |
| | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 17. House at 111 Maple Avenue | | for Keeper | <u>Beth L. Savage</u> | <u>9-15-88</u> |
| | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 18. House at 130 Hayden Station Road | | for Keeper | <u>Beth L. Savage</u> | <u>9-15-88</u> |
| | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 19. House at 44 Court Street | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Jayne M. Shepherson</u> | <u>9/15/88</u> |
| | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 20. House at 736 Palisado Avenue | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Jayne M. Shepherson</u> | <u>9/15/88</u> |
| | | Attest | _____ | _____ |

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name 18th and 19th Century Brick Architecture of Windsor TR
State Hartford County, CONNECTICUT

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

21. Loomis, Capt. James, House

for Keeper Beth L. Sarge 9-15-88

Attest _____

22. Loomis, Col. James, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Jayne M. Mather 9/15/88

Attest _____

23. Loomis, George G., House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Jayne M. Mather 9/15/88

Attest _____

24. Loomis, Gordon, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Jayne M. Mather 9/15/88

Attest _____

25. Loomis, Ira, Jr., House

for Keeper Beth L. Sarge 9-15-88

Attest _____

26. Magill, Henry, House

for Keeper Beth L. Sarge 9-15-88

Attest _____

27. Mills, Timothy Dwight, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Jayne M. Mather 9/15/88

Attest _____

28. Moore, Edward and Ann, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Jayne M. Mather 9/15/88

Attest _____

29. Murphy, Patrick, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Jayne M. Mather 9/15/88

Attest _____

30. Payne, Daniel, House

for Keeper Beth L. Sarge 9-15-88

Attest _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name 18th and 19th Century Brick Architecture of Windsor TR
State Hartford County, CONNECTICUT

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- 31. Phelps, Eli, House Entered in the
National Register for Keeper Jayne M. McPherson 9/17/88
Attest _____
- 32. Shelton, William, House Entered in the
National Register for Keeper Jayne M. McPherson 9/15/88
Attest _____
- 33. Stony Hill School Entered in the
National Register for Keeper Jayne M. McPherson 9/15/88
Attest _____
- 34. Sweetland, Sophia, House for Keeper Peter L. Savage 9-15-88
Attest _____
- 35. _____
Keeper _____
Attest _____
- 36. _____
Keeper _____
Attest _____
- 37. _____
Keeper _____
Attest _____
- 38. _____
Keeper _____
Attest _____
- 39. _____
Keeper _____
Attest _____
- 40. _____
Keeper _____
Attest _____