

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

The attached property, the Chapin, Philip, House in Litchfield County, Connecticut, reference number 77001399, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the Keeper of the National Register on 08/29/1977, as evidenced by FEDERAL REGISTER/WEEKLY LIST notice of Tuesday, February 6, 1979, Part II, Vol. 44, No. 26, page 7441. The attached nomination form is a copy of the original documentation provided to the Keeper at the time of listing.


Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

3/20/2009
Date

FILE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Philip Chapin House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1 Church Street NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN New Hartford VICINITY OF 6th - Toby Moffett CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
STATE Connecticut CODE 09 COUNTY Litchfield CODE 005

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Chris Crooke
STREET & NUMBER 1 Church Street
CITY, TOWN New Hartford VICINITY OF STATE CT

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. New Hartford Town Clerk
STREET & NUMBER Main Street
CITY, TOWN New Hartford STATE CT

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Connecticut Statewide Inventory of Historic Resources
DATE 1966
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Connecticut Historical Commission
CITY, TOWN Hartford STATE CT

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

The Philip Chapin House is located on a spacious lot facing the small shaded green of the Pine Meadow section of New Hartford. Next to it are two country Gothic buildings, a church and a residence, and across the green are other 19th-century buildings. Because of the visual continuity and common associations with the Chapin family, the center of the village is a potential candidate for a National Register district; however, the Chapin House is being nominated separately because its size, setting, architectural significance and well-preserved state make it the most outstanding house on the green.

The house is an example of the north Italian Renaissance style; its main mass is in the form of a cube, two full stories tall with a low third story. The deck-on-hipped roof is surmounted by a square belvedere, and on three sides is an open loggia. In the rear is a hipped-roof, L-shaped wing, containing a rear entrance, service rooms and servants' quarters. Although it is two stories high, its floor levels are a few steps below those of the main house. There are two outbuildings: a small privy and a two-story carriage house. Although devoid of ornament, both resemble the main house in form: cube-like with a flattish hipped roof. The latter is distinguished by a pointed segmental arch bay on two sides and a similar loft opening.

The main facade of the house is three bays wide; the central bay, containing the entrance, is projected forward slightly and is topped off by a pediment which merges with the main roof. On each side of the pavilion is a closely set pair of windows at each story. The side elevations are similarly composed of nine pairs of windows. The whole exterior is clapboarded, except for the belvedere, the central bay and the third story, which are flush-sided. The roof is covered with brown, red and gray fish-scale slate shingles.

The exterior is richly executed, particularly in the use of paneling to create textural effects, the repetition in different scales of cornice brackets and carvings, and interesting combinations of shapes and different types of arches into single elements. The main entrance features double rectangular doors of black walnut; they have round-headed panels and in the center, large circular bosses. These and a transom are formed into a single round-arched opening by a band of carving; the whole is then enclosed as a rectangle by a series of moldings. The first story windows are tall and narrow, grouped into pairs, and are also surrounded by a set of moldings, with recessed panels filling in the space between the sills and the floor of the veranda. The flat-roof veranda is supported by square columns with arched-paneled bases and flared capitals; it has steps for the main entrance and at the southwest corner. The second-story windows are also paired and narrow, but have the shape of a segmental arch at the top. Above each pair is a raised panel which forms a single curve above the two segments. The effect is completed by a hoodmold which follows the same shape but rests on consoles located at the level of the top of the panel. The third story is set off by a series of moldings and its flush siding; its windows are shorter, smaller, round-headed, and have simple molded frames. The window treatment in the central pavilion is somewhat different: on the second story is a single round-arched opening surrounded by paneling and a rectangular band of molding. It is surmounted by a straight cornice. Beneath the pediment is a smaller opening with a round-arched architrave whose keystone and supporting consoles have a pierced design. The belvedere has two windows, like those on the third story, on each side; recessed panels between the openings and in the corners make the transition between the arches and the basic

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Philip Chapin House

7

one

rectangular shape of the belvedere. On each side of its roof is a projection similar to the second story hoodmolds. The jutting main cornice is supported by finely shaped brackets with pendent drops; it consists of a set of moldings and a band of ring-and-ball carving. This design, complete with brackets, is continued along the pediment, and is repeated in the cornices of the veranda, the second-story pavilion window, and the belvedere. The ring-and-ball carving is also repeated in the second-story window caps.

The interior is equally elegant. The house is laid out on the central hall plan, with a large parlor on one side and a smaller front room, perhaps a dining room, on the other. On the second floor are corresponding chambers, and on the third floor is an open space which was used as a ball room. The front rooms feature very wide arched openings, gilded cornices and original brass gas fixtures. There are eight coal fireplaces in the house: of Italian marble, they have round-arched openings, carved consoles and complex-curved mantles. Although the original decor is no longer known (another Chapin house had an interior by Tiffany), many built-in furnishings remain to suggest its opulence. In the dining room is a glass-front burl cupboard. Each of the chambers has in the corner a small marble sink, one with sterling silver faucets, and the bath has a mahogany-encased copper tub.

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/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1867 - built

BUILDER/ARCHITECT A.G. Kellogg, architect/builder

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Philip Chapin House is an excellent example of Victorian domestic architecture. Built in 1867 for a member of Pine Meadow's leading factory-owning family, the house reveals the degree of refinement which a person in such a position could provide for himself. Like comparable houses of the period, the Chapin House is large, spacious, and almost over-scaled. In style, the house is a northern Italian Renaissance villa: the 2½ story cubic form, the symmetrical elevations, the belvedere, the central pavilion, the projecting cornice, and the round-arched windows are typical elements of this style. It is in the richness of ornamentation, however, that the Chapin House excels. Everywhere one finds examples of elaboration and decoration which could have been left plain had the builder a lesser commitment to detail. At the same time, the effect is not overly busy: many interesting points, such as the repetition of the ball and ring turning in the window caps, veranda and main cornices, or the use of scaled down brackets as pediment modillions (somewhat disconcerting), can be appreciated only at close range. Other outstanding or interesting features include the front doors, the polychrome slate, the interesting geometry in the second-story window treatment, and the interior details - fireplaces, woodwork and built-ins.

The house has local significance because the Chapins were one of the foremost Pine Meadow families in the 19th century. Hermon Chapin started in 1828 a factory which made planes and machine-stamped rules. This prospered and was one of New Hartford's largest firms. Chapin and his sons built several large houses in the Pine Meadow section, as well as donating land for the green and adjacent church.

Philip Chapin (1838-1915) tried to continue his father's success. Around 1865 he purchased the Kellogg Machine Works and, with additional shop space inherited from his father, formed the Chapin Machinery Company to manufacture machinery, especially knitting machines. At the same time, he married and built this impressive house on the green. Between 1878 and 1880, however, his business failed twice and was bought out by his brother Edward, who had continued the original tool company. Philip left Pine Meadow to start a bolt factory in Cleveland. He later managed an Iron Company in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, but after the flood, moved to Washington, D.C. and then to Paris.

The building is very well-preserved, and is almost entirely in its original state. The well-kept grounds, as well as the nearby green, lend the house an appropriately spacious setting. Long-range planning for the house includes the possibility of a private museum of 19th-century furnishings. The combination of style, setting, preservation, and high visibility make the Chapin House an exceptional architectural resource.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Chapin, Gilbert W. The Chapin Book. Priv. pr.: Chapin Family Association, 1924.
History of Litchfield County, Vol 2. Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis, 1881. Pp. 410-11.

Norton, Geta Chapin. "Reminiscences of Pine Meadow, Connecticut," Lure of the Litchfield Hills, XXX, No. 1, 10-15.

Strickland, Clark J. Interview with Florence Richards (recent owner), 12 November 1975, notes at Connecticut Historical Commission.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY two

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	6,6,8,5,6,0	4,6,3,7,6,8,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Bruce Clouette, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Connecticut Historical Commission

DATE

April 28, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

59 South Prospect Street

TELEPHONE

(203) 566-3005

CITY OR TOWN

Hartford

STATE

CT

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

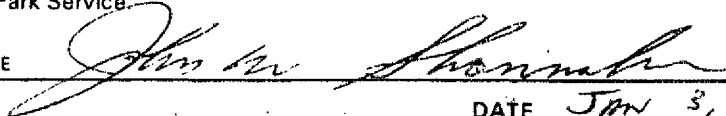
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE

S.H.P.O.

DATE

JAN 3, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE
ATTEST:	DATE
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

6967 LINE
(WINSTED)

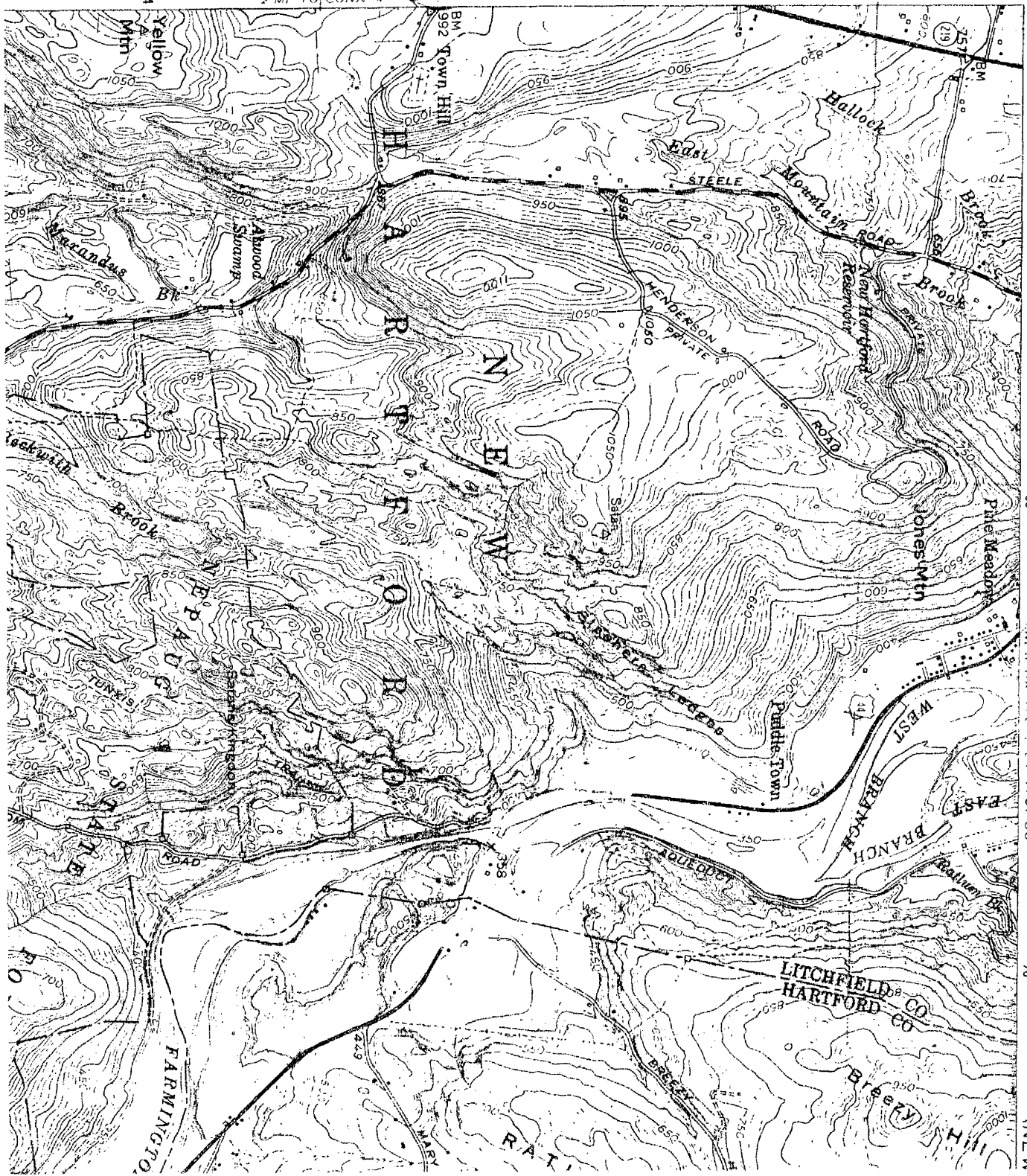
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE C
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PHILIP CHAPIN HOUSE
New Hartford, CT
UTM Reference:
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TORRINGTON 8 2 MI
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6967 1 NE
(WINSTED)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
HIGHWAY DISTRICT
(NEW HARTFORD)

PHILIP CHAPIN HOUSE
New Hartford, CT
UTM Reference:
18/668560/4637680



2 MI TO CORN 4

41°52'30"

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