

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received JAN 12 1984  
date entered

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

**1. Name**

historic NA

and or common Clay Hill Historic District(Boundary Increase)

**2. Location**

street & number 8 Florence Street

NA not for publication

city, town Hartford

NA vicinity of

state Connecticut

code 09

county Hartford

code 003

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<u>NA</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 type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Clarence Zachery

street & number 119 Blue Ridge Drive

city, town Manchester

NA vicinity of

state CT

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Hartford Land Records, Municipal Building

street & number 550 Main Street

city, town Hartford

state CT

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title See continuation sheet

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date

federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

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

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

8 Florence Street is a 4-story, Neo-Classical Revival, brick-and-brownstone apartment house, built in 1909. Its high brownstone foundations are quarry-faced ashlar. The first floor of the building's brick front wall is rusticated, and there are brick quoins at the building's front corners. Clustered columns support the central, wooden front porch, which has a projecting, molded cornice with modillions. (Photograph 1)

The window composition above the porch is a distinctive feature of the front elevation. Three tripartite windows light the landings of the central stairway of the interior. Immediately above the porch, the window for the first landing has a molded wooden cornice. Above the cornice is a wall section of nine recessed, wooden panels. The second or middle landing window sill rests on the paneling. This window has a large, finished, brownstone block as lintel. In the space above the lintel, between the middle and top landing windows, there is a recessed brownstone plaque with the incised numerals "1909." The top landing window is Diocletian in shape. In all of these windows the upper sash have vertical lights with the muntins arranged to form diamond-shaped panes at the top. (Photograph 2)

The flanking windows on the front elevation are single and paired, some with 1-over-1 sash and some with 2-over-1 sash, under prominent flat arches made of brick laid vertically, with central and splayed key blocks.

At the roof line, the sheet metal cornice over plain architrave has molded cymatium supported by modillions. The cornice returns over the first bays of the sides of the building, and these bays have the rustication and window lintels of the front elevation. The balance of the building, however, is plain. On the rear are wooden, 4-story porches with a central, enclosed stairway. (Photograph 3)

On the interior, the central stairway rises in a small stair hall in a series of switch-back runs from floor to landing to floor. There are two apartments on each floor, laid out symmetrically. Against each exterior side wall there is a sequence, from the front, of living room, dining room and bedroom. This series of rooms is separated by a central hall within the apartment from an air well, bathroom, closet and cupboard that run back from the stair hall along the central brick bearing wall that divides the building into its two halves. Within each apartment the central hall leads back to the kitchen at the rear of the building.

The interior door and window surrounds consist of channeled vertical and horizontal members with circle corner blocks. There are built-in cupboards in the dining rooms, (Photograph 4)

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Clay Hill Historic District (Boundary Increase,) Hartford, CT

Continuation sheet Existing Surveys Item number 2 Page 1

Hartford Architecture Conservancy's Survey of Hartford Architecture  
1977-79 x local  
Stowe-Day Library, 77 Forest Street  
Hartford CT

State Register of Historic Places  
1983 x state  
Connecticut Historical Commission, 59 South Prospect Street  
Hartford CT

# 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 type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1909 Builder/Architect Unknown

## Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

### Criterion C - Architecture

8 Florence Street is a good example of the apartment houses that were built for working class families in the Clay Hill Historic District after the turn of the century. Remarkably free of alterations on the the exterior and interior, its integrity is greater than that of most other buildings in the district.

The building materials of 8 Florence Street, red brick and brownstone, are those that were used extensively in the 19th century, and carried over into the first decade or so of the 20th century. The design of the front elevation, however, reflects contemporary classical revival trends. The clustered columns, rustication, quoins, tripartite and Diocletian windows in balanced symmetry all are in the idiom that became increasingly popular as the picturesque architectural styles of the second half of the 19th century gave way to renewed interest in classical and Neo-Classical precedents. 8 Florence Street is in the mainstream of development that dominated the American architectural scene in the early decades of the 20th century.

The interior trim of the building continued 19th-century practice. The channeled vertical and horizontal members, with circle corner blocks, of of the door and window surrounds are millwork that had been used through most of the 19th century in modest houses in the district. 8 Florence Street is unusual for having almost all the interior trim still intact, and for having very few changes in the floor plans. This building is unusual in the district for the high degree of integrity of both the exterior and the interior.

The names and occupations of early residents of 8 Florence Street reflect the transitional Irish/German Jewish immigrant ethnic character of the neighborhood.<sup>1</sup> Those who resided in the building in 1915<sup>2</sup> included Isaac L. Cohen, no occupation given, Francis F. Foley, salesman, Dominic A. LeRoy, partner in Schuman & LeRoy, proprietors of the OK Hotel, 12 Church Street, Frank W. Lynch, traveling salesman, Joseph Rosenbloom, insurance agent, and Jerome H. Sloan, stable worker. The building and its occupants were characteristic of their time in the Clay Hill Historic District.

1. For a discussion of the development of the ethnic character of the Clay Hill Historic District, see the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for the district.

2. Geer's Hartford City Directory, Hartford: Elihu Geer Sons, 1915. Geer started publishing information on householders arranged geographically this year. 1915 is the first year for which such information is available.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

None

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one

Quadrangle name Hartford North

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A 

1	8	6	9	3	0	8	0	4	6	2	7	3	8	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property is described in the Hartford Land Records at volume 1978, page 158. The land that goes with the building is a normal parcel for this neighborhood.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state NA code NA county NA code NA

state NA code NA county NA code NA

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title David F. Ransom - edited by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator

organization Consultant date May 23, 1983

street & number 33 Sunrise Hill Drive telephone 203 521-2518

city or town West 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 Director, Connecticut Historical Commission

date January 6, 1984

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date 2/16/84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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Clay Hill Historic District (Boundary Increase), Hartford, CT

Continuation sheet Geographical Data Item number 10

Page 1

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Boundary Justification

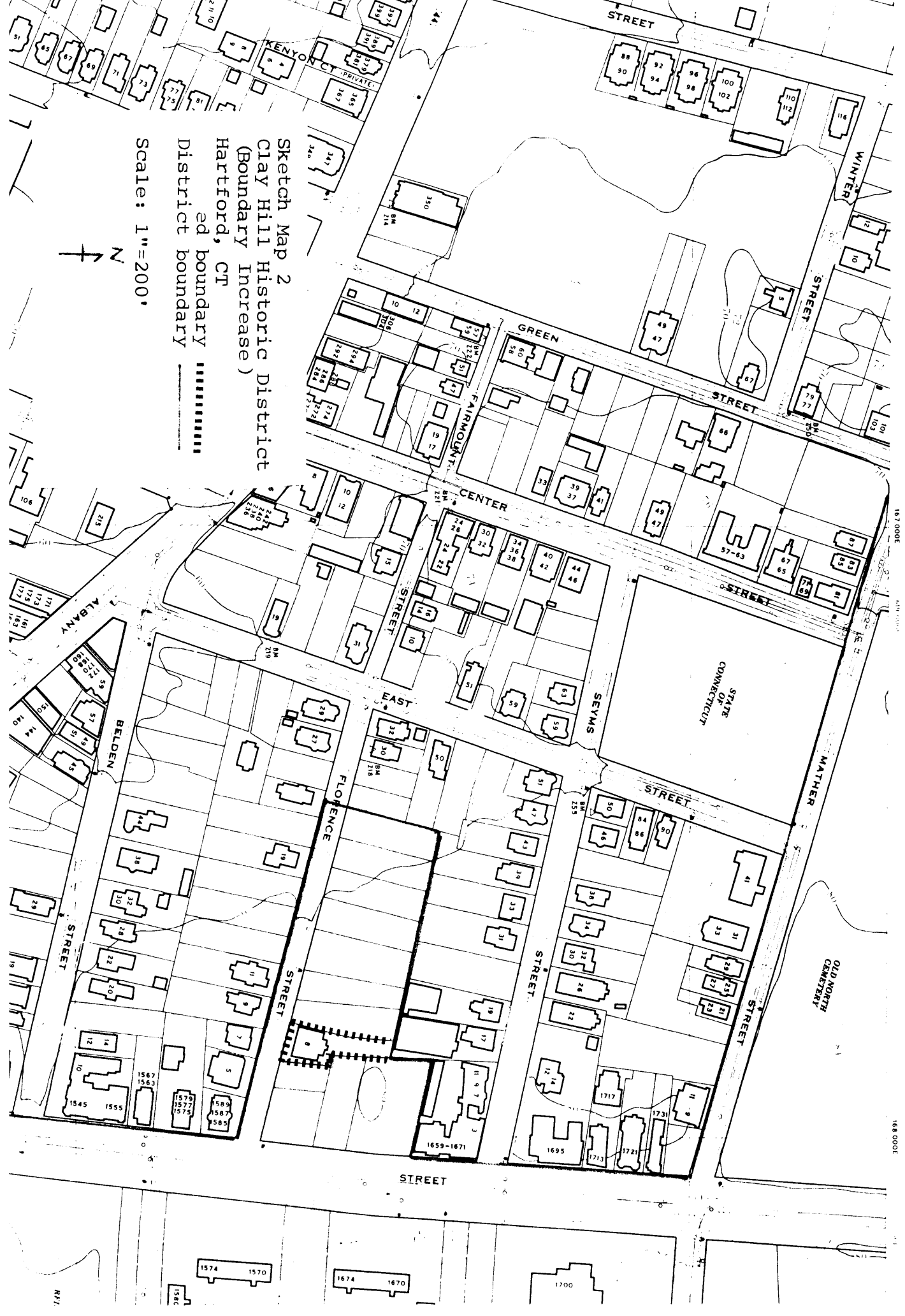
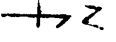
When the Clay Hill Historic District nomination to the National Register of Historic Places was prepared (by the present writer) careful attention was given to the problem of how to draw the boundary line in the vicinity of 8 Florence Street. The considerations were that, on the one hand, 8 Florence Street is typical of buildings considered to contribute to the historic and architectural character of the district, and therefore should be included in the district. On the other hand, it was considered to be important to omit the nine lots on the north side of Florence Street west of 8 Florence Street because they were vacant and were known to be sites on which new, 2-story, frame houses were scheduled to be built in coming months.

In the understanding that existed at the time, had 8 Florence Street been included in the district, the nine lots would have become a doughnut, closed by 8 Florence Street abutting 7 Florence Street. The lots would have been entirely surrounded by the district. Such a doughnut is an unacceptable condition.

The new information is that, as 7 Florence Street is separated from 8 Florence Street by the roadway itself, the two properties do not abut one another, and therefore the inclusion of 8 Florence Street in the district does not create a doughnut. Accordingly, the boundary is re-drawn to include 8 Florence Street in the district. See Sketch Maps 1 and 2.

Sketch Map 2  
 Clay Hill Historic District  
 (Boundary Increase)  
 Hartford, CT  
 ad boundary  
 District boundary

Scale: 1"=200'



167 000E

168 000E

N47



Clay Hill National Register  
Historic District  
Hartford, CT

District boundary

Sketch Map 1  
Clay Hill Historic District  
(Boundary Increase)  
Hartford, CT.

Expanded boundary

