

PH0028860

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Connecticut	
COUNTY: New London	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.10.06.0015	DATE 10/6/70

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Fort Griswold

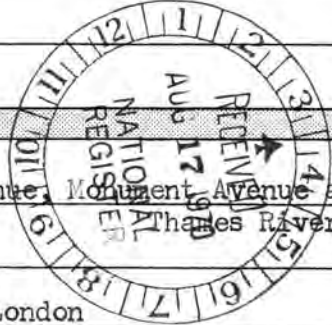
AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Bounded by Baker Avenue, Smith Street, Park Avenue, Monument Avenue and the Thames River.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Groton

STATE: Connecticut      CODE: 06      COUNTY: New London      CODE: 011



**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____
		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____	

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
State of Connecticut -- State Park and Forest Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Hartford      STATE: Connecticut      CODE: 06

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Municipal Building

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Groton      STATE: Connecticut      CODE: 06

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Connecticut Historic Structures and Landmarks Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1967       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Connecticut Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
75 Elm Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hartford      STATE: Connecticut      CODE: 06

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Connecticut  
COUNTY: New London  
ENTRY NUMBER: 70.10.06.0015  
DATE: 10/6/70  
FOR NPS USE ONLY

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated		
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fort Griswold was built between 1775 and 78 for the defense of the Groton and New London shore. At present it appears to be a grassy and overgrown earthworks with an assymetrical star-like shape and a detached V shaped ravelin , also overgrown, which covered the gateway.

However, in 1781 at the time of the British massacre for which the fort is famous the fort is described in the diary of Stephen Hempstead as

A wall of stones 10 or 12 feet high on the lower side and surrounded by a ditch. On the wall were pickets projecting 2 feet, and above this a parapet with embrasures and within a platform for cannon and a step to mount on to shoot over the parapet with small arms. In the southwest bastion was a flagstaff and in the side was a gate with a triangular breastworks to protect it and a redoubt with a three pounder in it.<sup>1</sup>

Using this description the daughters of the American Revolution have constructed a diagram of the original fort and with the use of Hempstead's account and that of Rufus Avery have concluded where decisive events have taken place (see enclosed sheet).

Adjacent to the fort and northeast of it is the Groton Monument. The monument is an obelisk 135 feet high, 22 feet square at the base sloping to 8½ feet at the base of the pyramid. The granite of which it was built was quarried near by. The summit is reached by a spiral stairway within of one hundred sixty-six steps, and the top gallery affords a magnificent view of the harbor and the whole surrounding country. On a marble slab near the entrance inside the monument is the inscription

This monument  
Was erected under the patronage of the  
State of Connecticut A D 1830,  
and in the 55th year of the independence of the U.S.A.  
In the memory of the Brave Patriots  
who fell in the Battle of Fort Griswold near this spot  
on the 6th of September A D 1781  
when the British under the command of  
the traitor Benedict Arnold  
burned the towns of New London and Groton and spread  
desolation and woe throughout this region.

Near the monument and also northeast of the fort is a stonehouse with an annex which is a memorial to the men who lost their lives in the Spanish American War. It houses relics of the town's history and has displays which relate to the history of the fort



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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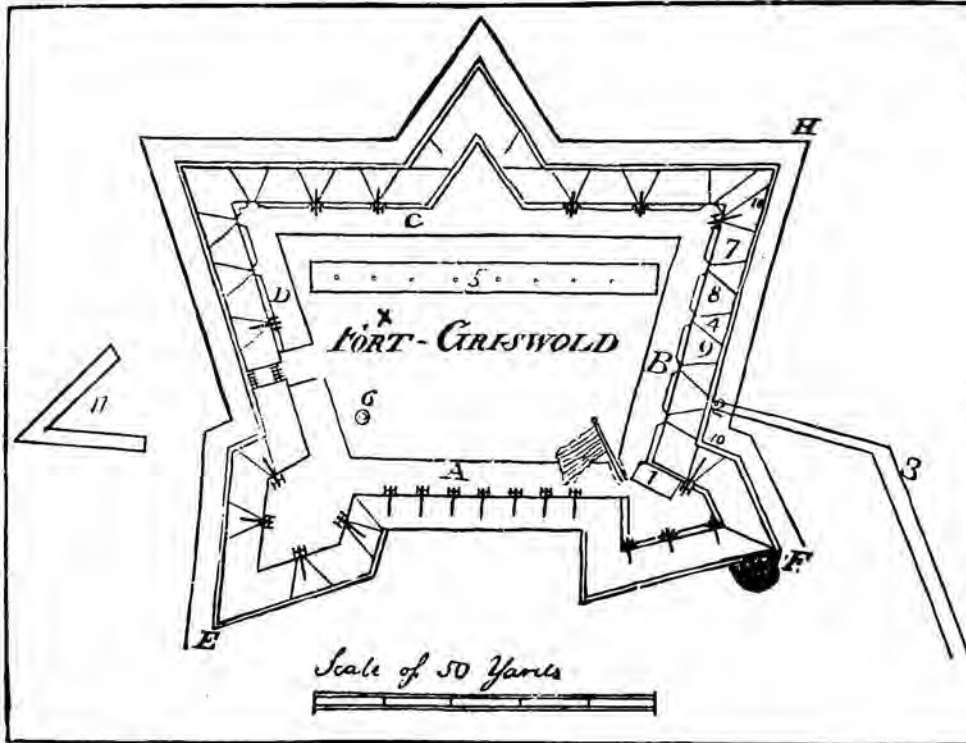
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Connecticut	
COUNTY New London	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.10.06.0015	DATE 10/6/70

(Number all entries)

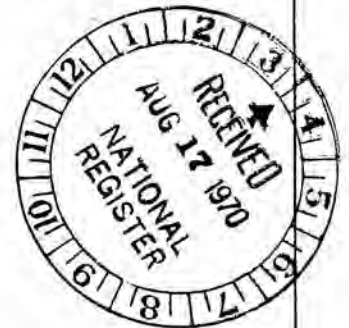
- 2 -

Description of Fort Griswold  
and especially to the Battle of Fort Griswold.



REFERENCES TO FORT GRISWOLD <sup>2</sup>

1. Magazine
  2. Sallee-Port
  3. A ditch leading to battery below
  4. Embrazine where Major Montgomery fell
  5. Barracks
  6. Well
  - 7, 8, 9. Points where the light companies of the 40th entered
  10. Guns that harrassed the enemy
  11. Ravelin that covered the gateway
- F A rock not cut away, which gives an entrance into the work.  
From E to F round the sides D, C and B the work is fraised.  
On the curtain A to the angle F was a barbette battery.  
H is at the southeast corner.  
F is at the southwest corner.  
x Spot where Col. Ledyard was killed.
- Note: This map shows the fort as it would be approached from the river. The monument is located off the upper left hand corner.



<sup>1</sup>The Story of the Battle of Fort Griswold and the Groton Heights Monument, pub. by the Anna Warner Bailey Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, p.2.  
<sup>2</sup>Ibid. p. 8.

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Connecticut	
COUNTY New London	
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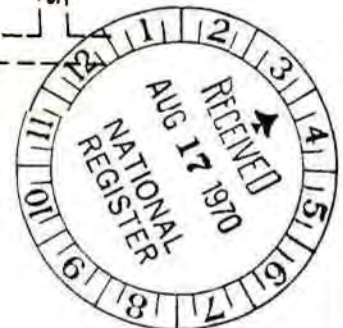
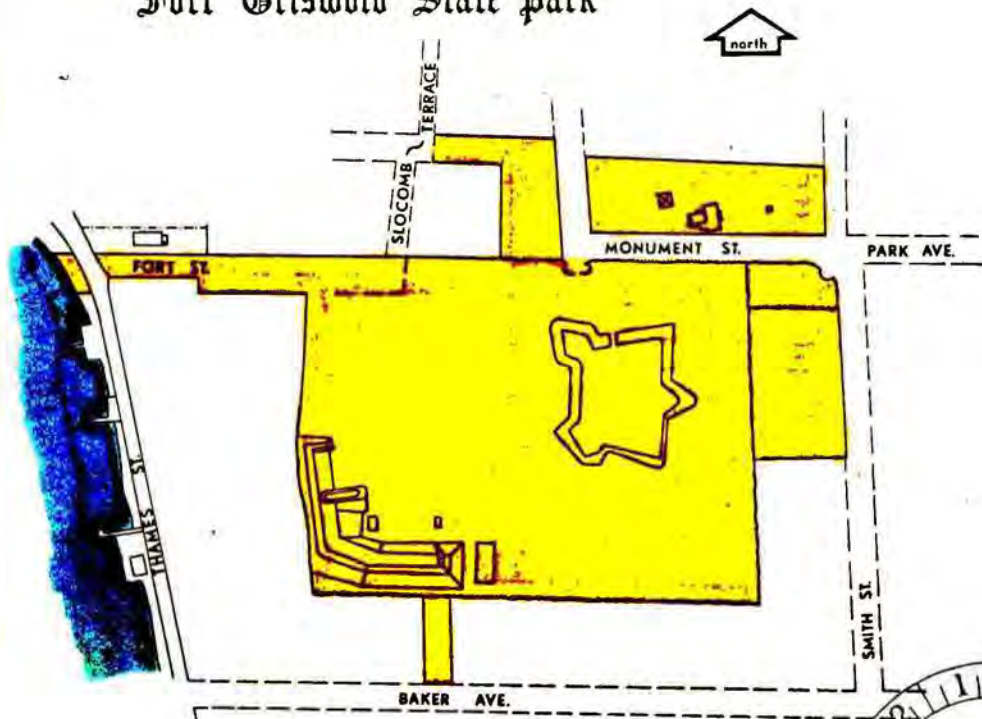
(Number all entries)

- 3 -

Description of Fort Griswold

Southwest of the fort is another wall which curves around the southwest corner of the state property. It was built in 1812 as an extension of a natural stone ledge. Within this is a stone house built in 1840 for the storage of powder, files, and ammunition. North of this stone building is a brick hot shot house built in 1812. In this building cannon balls were heated before they were shot from the cannon in the wall at wooden ships in the river. The twenty canon used in the war of 1812 were removed in 1814. The fort was a military site on three occasions after the close of the Revolutionary War--in 1812, 1898, and World War II.

**Fort Griswold State Park**



**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the fort is its association with a significant historical event, the Battle of Fort Griswold. In 1781 in an effort to divert Washington's forces from New York the British laid siege to New London in an attack led by the traitor Benedict Arnold with a force of 35 ships and 1700 men. In the attack which occurred on September 6, 1781 Arnold used half his forces to burn New London and half to attack Fort Griswold.

When Ledyard rejected a surrender demand, the British began a fierce assault from three sides. The Americans replied with enfilading canon fire and caused heavy casualties. Finally the enemy, with a slashing bayonet attack, broke through the embrasures on one side. Both Eyre and Major William Montgomery, leader of the successful assault column, received fatal wounds.

The British losses numbered approximately 40 killed and 100 wounded; the American, 6 killed and perhaps 20 wounded. Ledyard, realizing that his position was hopeless, ordered his men to ground their arms. A British officer shouted, "Who commands this garrison?" Ledyard promptly handed his sword to the speaker, replying, "I did, sir, but you do now." Instantly the sword was taken and ...rammed through Ledyard's body. The wrought-up British soldiers butchered fourscore of the garrison before their officers finally halted the carnage. Major Stephen Bromfield, now in command, decided to blow up the powder magazine, so the American wounded were placed in an ammunition wagon. As the final act in this stark tragedy, the wagon got out of control on a hill, plunged wildly down the declivity, and finally crashed into a tree, tossing the maimed about and killing several.

The Battle of Fort Griswold was significant as the last British assault upon Connecticut soil: for the British it was a victory tarnished by dishonor in one of the closing battles of the Revolutionary War.

<sup>1</sup>Albert F. Van Dusen, Connecticut. Random House, New York (1961), p.169.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Albert E. Van Dusen, Connecticut. New York: Random House, 1961.

The Story of the Battle of Fort Griswold and the Groton Heights Monument.  
Published by the Anna Warner Bailey Chapter, Daughters of the American  
Revolution, 1967.

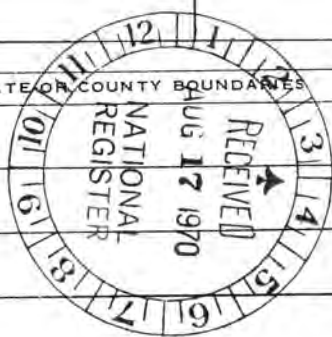
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	41 ° 21 ' 17 "	72 ° 05 ' 03 "		°	'	"
NE	41 ° 21 ' 17 "	72 ° 04 ' 44 "				
SE	41 ° 21 ' 07 "	72 ° 04 ' 44 "				
SW	41 ° 21 ' 07 "	72 ° 05 ' 03 "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **16**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Constance Luyster, Administrative Trainee

ORGANIZATION: State Historical Commission DATE: July 31, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: 75 Elm Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hartford STATE: Connecticut CODE: 06

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: [Signature]

Title: Chairman, Connecticut Historical Commission and State Liaison Officer

Date: June 31, 1970

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

[Signature]  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

**OCT 6 1970**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: **AUG 26 1970**









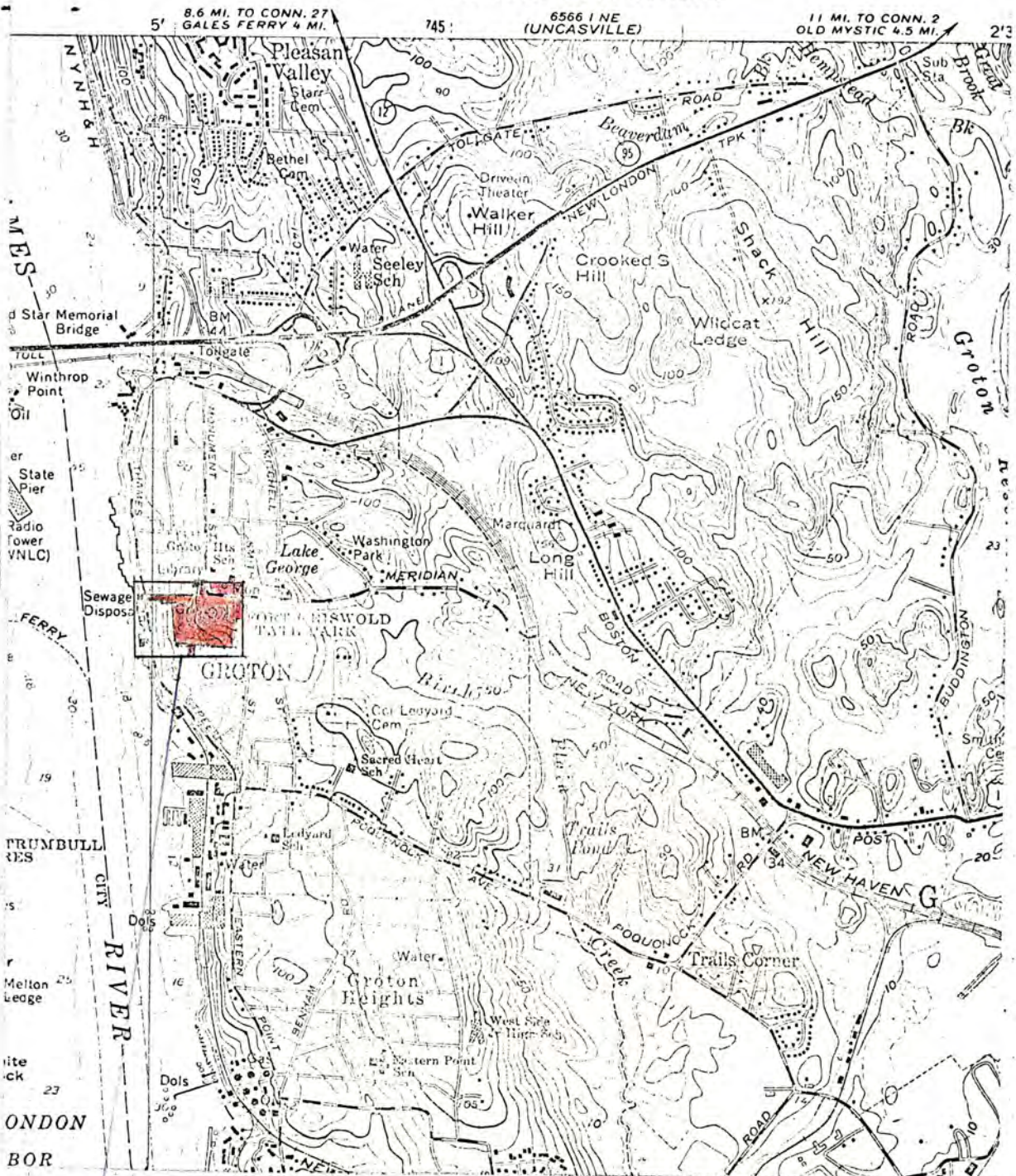




THE DEATH OF  
MAJOR WILLIAM MONTGOMERY  
WHILE LEADING THE BRITISH  
ATTACK ON THE FORT AT  
THIS POINT.

SEPT 6<sup>TH</sup>  
1781

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT



Fort Griswold

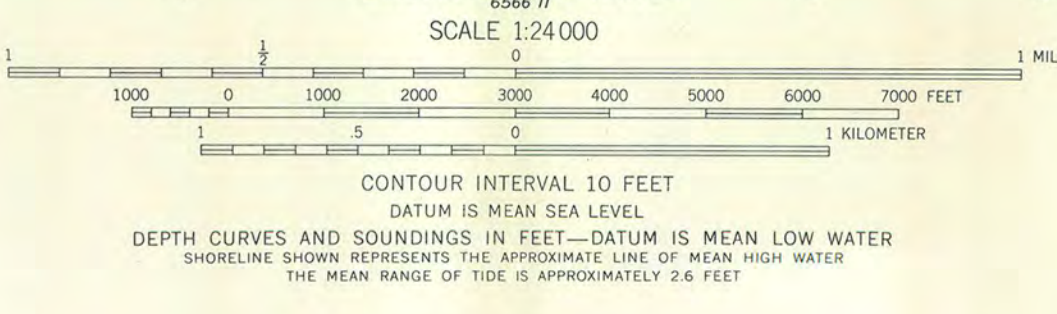
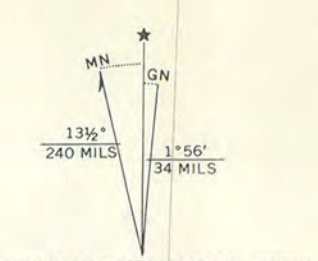
CORNER	Latitude	Longitude
NW	41° 21' 17"	72° 05' 03"
NE	41° 21' 17"	72° 04' 44"
SE	41° 21' 07"	72° 04' 44"
SW	41° 21' 07"	72° 05' 03"





NE 18/744 390  
4582 060  
SE 18/744 400  
4581 760  
SW 18/743 980  
4581 760  
NW 18/743 950  
4582 060  
05

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and Connecticut Geodetic Survey  
Topography by planetable surveys 1934. Revised 1958  
Hydrography compiled from USC&GS charts 293 (1956) and 359 (1958)  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grids based on Connecticut coordinate system,  
and New York coordinate system, Long Island zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 18, shown in blue  
Red tint indicates areas in which only  
landmark buildings are shown  
Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with  
Connecticut Highway Department from aerial photographs taken 1970  
This information not field checked  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route
Interstate Route	

NEW LONDON, CONN.-N. Y.  
N4115-W7200/7.5

1958  
PHOTOREVISED 1970  
AMS 6566 I SE-SERIES V816

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

# National Register of Historic Places

## Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2017

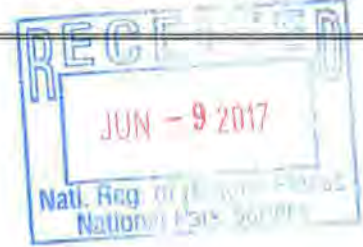
AD 70000041

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Fort Griswold Amendment
Name of Property New London County, Connecticut
County and State N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

CONTINUATION SHEET/AMENDMENT  
NRIS Listing Number: 70000694  
Property Name: Fort Griswold  
County: New London  
Date Listed: 6 October 1970  
State: Connecticut



Amended Items in Nomination: Approval for a completed 1971 move of the Ebenezer Avery House to Fort Griswold and the addition of the house as a contributing property in the original 1970 nomination.

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A  B  C  D

W. Bruce Deane / Deputy SHPO 5-31-17  
 Signature of certifying official/Title: Date  
Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office  
 State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of commenting official: Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Title : State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Fort Griswold Amendment
Name of Property
New London County, Connecticut
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public – Local
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public – State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public – Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	<b>Total</b>

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources**  
**previously listed in the National Register**

1



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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Fort Griswold Amendment
-----
Name of Property
New London County, Connecticut
-----
County and State
N/A
-----
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COLONIAL/Postmedieval English

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**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE/Limestone

walls: WOOD/Weatherboard

roof: WOOD/Shingle

other: Chimney: BRICK

Porches: STONE/Limestone

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

**Summary Paragraph**

Fort Griswold was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 6, 1970 as a site under Criterion A for its association with the Battle of Groton Heights, which took place at the fort on September 6, 1781. The purpose of this amendment to the original National Register documentation is to add the Ebenezer Avery House as a contributing property. The Avery House is also associated with the Battle of Groton Heights and was moved to its current location on the grounds of Fort Griswold in 1971 (one year after the National Register listing) from a site approximately 1,000 feet away. The house was relocated because it was threatened by development. It has been listed on the Connecticut State Register of Historic Places since it was created in 1975, but is not yet listed on the National Register. The Fort Griswold site was chosen as its new location because of the historical link between the house and the battle. There is no change to the boundary of the existing National Register listed Fort. The Avery House is a two-story, Colonial-era building constructed between 1748 and 1778. Since this building was dismantled piece-by-piece, moved across the street, and reassembled with the original materials, it retains integrity of design, and workmanship. While the exact location of the house has changed, its setting near the Battle of Groton Heights site and the Thames River is similar to its historic setting. It retains its association with the battle and is representative of Georgian style domestic design as found in rural New England.

**Narrative Description**

Exterior

The Ebenezer Avery House is a wood-frame Georgian style building constructed in the mid-eighteenth century (Photos 1-3). It currently faces south toward Fort Griswold (Figures 1 and 2, Photos 4-6). The massing, details, and plan of the building are typical of domestic Georgian style design common to rural New England during the eighteenth century. It has a wood-shingled, side-gable roof, replacement clapboard siding, and a reconstructed, dry-laid fieldstone foundation (installed over new concrete). The siding was reinstalled after the addition of a vapor barrier on the exterior of the walls in 2014-2015. Wood exterior trim includes a narrow

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Fort Griswold Amendment
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

cornice and pedimented lintels on the façade, corner posts, and simple rakes. A wide, brick center chimney extends from the roof ridge to the basement where the stack is constructed of stone.

The facade (south elevation) is four bays wide. The east two façade bays are equally spaced, but there is a wider space between the central bay and the fourth (west) bay. The main entrance is slightly off-center and is accessed by limestone stairs. The entrance consists of a six-panel wood door set within a simple frame with a triangular pediment. Identical pediments are located above the first story windows. The window pediments are historic replicas, which were recently installed because the previous ones had been removed due to water infiltration problems. Windows flank the front door with one on the west and two windows on the east. The second floor windows mirror the first, with a central window above the door. All of the windows on the facade are 8/12 double-hung wood sash with plain trim, except for the one above the door, which is 6/9 double-hung wood sash. There is a white sign set in a molded frame to the west of the front door describing the home's connection to the Battle of Groton Heights. It reads, "Shelter given in this house to the wounded and dying soldiers after Massacre at Fort Griswold."

The east (side) elevation is two bays wide and has 6/9 double-hung sash, except for the south window on the first floor, which has 8/12 double-hung sash. Two windows set high in the gable end in the attic are 6/6 double-hung sash and are arranged much closer together than for the lower floors. The west (side) elevation is three bays wide. Windows on the west elevation are laid out with two paired windows in the south rooms and a single window in the north rooms of each floor, as well as two windows in the attic. As with the other side of the house the attic windows are 6/6 double-hung sash, and the rest of the windows are 6/9 double-hung sash, except for the first floor front rooms whose windows are 8/12 double-hung sash. The east half of the north (rear) elevation is blank and the west half has two 6/9 double-hung sash windows per floor that are asymmetrically placed atop one another. A small shed-roofed addition extends from this elevation and is sheathed in clapboard similar to the rest of the house. It contains one 6/6 double-hung sash window facing north. There is a door to the west side with stone stairs leading away.

### Structural System

The framing consists of two-story vertical posts throughout,<sup>1</sup> with collar beams aiding in the support of the simple truss roof.<sup>2</sup> The summer beam is unusual because it is flush with the floor joists rather than being exposed.<sup>3</sup> Most of the rooms have corner posts that are sheathed in paneling with beading along the edge. The only exception is the wall between the front and back bedrooms on the west side of the second floor. There is no exposed vertical beam on the second floor to support the cross beam between the front and back of the house. All of these posts flare out as they reach the ceiling (Photo 7).<sup>4</sup> The building currently rests on a full concrete block foundation topped with a dry-laid stone water table visible above grade. The portion of the foundation visible on the exterior matches the amount exposed on the original site. The basement has a poured concrete floor.

### Interior

Upon entering the front door there is a small foyer with an open, dog-legged stairway with banister and railing that leads to the second floor. The stairs are set against the chimney stack (Photo 8). On the first story there is one room to either side, and across the back of the house are three rooms (Figure 3). The middle one,

<sup>1</sup> Kelly, J. Frederick. *Early Domestic Architecture of Connecticut*, Dover Publications, New York; 1963; 43.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, 44.

<sup>3</sup> *The Avery Newsletter*, Volume 1, Number 2, October 1971.

<sup>4</sup> Kelly, 27-30.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Fort Griswold Amendment
Name of Property
New London County, Connecticut
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

the kitchen, is the largest, and the room to the west side is smaller than on the opposite side of the house and therefore is asymmetrical (Photos 9- 13). A second set of stairs to the second floor is located between the kitchen and northeast room (Photo 14). The northeast corner of the house has its original wall treatment and a small reveal where the lath is exposed as part of the house museum.

The second floor follows a similar layout, with a small foyer at the top of the stairs, one bedroom on either side, and three rooms across the back of the house (Figure 4, Photos 15-20). The wide-board wood floors in the house are historic, but it is not known if they are original to the house. The walls are plaster and were added as part of the reconstruction after the move. Original roof rafters and horizontal sheathing are visible in the attic.

The chimney is open on three sides on the first floor, and two sides on the second floor (Photos 21-25). Halfway up the main front stairs is another opening in the chimney with an area to smoke meats (Photo 26). There is a wood door to close this space. The chimney was rebuilt during the relocation and restoration process. During this time, new mortar was added to secure the chimney, which rests on a concrete wall in the basement. The house has wood paneling above the fireplaces, as well as in the front foyer beneath the stairs (Photo 27). The hearths on the first floor are made of one large stone, with brick lining the fireplace walls of the two side rooms. The fireplace in the kitchen is completely made of stone with two cubbies built into the right side. The top one was used to bake bread and has an iron door, and the bottom was used to store wood (Photo 28). Molding around the fireplace is not original. Another decorative feature in the house is an original corner cupboard in the southeast room. The cupboard has a cabinet at the bottom and open shelves at the top half (Photo 29). In front of the house is a garden where volunteers are currently planting flowers and herbs (Photo 30).

#### Relocation Procedures and Current Setting

The Avery House was originally located at the northeast corner of Thames and Latham streets at 264 Latham Street; it faced south toward Latham Street, in the direction of Fort Griswold Battlefield State Park (Figures 5-7). When a development proposal threatened the building in 1970, Ray Stanton Avery (then of San Marino, California) "purchased the house to save it from being made into apartments and asked the [Avery Memorial] association to assist in its restoration."<sup>5</sup> The State of Connecticut and the Avery Memorial Association (association) agreed to move the house to the Fort Griswold Battlefield State Park in 1971. Ray Stanton Avery and the Avery Memorial Association (association) shared the cost of the relocation. They moved the house two blocks away on the Fort Griswold Battlefield State Park property, to be used as a museum and donated it to the State of Connecticut. Avery chose to dismantle the house rather than move it whole because it would not fit through the gates of the park. It currently faces south, just as it did in the original location, and the view from the main entrance is of the lower section of the fort. Prior to the move, modern houses obstructed the home's historic view of the Thames River. The original site of the house is now a parking lot (Figure 20).

Prior to and during the relocation, the association documented the existing building through photographs. During the relocation, the association disassembled the building and reconstructed it with the original materials. The Avery Memorial Association maintains a collection of photographs that document the deconstruction and reconstruction/rehabilitation process (Figures 7-19). Additionally, an audio-recording with an account of the move according to C. Spicer Brown and Amos Avery, two people involved in the move, is on file at the Groton Public Library.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> *New London Day*, July 7, 1971.

<sup>6</sup> These sources are the primary documentation of the move. No measured drawings are known to exist.

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Graham Finch, a local builder hired to direct the move, removed side and rear additions that had been constructed in the early twentieth century, in an effort to return the house to its eighteenth century appearance.<sup>7</sup> While current historic preservation policy is to maintain and restore historic additions, this 1971 decision regarding what to preserve is consistent with earlier Colonial Revival era historic preservation practices. Other changes that took place during the move included the construction of new sills, and a new center chimney including the hearthstone and brick for the kitchen fireplace. The original chimney was removed at some point in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. The new stones were taken from the ca. 1713 Gardner House at what is now Bluff Point State Park in Groton. Additional bricks and stones used in the current foundation were taken from the nearby Haley Farm. Original building components were reconstructed in place wherever possible. Where necessary, replacement components were installed. Amos Avery acquired replacement oak timber from a mill in North Stonington, Connecticut and acquired white pine for replacement floors and paneling from New Hampshire and Maine (Brown and Avery n.d.).

#### Analysis of Impact to other Historic Resources

No other historic resources were impacted by this relocation. The Avery House is located at the northwest edge of Fort Griswold Battlefield State Park, approximately 500 feet west of the fort and 400 feet north of the extant 1840s river battery. It is sited close to Fort Street, just west of a park manager's residence. Both buildings abut a residential neighborhood and are partially shielded from views from the fort and monument by tall coniferous trees. No archaeological investigations were completed at Fort Griswold until test excavations by students in 1975 (Elia 1985:2). However, the Avery House foundation is on a site that did not have any fortification features in 1781 or during subsequent military improvements of the park. It is not known to be a location in the park where the British troops approached or people were buried. In an archaeological survey of Fort Griswold completed in 1985, the northwest corner of the park is not identified as archaeologically sensitive (Figure 21, Elia 1985:196). The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, which manages the park, does not have any additional information regarding archaeological sensitivity of the current house site.

The house is an early example of a preservation and restoration effort to maintain an eighteenth century house. When the house was moved in 1971 the more recent additions were removed to interpret the house as closely to 1781 as possible, and the original wood beams and existing features were replaced just as they had been. The walls and ceilings are drywall, but a section of the wall was left open to show the lath and plaster method that would have been used in the original construction. The fact that the house was moved to its current location in order to save it from demolition was instrumental in also preserving an important part of the Groton Heights Battle story. The house is now open to the public as a museum. The Avery Memorial Association recently completed restoration work on the windows and is planning to install an HVAC system to control the climate within the house to provide a more stable environment for the artifacts. Despite the previous changes to the house, the state and the association have worked to restore the house since the move. The reconstruction of the house will also be 50 years old in 2021.

<sup>7</sup> *The Avery Newsletter*, Volume 1, Number 1, June 1971.

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**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.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MILITARY HISTORY

**Period of Significance**

1781

**Significant Dates**

September 6, 1781 (Battle of Groton Heights)

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Avery, Parke

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**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance dates to the Battle of Groton Heights on September 6, 1781. Parke Avery purchased the land from Joseph Latham Jr. on February 1, 1747/48.<sup>8</sup> He built the house for his son, Ebenezer, and a deed dated December 8, 1778 gives the land from Parke Avery to Ebenezer and states, "The 1 piece is that lot his house he now lives in stands on."<sup>9</sup> This puts construction prior to 1778 as Ebenezer was already living in the home by that time. However, family folklore<sup>10</sup> and the Works Progress Administration survey of the 1930s all date the house to the years between 1750 and 1754.<sup>11</sup> The Battle of Groton Heights was the last British invasion of Connecticut during the American Revolution, and one of the last major British victories before the conclusion of that war. The house has been restored to its original appearance when the wounded men arrived on the afternoon of September 6<sup>th</sup>, 1781. The historic integrity of the house is intact because of this early preservation effort to restore the home to the eighteenth century appearance, the historic materials used to restore the home, and the prominence of the new location, just a short distance from the original.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

The Ebenezer Avery House meets Criteria Consideration B because it is the only surviving home extant during the Battle of Groton Heights that maintains its feeling and association as a mid-seventeenth century residence that was in the vicinity of Fort Griswold. The house had a significant role in the Battle of Groton Heights as the place where wounded men were received and cared for after the battle. Its new location is a short distance from the original (1,000 feet). The building is also significant for its Georgian style architectural design.

In 1970, Ray Stanton Avery bought the Ebenezer Avery House and donated it to the state of Connecticut.<sup>12</sup> The Avery Memorial Association cares for the interior and uses it as a museum to interpret the history of the town, the battle, and the Avery family. The Association and the state agreed to move the home because the original site on the corner of Thames and Latham Streets was deemed too altered from the Revolutionary period the house depicts, and the homes there were in danger of being torn down.<sup>13</sup> The move began in 1971 and the house opened to the public for the first time in October 1973.<sup>14</sup> The two groups agreed the best location was on the property of Fort Griswold, which the state also owns and was listed on the National Register in 1970.

Two other extant houses that existed at the time of the battle have been substantially altered, including the Joseph Latham House at 58 Meridian Street and the Parke Avery house at 137 Thames Street. The Joseph Latham House was built in 1717 but does not retain its colonial appearance because of the window and door replacement, and the construction of two additions. Parke Avery, who built the Ebenezer Avery House for his son and also helped build the fort, and defended it from the British; built the other home in 1781, the same year as the battle. In the 1800s different owners added a second

<sup>8</sup> Deed Book 5, Page 56, Parke Avery purchased the land from Joseph Latham, Jr. on February 1, 1747/48.

<sup>9</sup> Deed Book 10, Page 70. Parke Avery gives the land with the house to his son Ebenezer Avery. Dated December 8, 1778 but not entered into the deed books until January 28, 1785.

<sup>10</sup> *The Groton Avery Clan: Volume 1*, Avery, Elroy McKendree and Avery, Catherine Hitchcock Tilden. 1912, Cleveland, OH.

<sup>11</sup> Connecticut State Library, State Archives, RG 033:28, WPA Records, Architectural Survey, Photo Name "Groton Historic Building 003."

<sup>12</sup> *The Avery Newsletter*, Volume 1, Number 1, June 1971.

<sup>13</sup> *The Avery Newsletter*, Volume 2, Number 2, September 1972.

<sup>14</sup> *The Avery Newsletter*, Volume 3, Number 3, December 1973.

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story to the building in a different architectural style and drastically altered the appearance of the house. That leaves the Ebenezer Avery House as the only one of the three that currently appears as it did in 1781 when the British attacked.

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Ebenezer Avery House is eligible to be added to the Fort Griswold National Register listing because it qualifies as a contributing building under Criterion A at the state level of significance. The house is linked to the Battle of Groton Heights, which took place on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 1781, and was the last major British victory during the American Revolution and the final British invasion on Connecticut soil. For the wounded American men who could not walk as prisoners to a waiting ship, the British attempted to take them downhill to the Thames River on an ammunition cart. As the cart moved downhill it began to careen out of control, slammed into a tree, and the men were taken to the Ebenezer Avery House to be cared for.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A: Military History

The Avery House is significant on the state level because of its association with the Battle of Groton Heights, the last major British victory during the American Revolution. On that day, the infamous traitor Benedict Arnold led 1,600 men in an attack against Fort Trumbull in New London and Fort Griswold in Groton on either side of the Thames River. The defenders of Fort Trumbull came to Fort Griswold, but even with the combined forces the British vastly overwhelmed the American troops.<sup>15</sup> There are discrepancies about what happened next, but local lore states that the British killed Fort Griswold commander Colonel Ledyard as he tried to surrender and then proceeded to massacre the remaining Americans. This resulted in 87 American fatalities<sup>16</sup> and those who were not killed were taken prisoner. However, the men who were too severely wounded to walk to the ship were loaded onto an ammunition wagon to be moved downhill. As the cart rolled downhill it sped out of control and smashed into a tree at the bottom. The now twice-wounded men were moved to the nearest home, the Ebenezer Avery House.<sup>17</sup> Once the British departed the area late that night the locals were able to attend to the wounded men still in the home.<sup>18</sup>

The surrender at Yorktown occurred just over a month later. This battle was also the last British invasion on Connecticut soil during the American Revolution. The British chose this site because of the long coastline and deep waters, but the local revolutionary spirit had also attracted attention and a desire for retaliation. Many of the ships from this area had successfully attacked the British fleet stealing important supplies. The British hoped that an attack here might divert General George Washington from attacking British General Cornwallis, but it would also stop the Connecticut sailors

<sup>15</sup> Allyn, Charles. *The Battle of Groton Heights: A Collection of Narratives, Official Reports, Records, Etc., of the Storming of Fort Griswold, the Massacre of Its Garrison, and the Burning of New London by British Troops Under the Command of Brig.-Gen. Benedict Arnold, on the Sixth of September, 1781.* Harvard University, 1882; 18. Reprinted from the *Connecticut Gazette*, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 1781.

<sup>16</sup> The list of names is on a memorial on the grounds of Fort Griswold.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid*, 40-41. From the narrative of Rufus Avery.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid*, 84.



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from stealing those much-needed supplies.<sup>19</sup> The British had an advantage in the form of Benedict Arnold, the infamous traitor who was born in Norwich, just 15 miles north of Fort Griswold. Arnold knew the area, knew the local signals for warning and victory, and therefore made the perfect leader to create the diversion. On the day of the attack Rufus Avery saw the British, gave the alarm, and the locals fired two shots to signal an attack. Arnold timed a third shot that would indicate a victory to the locals, and many of the men did not report to the forts.<sup>20</sup>

Prior to the battle the Averys had lived in the area even before the city's incorporation in 1705. A home called the Hive of the Averys was built in 1656,<sup>21</sup> and stood until the night of July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1894 when hot embers from a nearby railroad track ignited the roof of the house, completely destroying the structure.<sup>22</sup>

Historic owners of the Avery House included members of the Avery family and Colonial Connecticut Governor John Winthrop Jr. The Avery family was instrumental in the early years of Groton, and Parke Avery carried on that tradition. Born December 9, 1710 he was the father of Ebenezer Avery and eight other children. He preached each Sunday in the Hive, and built the Ebenezer Avery House for his son. Parke was deputy to the general court in 1776 when they passed the Declaration of Independence and was town moderator in 1780 and 1781. He was also part of the committee of inspection that petitioned the government to build a fort to protect Groton. Too old to fight that day, Parke's six sons fought in the battle, two of them died, and Ebenezer was wounded. Parke Avery died on May 4, 1797.

Ebenezer Avery, Parke's fifth child, continued that leadership role as he became an adult. A tailor by trade, he became an Ensign in the first Groton company of the local militia,<sup>23</sup> and when the American Revolution began Ebenezer was the town moderator. He was serving in that position at a town meeting in 1775 when the community voted to petition the state for funds to construct a fort to defend Groton.<sup>24</sup> Ebenezer was wounded in the battle at that fort just six years later in 1781<sup>25</sup> and it was his house that became a temporary hospital in the aftermath of the battle. He was married four times and each of the women was named Elizabeth. The first three Elizabeths bore eight children to Ebenezer and eventually died, but the last outlived him. The Avery Memorial Association owns a pane of glass with the name Elizabeth Avery etched into it, and they are working to research which of the wives carved her name in the window. Ebenezer lived until January 10, 1828.<sup>26</sup>

A second Ebenezer Avery, a cousin of the owner of the house, died the day Benedict Arnold's troops attacked,<sup>27</sup> and the table where he ate breakfast that morning is on display in the house. Not only did the Averys allow their home to be used as a makeshift hospital for the wounded American soldiers, but of the 87 men killed that day nine of them were from the Avery family. In 1922, Charles Rathbone Stark wrote that the state provided for the citizens of the New London and Groton communities with land west of Pennsylvania. Of those listed, 15 Avery men and women received land valued at more than £1000.<sup>28</sup> The donation of this land demonstrates that the family's contemporaries recognized their actions on the day of the battle.

As a museum open to the public, the Avery Memorial Association utilizes the house to inform visitors

<sup>19</sup> Ibid, 13.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid, 30. From the narrative of Rufus Avery.

<sup>21</sup> Avery, Elroy McKendree and Catherine Hitchcock Avery. *The Groton Avery Clan*, volume 1. Cleveland, 1912; 48.

<sup>22</sup> Avery Memorial Association website, accessed 7-3-12 <<http://averymemorialassociation.com/averymon.htm>>

<sup>23</sup> Avery and Avery, 263.

<sup>24</sup> Stark, Charles Rathbone. *Groton, Conn. 1705-1905*; 246. Accessed 7-30-12

<sup>25</sup> Avery and Avery, 261.

<sup>26</sup> Avery and Avery, 263.

<sup>27</sup> Avery and Avery, 248.

<sup>28</sup> Stark, 271-272. Accessed 7-30-12.

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about the history of the battle, the family, and the medical care provided to soldiers during the Colonial era. The artifacts and interpretation support the mission of providing visitors with valuable educational information, as well as an authentic Colonial experience.

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"Ebenezer Avery House Restoration Discussed." *New London Day*, July 22, 1970. Accessed December 15, 2016 from: [https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1915&dat=19700722&id=S\\_8gAAAIBAJ&sjid=ZXQFAAAAIBAJ&pg=3992,3918395&hl=en](https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1915&dat=19700722&id=S_8gAAAIBAJ&sjid=ZXQFAAAAIBAJ&pg=3992,3918395&hl=en).

#### Geographic Data

##### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (for Avery House)

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 41.354376

Longitude: -72.081496

#### Graphics



Figure 1. Map showing location of Avery House and Fort Griswold Battlefield State Park (Google Earth, 2017).

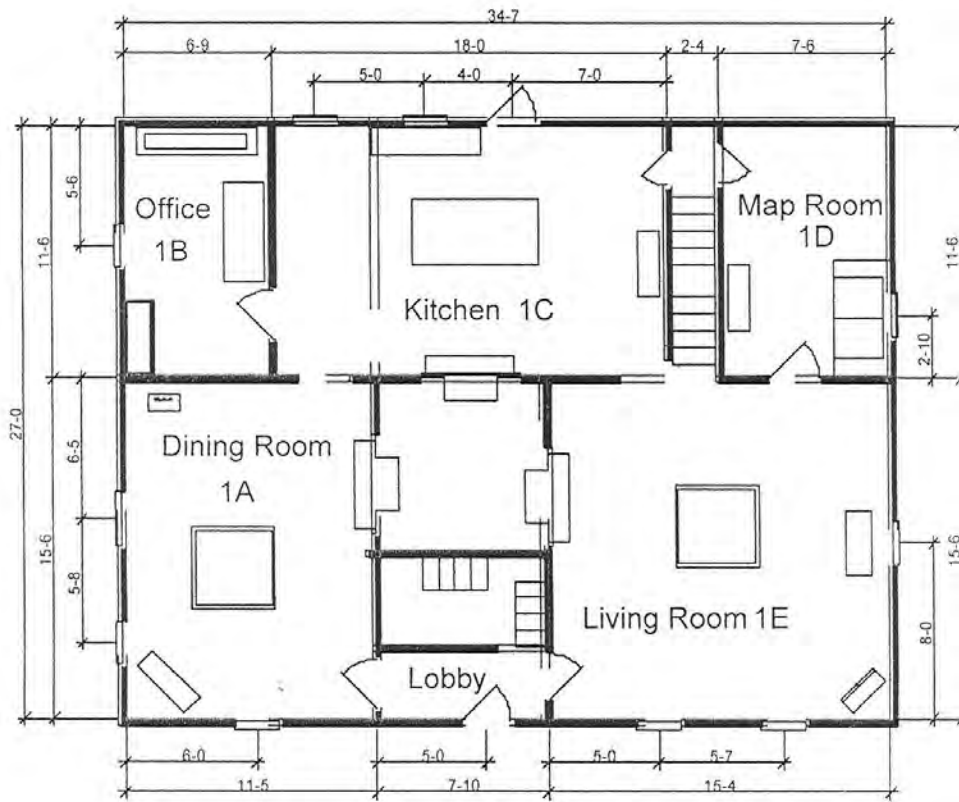
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Figure 2. Site Plan (Source: Bing.com, 2017)



FIRST FLOOR

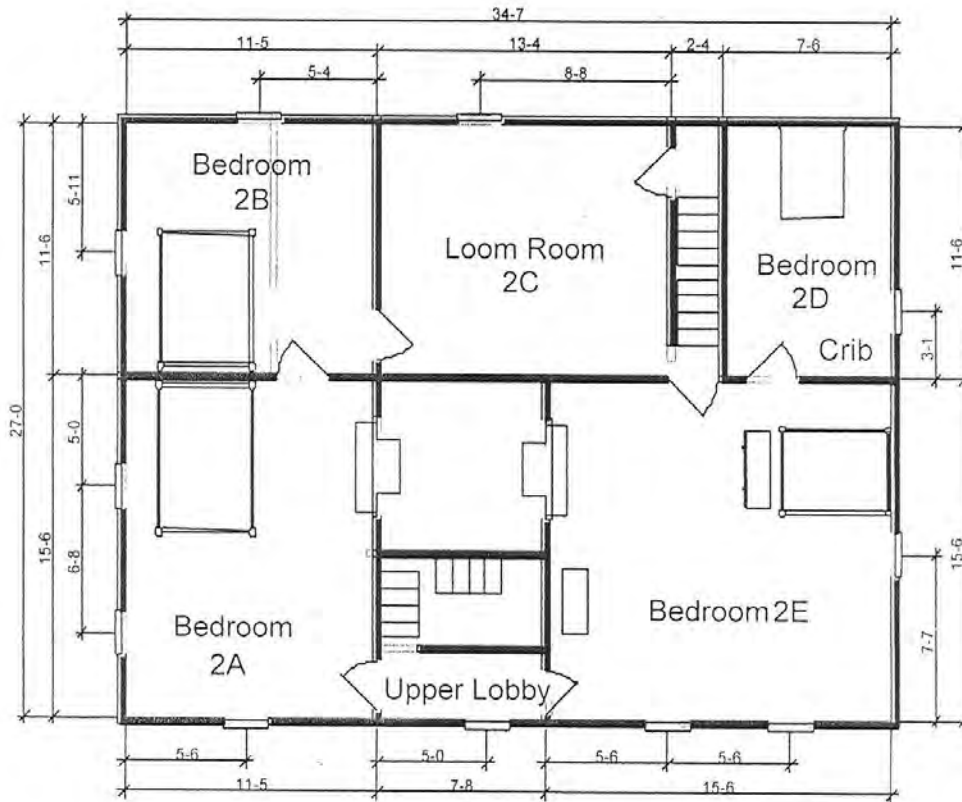
Floor Plan by Joe Lantiere December 2006

Figure 3. Avery House, First Floor Plan, Courtesy of the Avery Memorial Association.

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**SECOND FLOOR**

Floor Plan by Joe Lantiere December 2006

Figure 4. Avery House, Second Floor Plan, Courtesy of the Avery Memorial Association.

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Figure 5. Undated photograph of Avery House taken prior to 1935, before construction of side ell and entrance porch (Avery Memorial Association).



Figure 6. Ca. 1935-1937 photograph of house (Avery Memorial Association).

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Figure 7. Photograph of house on its original site at 264 Thames Street in 1971, prior to move and rehabilitation (Avery Memorial Association).



Figure 8. 1971 photo of deconstruction (Avery Memorial Association).



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Figure 9. 1971 photo of deconstruction (Avery Memorial Association).



Figure 10. 1971 photo of deconstruction (Avery Memorial Association).

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Figure 11. 1971 photo of digging for foundation at current site (Avery Memorial Association).



Figure 12. 1971 photo of digging for foundation at current site (Avery Memorial Association).

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Figure 13. 1971 photo of foundation construction at current site (Avery Memorial Association).



Figure 14. 1971 photo of reconstruction at current site (Avery Memorial Association).

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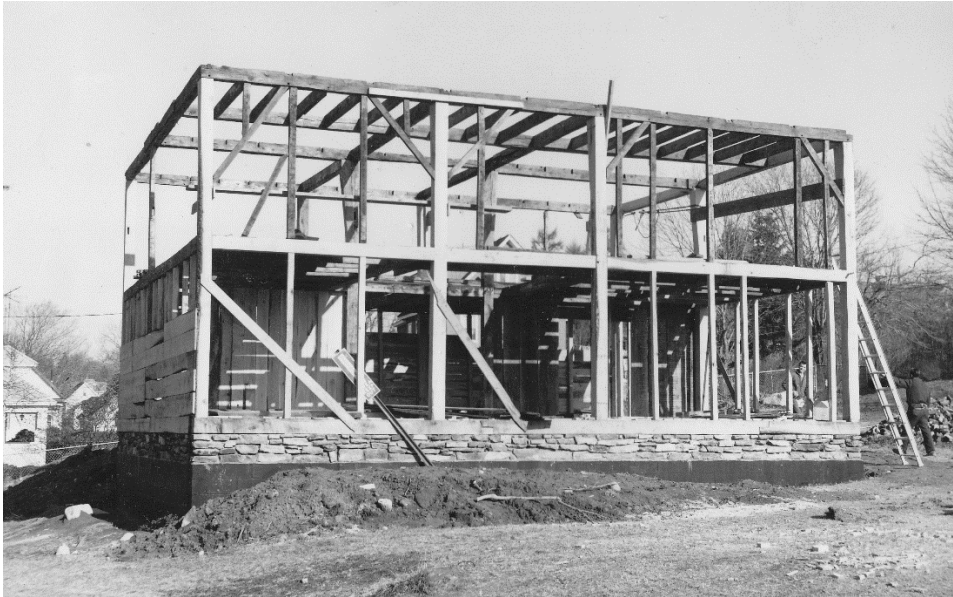


Figure 15. 1971 photo of reconstruction at current site (Avery Memorial Association).



Figure 16. 1971 photo of reconstruction at current site (Avery Memorial Association).

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Figure 17. Photograph of house in 1971 after move, during rehabilitation (Avery Memorial Association).

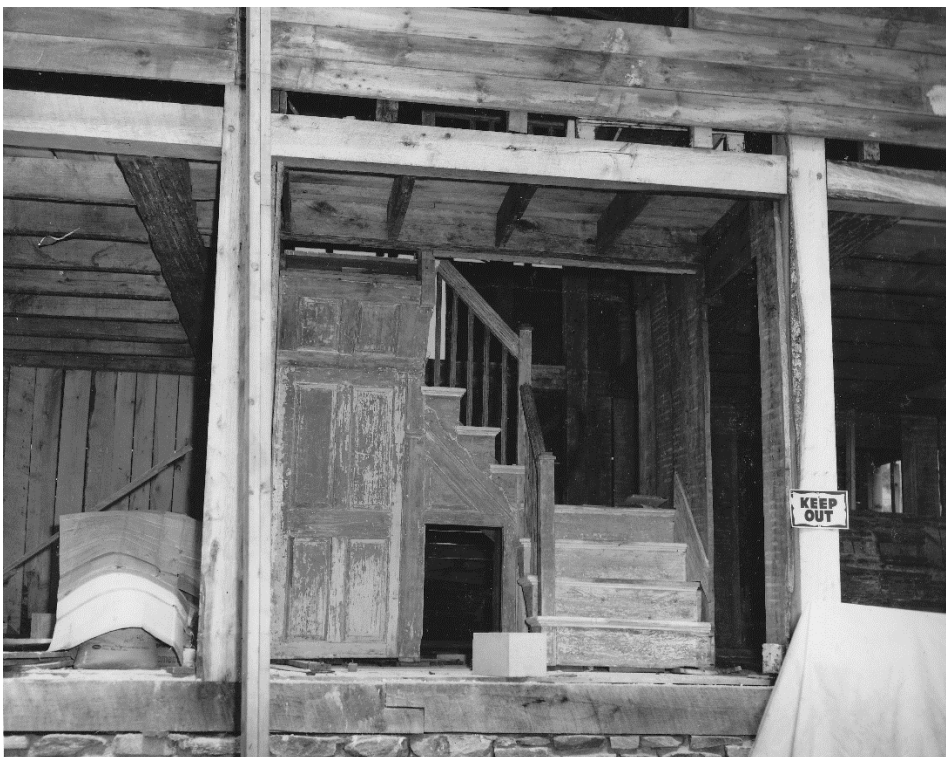


Figure 18. 1971 photo of reconstruction at current site, showing front stair (Avery Memorial Association).

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Figure 19. 1971 photo of reconstruction at current site (Avery Memorial Association).



Figure 20. 2015 photograph of original Avery House site at 264 Thames Street with view of the Avery Memorial (obelisk in background).

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N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

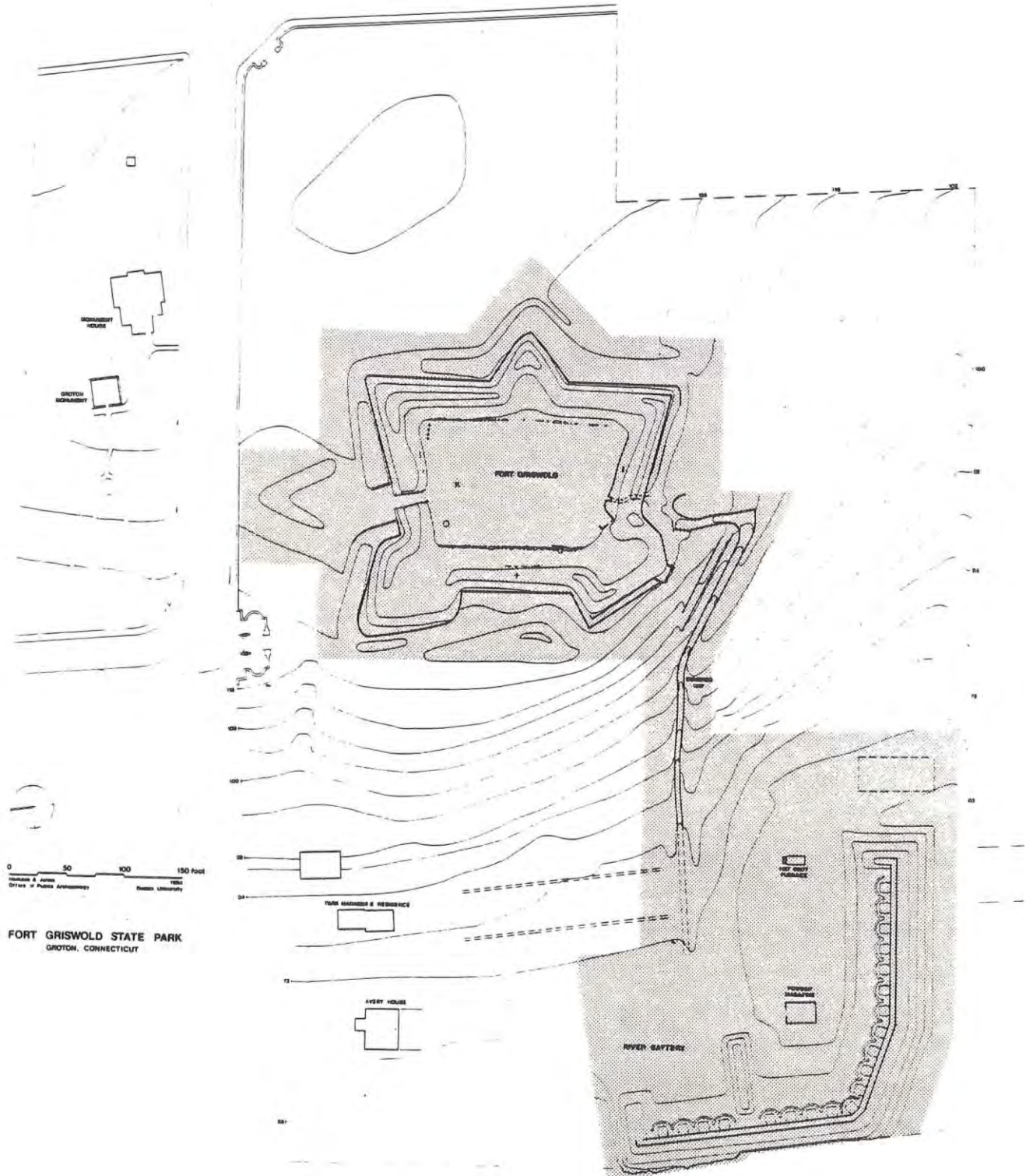


Figure 21. Areas of Archaeological Sensitivity (shown in grey), Fort Griswold State Park (Elia 1985:196).

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Fort Griswold Amendment
-----
Name of Property
New London County, Connecticut
-----
County and State
N/A
-----
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Name of Property:

City or Vicinity: Groton

County: New London

State: Connecticut

Photographer: Liz Williams

Date Photographed: March 31, 2015 and April 2, 2015

Photo 1 of 32: South and east elevations, looking northwest.

Photo 2 of 32: North and west elevations, looking southeast.

Photo 3 of 32: North and east elevations, looking southwest.

Photo 4 of 32: View of Powder Magazine and River Battery from front door, looking south.

Photo 5 of 32: View east from Avery House garden toward Fort.

Photo 6 of 32: View southeast from Avery House garden.

Photo 7 of 32: Detail of corner post on second floor, view looking west.

Photo 8 of 32: Dog-legged staircase, view looking north on first floor.

Photo 9 of 32: Eastern front room on first floor, view looking southwest.

Photo 10 of 32: Western front room on first floor, view looking west.

Photo 11 of 32: Eastern rear room on first floor showing lath reveal, view looking south.

Photo 12 of 32: Center rear room on first floor, view looking north.

Photo 13 of 32: Western rear room on first floor, view looking west.

Photo 14 of 32: Rear stairs, view looking south.

Photo 15 of 32: Landing at second floor, view looking east.

Photo 16 of 32: Eastern front room on second floor, view looking northeast.

Photo 17 of 32: Western front room on second floor, view looking west.

Photo 18 of 32: Eastern rear room on second floor, view looking north.

Photo 19 of 32: Center rear room on second floor, view looking east.

Photo 20 of 32: Western rear room on second floor, view looking west.

Photo 21 of 32: Eastern fireplace on first floor, view looking west.

Photo 22 of 32: Center rear fireplace on first floor, view looking south.

Photo 23 of 32: Western fireplace on first floor, view looking east.

Photo 24 of 32: Eastern fireplace on second floor, view looking west.

Photo 25 of 32: Western fireplace on second floor, view looking east.

Photo 26 of 32: Chimney Smoker, view looking north.

Photo 27 of 32: Detail of wood paneling in front foyer, view looking north.



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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Fort Griswold Amendment

-----  
Name of Property

New London County, Connecticut

-----  
County and State

N/A

-----  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Photo 28 of 32: Stone cubbies in kitchen fireplace, view looking south.

Photo 29 of 32: Detail of corner cabinet in Eastern front room, view looking southeast.

Photo 30 of 32: Colonial replica garden, view looking south from second floor window.

Photo 31 of 32: Attic, view looking west.

Photo 32 of 32: Attic stairs, view looking south.



PLATE 1  
THE HOUSE BUILT BY  
THE REV. SAMUEL JOHNSON  
IN 1780. IT WAS  
BURNED IN 1850  
AND REBUILT IN  
1855.

71





Dr Ebenezer Avery house

Best shelter was afforded our wounded & dying soldiers within this house after the massacre at Fort Griswold Sept. 6, 1781



















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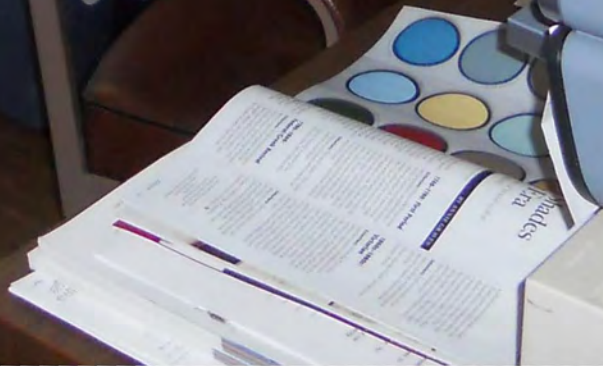
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MEMBER















Gift of Anne M. Murray

Gift of Anne M. Murray





Common Dye Plants

Plant	Color	Use
Indigo	Blue	Wool, Cotton
Madder	Red	Wool, Cotton
Woad	Blue	Wool, Cotton
Walnut	Brown	Wool, Cotton
Yell	Yellow	Wool, Cotton
Black	Black	Wool, Cotton































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 6/9/2017      Date of Pending List: 7/18/2017      Date of 16th Day: 8/2/2017      Date of 45th Day: 7/24/2017      Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review: **Additional Documentation Approved**

Accept       Return       Reject      7/24/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Edson Beall  Discipline Historian

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Date 7.24.17

DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

National Register of Historic Places  
Memo to File

# Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

New London

RECEIPT

PROPERTY *Fact Griswold*

STATE *Conn.*

REGISTER NUMBER *70.10.06.0015 10/6/70*

DATE OF RECEIPT	YES	NO	NUMBER
<i>8/17/70</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>5</i>
DATA PAGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
PHOTO (S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
PHOTODESCRIPTION (S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
MAP (S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
MAP DESCRIPTION (S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>1</i>
LOGGED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ACKNOWLEDGE <i>8/18/70</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
RESUBMIT			

*10/28/70*

REVIEW *OK* *S.M.*  
*8/18/70*

HISTORIAN *Lery*  
*ok* *8/20/70*

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECT *OK* *Chambers*  
*8/19/70*

ASST. KEEPER

KEEPER *OK* *LDH*  
*8/26/70*

ENTRY

CHIEF, OAH *OK* *OK*  
*10-6-70*

EDITORIAL PROCESSING, EDITOR *OK*  
*CD* *8/21/70*

Federal Register Entry *11/3/70*

Annual Edition Entry \_\_\_\_\_

Logged \_\_\_\_\_  
Card \_\_\_\_\_

WORKING NUMBER *8.17.70.3*





# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

75 ELM STREET HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06115

AREA CODE 203 566-3005

ERIC HATCH  
CHAIRMAN  
WILLIAM J. MORRIS  
DIRECTOR

July 11, 1970

Dr. William Murtagh  
Keeper of the National Register  
Office of Archeology and Historical Preservation  
801 19th Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Please find enclosed here four more Inventory-Nomination Forms for the National Register. They are:

1. Converse House and Barn, Norwich
2. Gardner Carpenter House, Norwichtown
3. Fort Griswold, Groton *New London*
4. New London Railroad Station, New London

The last mentioned form for the Railroad Station of New London requires special and immediate attention as the present urban renewal plan in New London calls for its demolition.

This morning a woman from the National Register staff called to speak to me about errors in the code numbers on the form for the Seth Wetmore House in Middletown. At the time of the conversation it appeared that the error occurred because the codebook was other than that required for the Inventory-Nomination forms. However, as the enclosed xerox sheets will show I have been using the correct codebook.

Another explanation of the error is required. Perhaps I have not been taught how to use the codes properly. Please send advice as to how to deal with this problem.

Sincerely yours,

*Constance Luyster*

Constance Luyster  
Administrative Trainee

*5/2/70*  
*9/28/70*

OCT 6 1970

H30-HR

Mr. Eric Hatch  
Chairman, Connecticut Historical  
Commission  
75 Elm Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06115

Dear Mr. Hatch:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Senators Thomas J. Dodd and Abraham A. Ribicoff and the appropriate Representatives have also been notified. Please withhold any publicity on this until you have received a carbon copy of the Congressional correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ Ernest Allen Connally  
Ernest Allen Connally  
Chief, Office of Archeology  
and Historic Preservation

Enclosure

OCT 6 1970

Entered in the National Register

---

cc:

HR

9/28/70

SMarusin:drs

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

18

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

CONNECTICUT

Ellsworth (Oliver) Homestead  
Deane (Silas) House  
Wadsworth Athenaeum  
Stowe (Harriet Beecher) House  
Welles (Gideon) House  
Cheney Building  
Witter House  
War Office  
Huntington (Governor Samuel) House  
Alsop House  
Clark (Captain John) House  
Backus (Nathaniel) House  
Carpenter's (Joseph) Silversmith Shop  
Fort Griswold  
Huntington (General Jedidiah) House  
Bradford-Huntington House  
Russell House  
Converse House and Barn  
Lee (Thomas) House

Windsor, Connecticut  
Wethersfield, Connecticut  
Hartford, Connecticut  
Hartford, Connecticut  
Glastonbury, Connecticut  
Hartford, Connecticut  
Chaplin, Connecticut  
Lebanon, Connecticut  
Norwichtown, Connecticut  
Middletown, Connecticut  
Canterbury, Connecticut  
Norwich, Connecticut  
Norwichtown, Connecticut  
Groton, Connecticut  
Norwichtown, Connecticut  
Norwichtown, Connecticut  
Middletown, Connecticut  
Norwich, Connecticut  
East Lyme, Connecticut

H30-HR

OCT 14 1970

Mr. Murray Frank  
Administrative Assistant to  
the late Hon. William L. St. Onge  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Frank:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Connecticut and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senators Thomas J. Dodd and Abraham A. Ribicoff have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Mr. Eric Hatch, Chairman, Connecticut Historical Commission, 75 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06115, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) GEORGE R. HARTZOG, JR.  
Director

Enclosures

OCT 6 1970

Entered in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

cc: Mr. Eric Hatch, Chairman, Connecticut Historical Commission, 75 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06115

Director, Northeast Region

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

SMarusln:drs

9/28/70

LL: Mr. Melvin

T  
HR



Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

CONNECTICUT

Wittor House  
War Office  
Huntington (Governor Samuel) House  
Alsop House  
Clark (Captain John) House  
Backus (Nathaniel) House  
Carpenter's (Joseph) Silversmith Shop  
Fort Griswold  
Huntington (General Jedidiah) House  
Bradford-Huntington House  
Russell House  
Converse House and Barn  
Lea (Thomas) House

Chaplin, Connecticut  
Lebanon, Connecticut  
Norwichtown, Connecticut  
Middletown, Connecticut  
Canterbury, Connecticut  
Norwich, Connecticut  
Norwichtown, Connecticut  
Groton, Connecticut  
Norwichtown, Connecticut  
Norwichtown, Connecticut  
Middletown, Connecticut  
Norwich, Connecticut  
East Lyme, Connecticut

H30-HR

OCT 14 1970

Hon. Thomas J. Dodd  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Dodd:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Connecticut and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senator Abraham A. Ribicoff and the appropriate Representatives have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Mr. Eric Hatch, Chairman, Connecticut Historical Commission, 75 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06115, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.  
Director

Enclosures

OCT 6 1970

Entered in the National Register

cc: Mr. Eric Hatch, Chairman, Connecticut Historical Commission, 75 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06115

Duplicate letter sent to: Hon. Abraham A. Ribicoff  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Director, Northeast Region

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

SMarusin:drs

9/29/70

HR

LL: Mr. Melvin

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

CONNECTICUT

Ellsworth (Oliver) Homestead  
Deane (Silas) House  
Madsworth Athenaeum  
Stowe (Harriet Beecher) House  
Welles (Gideon) House  
Chasey Building  
Witter House  
War Office  
Huntington (Governor Samuel) House  
Alsop House  
Clark (Captain John) House  
Hachus (Nathaniel) House  
Carpenter's (Joseph) Silversmith Shop  
Fort Griswold  
Huntington (General Jedidiah) House  
Bradford-Huntington House  
Russell House  
Converse House and Barn  
Lee (Thomas) House

Windsor, Connecticut  
Wethersfield, Connecticut  
Hartford, Connecticut  
Hartford, Connecticut  
Glastonbury, Connecticut  
Hartford, Connecticut  
Chaplin, Connecticut  
Lebanon, Connecticut  
Norwichtown, Connecticut  
Middletown, Connecticut  
Canterbury, Connecticut  
Norwich, Connecticut  
Norwichtown, Connecticut  
Groton, Connecticut  
Norwichtown, Connecticut  
Norwichtown, Connecticut  
Middletown, Connecticut  
Norwich, Connecticut  
East Lyme, Connecticut



Department of Economic and  
Community Development

State Historic Preservation Office



May 31, 2017

Mr. Roger Reed  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Mail Stop 7228  
1849 C St, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Subject: Fort Griswold Amendment, New London County, Connecticut, National Register  
Nomination

Dear Mr. Reed:

The following National Register nomination materials are submitted for your review:

- Printed cover sheet
- CD of National Register text. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Fort Griswold Amendment to the National Register of Historic Places.
- 1 CD of Digital Photographs

Fort Griswold was listed on the National Register on October 6, 1970 (No. 70000694). In 1971, the associated Ebenezer Avery House was relocated approximately 1,000 feet to Fort Griswold State Park to save the building from a development threat. This amendment has been prepared to recognize the building as a contributing resource to the Fort Griswold property. There is no boundary change to the existing listed property. The Avery Memorial Association, which manages the building requested this amendment. The land the building sits on is owned by the State of Connecticut.

If you have any questions, or if this office can be of assistance, please call Jenny Scofield at 860-256-2766.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jenny F. Scofield".

Jenny F. Scofield,  
National Register and State Register Coordinator

Enclosures

State Historic Preservation Office

One Constitution Plaza | Hartford, CT 06103 | P: 860.256.2800 | [Cultureandtourism.org](http://Cultureandtourism.org)

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