

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED JAN 18 1977

DATE ENTERED JAN 18 1977

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

Rowe, Abijah, House and Weed, Moses, House

AND/OR COMMON

Rowe, Abijah, House and Enders House; Rowe, Abijah, House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

208 Salmon Brook Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Granby

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth District

STATE

Connecticut

VICINITY OF

CODE

09

COUNTY

Hartford

CODE

003

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Salmon Brook Historical Society, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

208 Salmon Brook Street

CITY, TOWN

Granby

VICINITY OF

Connecticut

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Granby Town Hall

STREET & NUMBER

15 North Granby Road

CITY, TOWN

Granby

Connecticut

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Works Project Administration, Connecticut Survey

DATE

1937

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Connecticut State Library

CITY, TOWN

Hartford

STATE
Connecticut

JAN 17 1977

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE Rowe House
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE <u>1974</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		Weed House

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Abijah Rowe House and the attached Moses Weed House are located in the Connecticut River valley town of Granby. They are situated on flat, fertile land on the east side of Salmon Brook Street, a rural residential street. The land to the rear (east) of the houses is still farmed, although part of the town's sewage disposal system is at the northeast. Closer to the houses at the northeast is a large frame tobacco barn built in the early twentieth century. A similar barn is south of the houses. One-fourth of the northeast barn is located on the houses' parcel. The rest of this barn is property of the town which owns the adjacent large garage building at the north. Recently this garage has been remodeled and landscaped in an attempt to make it more compatible with its residential setting. West of the Rowe and Weed houses, across Salmon Brook Street, are several early 19th century houses. The Federal style one at 213 Salmon Brook Street is particularly distinguished architecturally.

The Rowe House is a good example of a mid-18th century Connecticut frame house of the two-story type with central chimney. The low pitch of the gable roof is not original since the roof framing system with ridgepole indicates that the roof's peak has been altered. The original chimney stack was probably replaced at the time of this roof alteration. The existing brick chimney stack and wood shingle roofing are restorations dating from 1969-70. Above the stone foundation, the walls of the Rowe House are covered with narrow clapboards painted dark brown. The clapboards were installed in 1969-70 to replace 19th century shingles. All windows are restorations installed in 1969-70 replacing 19th century 2/2 sash. The current windows have plain trim and 12/8 double-hung sash.

The carefully ordered main (west) facade has five bays. The center bay containing the entrance is larger than the others. The simple, dignified entrance is the outstanding exterior original feature. It has architrave trim, a frieze with triglyphs, and a cornice. The double doors are old, but not original to this building. They were installed here in 1969-70.

The side facades of the Rowe House each have two windows on the first and second stories and a single window in the gable. In addition, the south facade has a door in its southwest corner and the outline of a 20th century chimney removed in 1970 is visible. The rear (east) facade is not regularly divided into bays.

The Rowe House has the typical plan of a house of its type with two large front rooms separated by a stairhall and three rear rooms. Several rooms have 18th century paneling. The house is unusual in that its interior paneling and trim have been little altered. The 1969-70 interior restoration to a large extent involved removal of later additions and opening fireplaces, rather than restoration of missing fabric.

The boxed string stair in the stairhall has turned balusters and a closet under the stair. The south room on the 1st floor retains most of its original woodwork including an encased summer beam, a paneled fireplace wall with simple rectangular panels, similar paneling to the dado, and a cupboard (whose upper door is missing). The north front room was probably remodeled in the early 19th century since it has an

See Continuation Sheet

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Rowe, Abijah, House and Weed, Moses, House 7. Description page 2

Adamesque mantel and corner cupboard with round-headed treatment.

There is a theory that the north side of the house is a later addition due to the 19th century woodwork in the north front room on the 1st floor and the lack of summer beams in framing the north side. However the north front room has exposed corner posts and girts as found elsewhere in the house. In addition, above this room in the second floor north front room is a mid-18th style paneled fireplace wall. Since summer beams stopped being a typical feature in Connecticut houses about 1750, the presence of summer beams in framing on the south side and not on the north side of the house probably indicates the transitional stage in framing when the house was erected, rather than indicating that the building was constructed in two stages.

The second floor also retains numerous original features including paneled fireplace walls in the north front room and rear central room. The front south room also has a paneled wall although it does not have a fireplace.

A small, one-story frame passageway erected in 1974 connects the east side of the Rowe House to the Weed House.

The Weed House is believed to have been erected about 1780 as a two-room house. Subsequently it received a rear lean-to addition and a wing, now located at the west. The house was moved in 1974 in th three parts. Originally this one-story building faced east. Since its move, it faces north.

The original stone foundation of the Weed House was moved, but the existing full basement dates to 1974. During its excavation evidence of a blacksmith shop on the Rowe property was discovered.

The exterior walls of the Weed House are covered with narrow clapboards except those of the west wing which are shingled. The walls are painted brown. The main (now north) facade is regularly divided into three bays. Its central entrance has plain trim. Openings on other sides of the building are not regularly arranged.

Projecting from the ridge of the roof is an interior chimney which is slightly off-center. Behind it is another interior chimney breaking the rear (south) slope of the roof. Both chimney stacks were rebuilt above the roofline after the house was moved.

The existing wood shingle roofing dates to 1974. The gable roof on the south slope extends over the lean-to addition. The west wing also has a gable roof.

Windows vary in size. The main facade has 12/12 double-hung sash. The sides have two ranges of windows; the upper ones light the attic.

The Weed House has very simple interior features. There are several fireplaces with plain trim. Floor levels change between different parts of the house. Modern bathrooms and a modern kitchen have been installed in the west wing.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES Rowe: c. 1750 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown
Weed: c. 1780, later additions

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Abijah Rowe House is a typical Connecticut mid-18th century frame house of the two-story, central chimney type. The Moses Weed House, which in order to save it from demolition was moved in 1974 and attached to the rear of the Rowe House, is a small one-story, late 18th century frame house. It began as a two-room structure and received a lean-to addition and a wing. This unpretentious building distinguished by its simplicity represents a typical house of an 18th century tenant farmer, while the larger Rowe House with its interior enrichments of paneling, cupboards, and encased summer beam is representative of the more spacious, yet conservative, dwelling of a prosperous 18th century yeoman farmer and tradesman. The fact that both houses are well-preserved, restored, and open to the public sets them apart from other similar examples of 18th architecture in the town of Granby.

The town of Granby was first settled along Salmon Brook Street and this area received a meeting house in 1736 signifying that there was an appreciable number of settlers in the vicinity. The existing Rowe House was built on the east side of this street sometime about 1750. On April 18, 1750, Peter Roe purchased the property with a dwelling house on it from Mehemiah Lee. In 1853 Roe sold it with dwelling house, barn, and blacksmith shop to Abijah Rowe. Abijah Rowe married in 1756 and it is probable that the existing house was built prior to his marriage. It is not known if the existing building is the one mentioned in the 1750 and 1753 deeds.

Rowe was a blacksmith and a farmer. He prospered due to his location on the well travelled road. There is evidence that part of his house was remodeled in the early 19th century and that its roofline was altered at some unknown date.

Abijah Rowe died in 1813 and his house was purchased from his heirs by Joseph and Elijah Smith, Jr. It remained in the Smith family until 1903. In that year the Colton family purchased it and retained ownership until 1966 when Mildred Colton Allison and Carolyn Colton Avery gave it to the Salmon Brook Historical Society. During most of the 19th and 20th centuries the house was occupied by tenants. In 1969-70 the house was restored by John Mirick with Richard Shope, restoration architect.

The Moses Weed House is believed to have been erected around 1780. by Moses Weed as a two-room house. Subsequently the rear lean-to and side wing were added. In 1855 Mary Weed lived in the house and in 1869 S. Lampson was its occupant. Eventually the house became the property of the Enders family who used it as a hunting lodge. It was slated for demolition when it was given to the Salmon Brook Historical Society by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. The building in 1974 was moved seven miles east of its original location, now part of Enders State Forest. Ernest Satler was in charge of moving and restoring this house.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Salmon Brook Historical Society, The Heritage of Granby, Ct. The Salmon Brook Historical Society, 1967, pp. 175-178.
 Interview with Mrs. Ethel Wilson and Mr. William M. Vibert, May 17, 1976, notes in file of T. Robins Brown.
 Files of the Connecticut Historical Commission, Hartford, Ct.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY c. 3/4 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	68,312,0	4,614,519,2,0	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

T. Robins Brown Consultant in Architectural History

ORGANIZATION

Connecticut Historical Commission

DATE

June 1976

STREET & NUMBER

59 South Prospect St.

TELEPHONE

203-566-3005

CITY OR TOWN

Hartford

STATE

Connecticut

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

John W. Starnes

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

W. H. ...

DATE

1/12/77

~~DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION~~

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles ...

DATE

1.17.77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER