

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 23 1982

DATE ENTERED

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

John Wiard House

AND/OR COMMON

John Wiard House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 4

N/A NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Burlington ^{Ill.} N/A VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th -

STATE

Connecticut

CODE

09

COUNTY

Hartford

CODE

003

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED
- N/A

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Wladislaw J. and Patricia A. Janczyk

STREET & NUMBER

Route 4 RFD 1

CITY, TOWN

Burlington N/A VICINITY OF

STATE

CT

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Burlington Town Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Route 4 RFD #1 - Town Hall

CITY, TOWN

Burlington

STATE

CT

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

State Register of Historic Places

DATE

1981

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Connecticut Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Hartford

STATE

CT

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John Wiard House is a small frame dwelling dating back to about 1754. Though it faces Route 4, a busy state highway, it is set quite far back from the road, which was repositioned to the south some years ago. The original course of the road can be seen in the driveway, which runs parallel to the front of the house. The house is isolated, with no other buildings nearby, except the small shed which shares the house's lot. There are two medium-sized maples in front, and lilacs and other shrubs planted close to the walls.

The house is 1½ stories high and has a steep gable roof. The plan is rectangular, with a small woodshed appended to the northeast rear corner. The main or south facade is five bays wide with a central entranceway and four small windows tucked up close under the eaves. There is an overhang of the attic story of about 4" at the gable ends and slightly more in front. The central stack, though brick above the roof, is constructed of fieldstone, as is the underpinning. The exterior is clapboarded. The asphalt-shingled roof has been somewhat altered, projecting more over the gables than is typical for an 18th-century house. The molded rake boards appear original. From the abrupt termination of the moldings, it seems there originally was a partial cornice return. The large five-panel entrance door is surrounded by a two-level frame of boards with molded edges and a band of raised molding. The bed moldings beneath the eaves form breaks over the entranceway and each of the four windows, which are fitted with six-over-six sash, apparently of early 19th-century origin.

The framing, insofar as it is visible, is typical, though not particularly heavy, given the early date. Only the rear chimney posts exhibit pronounced flare, and the plates and girts do not protrude into the rooms. No summer beams are visible, but large mortises in the underpinning and stack foundation are evidence that the house originally had summers at least beneath the first story floor. The roof is of the common rafter type, with a single large purlin on either side, to which the partitions for the attic rooms are attached.

The interior contains many well-preserved early features. The east front room has raised panelling on the fireplace wall and across one-third of the adjacent interior partition. Next to the stone fireplace is a built-in cupboard. The rails and stiles of the panelling have cyma moldings, instead of the usual quarter-round. The kitchen has a similar panelling scheme around its large cooking fireplace (the detached oven is intact but bricked over), but the other walls are finished with plain beaded boards, as is the small northwest rear room. The west front room's woodwork is of a later period, about 1810. The mantel has panelled pilasters, a large central tablet in the frieze, and a molded shelf, and there is a chair rail around the room. Next to the sandstone and brick hearth is a long cupboard with a flat-panelled door. The raised moldings around the windows, doorways, and the opening of the east room's fireplace all appear to be contemporary with this room. Throughout the house are wide-board oak floors and much early hardware: simple strap hinges, and latches of both the "Norfolk" and "Suffolk" type.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Burlington, CT

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earlier John Wiard bought some land in the tract which became Burlington. Evidence against such an early date includes records of John Wiard's estate being sold off, a deed showing that John Wiard, Jr. bought this tract in 1754, and local accounts which all say settlement was delayed until the 1740's. Hurlburt's account is a good description of the house, but she errs in calling Seth Wiard the son (rather than the grandson) of John Wiard, Sr.

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 checked="" 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

Unknown

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Wiard House is a significant architectural resource: it is a modest but largely intact 18th-century house with many interesting exterior and interior details (Criterion C). Part of the interior was updated about 1810, but rather than detracting from the integrity of the house, this alteration provides an opportunity to compare material from the two periods, adding to the architectural value of the house. Moreover, it was the home of one of Burlington's earliest settlers, and it is therefore important for its local historical associations (Criterion A).

The house is typical of its period in most respects, but it is unusual to find so many features preserved in place. Throughout the house are details which illustrate 18th-century building practices. The very form of the house, with its steep gable roof, slight overhang, and low first story, is one of the characteristic types of the 18th century, though perhaps not as common as the 2½ story house. Its molded-board door frame was the simplest type of entrance treatment, used prior to and concurrent with the more elaborate Georgian and Federal motifs. The raised-panel fireplace walls, beaded wainscoting in the rear rooms, wide-board floors, cased posts, strap hinges and original latches constitute an extensive collection of 18th-century interior elements. The panelling is somewhat unusual in two respects: in the north front room, it wraps around the corner onto the adjacent wall, and the stiles and rails have a cyma rather than the usual quarter-round molding. The pilastered mantel and chair rail in the south front room, though simple and rural, show something of the more formal taste of Federal architecture.

In the early 18th century, what is now Burlington was then an uncleared part of Farmington known as the West Woods, and later as West Britain. In 1721, the area was divided up into tracts and sold, but it remained almost uninhabited. According to a history of Bristol and Burlington published in 1841, the town of Farmington offered a bounty to the first settler in that part of town, a reward claimed by someone named Strong in 1740. After Strong, the earliest settlers were the Lewis, Yale, and Wiard families.

John Wiard (1720-1788) bought a tract of about a hundred acres in 1754, and one may assume the house was built soon after.¹ Wiard was a farmer of moderate means and ran a blacksmith shop as well. His father, John Wiard, had been an important man in Farmington, a tax collector and large-scale landowner, but he became overextended and died insolvent when the John Wiard of this house was but six years old. After 1788, the property passed to Seth Wiard and Seth Wiard, Jr., one of whom must have added the early 19th-century mantel. These descendents continued to farm, but also had an interest in a local sawmill. The Wiard House, in its modest size and simple but well-executed panelling and other details, reflects well the economic level of this early Burlington family.

¹Local tradition gives a date of 1721 for the house, the date when the

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Collins, George K. Wiard Family. Syracuse, 1912.
- Hurlburt, Mabel S. (comp.) "John Wiard House, Burlington, 1725." Colonial Dames MS, State Library, Hartford, 1949.
- Porter, Noah, Jr. A Historical Discourse Delivered by Request Before the Citizens of Farmington. Hartford: L. Skinner, 1841.

DATA NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY c. 1

QUADRANGLE NAME Collinsville

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24 000

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 8	6 6 7 8 3 0	4 6 2 6 6 5 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is shown as Lot 4 on Burlington Assessor's Map 88, and is recorded in the town land records, Volume 35, page 279.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Bruce Clouette, Consultant

ORGANIZATION Connecticut Historical Commission DATE July 24, 1979

STREET & NUMBER 59 South Prospect Street TELEPHONE (203) 566-3005


CITY OR TOWN Hartford STATE CT

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

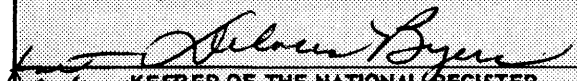
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE 

TITLE Director, Connecticut Historical Commission DATE February 11, 1982

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

 KEPTER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: Entered in the National Register DATE 3/25/82

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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Stiles, Henry R. The History of Ancient Wethersfield, Connecticut. New York:
Grafton Press, 1903.

Burlington Land Records, Vol. I, p. 230, 1809.

Farmington Land Records, Vol. IX, p. 417, 1754.

Connecticut State Library, Probate Records. John Wiard, 1726; John Wiard, 1788.