

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED  
DATE ENTERED APR 3 1975

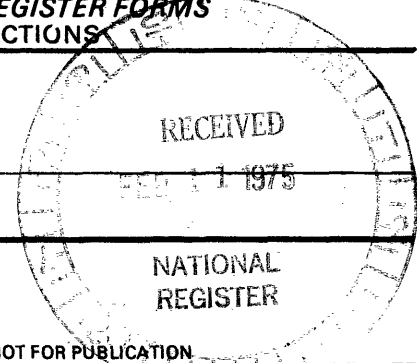
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

\* HISTORIC Eno, Amos, House

AND/OR COMMON  
Simsbury House



2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
Hopmeadow Road

CITY, TOWN  
Simsbury VICINITY OF #6 - Rep. Anthony T. Moffett

STATE Connecticut CODE 09 COUNTY Hartford CODE 003

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER unoccupied

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Town of Simsbury

STREET & NUMBER  
Town Hall

CITY, TOWN  
Simsbury VICINITY OF STATE Connecticut

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Town Hall

STREET & NUMBER  
760 Hopmeadow St.

CITY, TOWN  
Simsbury STATE Connecticut

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Connecticut Statewide Inventory of Historic Resources

DATE 1975  
--FEDERAL  STATE --COUNTY --LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Connecticut Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN  
Hartford STATE Connecticut

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

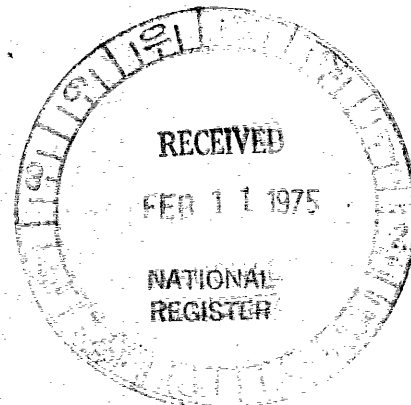
ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Amos Eno House was built in 1822 by an unknown architect. Though subsequently much altered in the 1890's, it was originally designed in the late Georgian style. The Eno House was built upon a central-hall plan with double end chimneys. It is of brick construction, being laid up in Flemish bond. As originally constructed, the house had a gable roof surmounting a two-story rectangular-plan house block. A Doric columned, pedimented porch leads to a handsome Georgian style main doorway surrounded by sidelights and a fanlight. The cornice treatment, window and sash architraves, as well as several interior mantles, reflect the influence of Adam and late Georgian styling, and are in good condition. The original (1822) enclosed staircase also remains at the end of the front hall, but an opened staircase was later built in the northwest part of the house.

In 1890, verandas were added along the front and sides of the house, and in 1900 the gambrel roof and dormers were added, all in the prevalent style of Beaux Arts Classicism. In addition, a large rear ell was added to the main house block, producing the present irregular "T" house plan. Other minor alterations were made during the early years of the twentieth century, as the house has served for a boarding house and restaurant.

In 1903, at the request of the owner, Mrs. C.B. Woods, Frederick Law Olmsted was commissioned to provide a landscape design for the Eno House property. Much of his work is still visible, especially from Hopmeadow Road, where the viewer is afforded glimpses of the house through trees which both frame the structure and obscure it from the large volume of traffic on the road.



# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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		

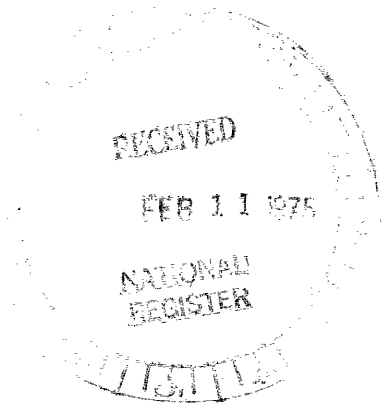
SPECIFIC DATES 1822/1890/1903

BUILDER/ARCHITECT ~~Amos Eno~~ (builder)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Amos Eno House (~~so named for the original occupant and builder~~) is primarily significant as the birthplace of Gifford Pinchot (b. 1865). A landscape architect, forester and conservationist, Pinchot became the first chief forester of the United States Forest Service in 1905. Throughout his life, Pinchot made great progress in alerting the nation to the necessity of resource conservation. The Eno House, surrounded by Olmsted's landscaping, and bordering upon the large Belden Forest (once part of Eno estate, now in public ownership), exemplifies Pinchot's concern for preservation of natural areas.

In addition to association with Pinchot, the Eno House occupies a prominent position on the main north-south road through the village of Simsbury. As such the property is a visual landmark in the town, and contributes significantly to the maintenance of village character. Architecturally, the Eno House is a late Georgian style residence, which has been extensively modified in the compatible eclectic idiom of Beaux Arts Classicism.



# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Abigail Eno Ellsworth, "The Amos R. Eno House", typescript (ca. 1930), in possession of Connecticut Historical Commission

Abstract of title, in possession of Town of Simsbury, typescript copy compiled for Connecticut Historical Commission

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 10

*nom OK CD*

UTM REFERENCES

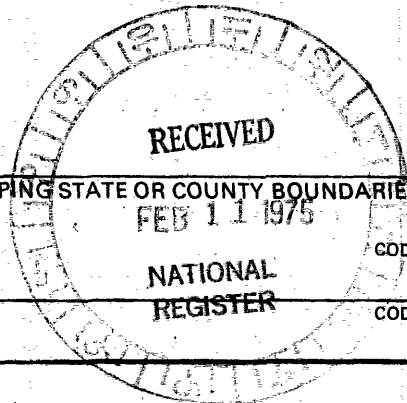
A 18 | 16 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 0  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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

Christine Brockmeyer, Consultant

January 20, 1975

ORGANIZATION

Connecticut Historical Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

59 S. Prospect Street

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*John W. Shuman*

2/6/75

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*A. H. Magness*

DATE

4/8/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

*[Signature]*

DATE

APR 2 1975

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Elisha Phelps built the present house in 1822 after having demolished an older house standing on a ten acre parcel inherited from his father, General Noah Phelps. Elisha Phelps (1779-1847), a graduate of Yale College (class of 1800), was a prominent local attorney. Phelps represented Simsbury in the Connecticut legislature in ten sessions between 1807 and 1835, serving as Clerk of the House in 1818 and as Speaker of the House in 1821 and 1829. Phelps sat in the Connecticut Senate for three terms, 1822-1824. He was elected State Comptroller for the four year term 1830-1834. Upon his death in 1847, Phelps' house in Simsbury was left to his two sons-in-law.

Amos Richards Eno (1810-1898), son-in-law of Elisha Phelps, began his career as a dry goods merchant in Simsbury after learning the trade as a clerk in Hartford. He established a successful dry goods firm in New York in 1833. By 1857 Amos R. Eno had acquired such extensive real estate holdings that he gave up the dry goods business to devote his full energies toward the real estate business. He built the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City soon after 1859 in a location many thought to be too far uptown to be practical. However, this venture prospered and by the time of his death in 1898, Eno's fortune amounted to some \$25,000,000. Eno bought complete title to the house in Simsbury in 1875 after having been left a half interest in it with his brother-in-law, John Allen. Eno spent summers in Simsbury and retired there in the last years of his life. Eno's name is connected with the house because of his half-century association with the building.

Gifford Pinchot was born in his grandfather Amos Eno's summer house in Simsbury on August 11, 1865. He spent the first seven summers of his life at the Eno House and in later life often returned there to visit his grandparents.



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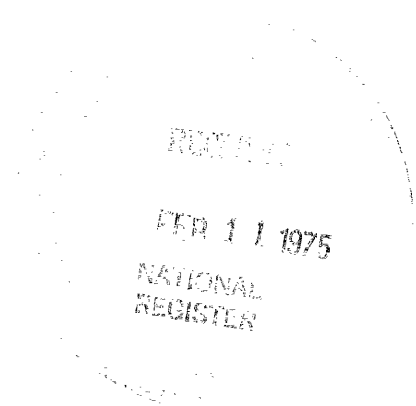
Eno, Amos, House

9

2

Olmsted Associates Inc., Brookline, Mass., "plan card index": receipts for landscape planning, issued to Mrs. E.B. Woods, Simsbury, Connecticut; various dates, 1903.

Town of Simsbury, The Simsbury House: A Study of Proposed Use, 1974.



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Amos Eno House  
Simsbury, Hartford County, Connecticut

UTM Reference

A 18/682 300/46 37 820  
B 18/682 320/46 37 800  
C 18/682 260/46 37 635  
D 18/682 160/46 37 640  
E 18/682 120/46 37 660  
F 18/682 180/46 37 850  
G 18/682 240/46 37 840

Acreage: 10

This property is described in the land records, Town Clerk's Office,  
Simsbury, Connecticut, Vol. 206, page 156.