

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

The attached property, the Tamarack Lodge Bungalow in Litchfield County, Connecticut, reference number 77001499, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the Keeper of the National Register on 09/16/1977, as evidenced by FEDERAL REGISTER/WEEKLY LIST notice of Tuesday, February 6, 1979, Part II, Vol. 44, No. 26, page 7441. The attached nomination form is a copy of the original documentation provided to the Keeper at the time of listing.

Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

3/26/2009 Date

CITY, TOWN

Hartford

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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STATE

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ATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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SE	EE INSTRUCTIONS IN <i>HOW T</i> TYPE ALL ENTRIES (S
NAME				
HISTORIC	· Tamarack Lodge Bungal	ow		
AND/OR COMMO	N Dennis Hill Park Pavi	lion		***************************************
LOCATIO				
STREET & NUMBE				
de la companya de la	Dennis Hill Park	•	NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	
		VICINITY OF	6th - Toby Mof	fett CODE
STATE	Connecticut	09	COUNTY Litchfield	005
CLASSIFI	ICATION			•
CATEGORY	Y OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICT	X_PUBLIC	OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
XBUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	X PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SATE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	_SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
A OWNER (OF PROPERTY			
NAME	State of Connecticut	,		
	Department of Environ	mental Protectio	on a fi	
STREET & NUMBER		***************************************	And the state of t	. *
Ì.	State Office Building		F.,	1 1
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
XXXXX		VICINITY OF	CT	
5 LOCATIO	N OF LEGAL DESCR	IPTION		
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEL	os, ETC. Norfolk Town Cle	rk		•
STREET & NUMBER				
CITY, TOWN	Greenwoods Road		STATE	
	Norfolk		CT	
G REPRESE	NTATION IN EXISTI	NG SURVEYS		
	Connecticut Statewide		storic Resources	****
DATE	1975	FEDERAL X	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR	Connecticut Historical			



CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

__UNALTERED

XORIGINAL SITE

__GOOD .XFAIR

__UNEXPOSED

__RUINS

__MOVED DATE___

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Commanding an impressive view of Norfolk's wooded hills, this stone bungalow has built in 1908 on the summit of Dennis Hill (elevation 1627'). The hill is ompletely forested except for the land immediately adjacent to the building, which is cleared. The building's original purpose was as an adjunct to "Tamarack odge," a large summer estate at the foot of the hill. Today, its rustic onstruction, its open design and its advantageous setting can still be appreciated by hikers in Dennis Hill State Park, for which the building serves as a shelter. In though there is no glass in the window openings, nor any interior furnishings, the arcadian ambience of the place remains, a kind of democratization of its original function. At the time of this report, the bungalow was inhabited only by an escaped kestrel in jesses, an appropriate reminder of the lifestyle of the building's first owners and of the fact that Norfolk continues as an exclusive summer retreat.

The bungalow, as it was called by contemporaries, is in the informal style used by Richardson and Hunt for gate lodges and other stone buildings. It is one story in height and consists basically of one large central room, octagonal in plan, with a great fieldstone hearth on the side opposite the entrance. A steep byramidal roof rises to a point above the structure. On each of the four major sides is a large gable-roof dormer. The entrance features a porte cochere of square stone pillars supporting a hipped roof, which is interrupted by the extension of the gable partway over the porch. The doorway itself has one round-headed opening flanked by two rectangular openings. On the southwest side is a similarly constructed small room with a hipped roof. On the opposite side is a sun room, fully open except for a low stone wall and the six wooden roof supports. This room is seven-sided, as is its roof, and is built onto a rectangular, hipped roof wing whose dimensions approximate those of the porte cochere and other wing. There is a smaller stone fireplace in this room, with an interesting panel of cut and carved stone, bosses and a somewhat eroded central carving.

The whole structure is built of rough-hewn fieldstone rubble, except for the dormers, which have shingled faces, and the area around the doorway, which is stuccoed. The roof rafters are visible at the eaves.

The fieldstone walls and the roof structure are left exposed in the interior. The wide window openings on the open sides are practically of full height. With light from the dormer windows as well as the smaller openings which flank the big windows and chimneys, the interior is surprisingly well-lighted. A loft runs the circumference of the main room, perhaps intended for sleeping areas. The only enclosed space is in the dormer above the entrance. The floor throughout is paved with odd-shaped pieces of slate.

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	HECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	-ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599.	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X.ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
≭ .1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
attablish fearth recommend to recommend to				

SPECIFIC DATES 1908

BUILDER/ARCHITECT A.S.G. Taylor, architect

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Tamarack Lodge Bungalow is significant as an example of stone lodge architecture and as an artifact of Norfolk's summer society. Although the bungalow has been attributed to one or another of the masters, it was in fact designed by A.S.G. Taylor, a local Norfolk architect. The style was popular: several Other buildings in the vicinity, including a lodge, a country club and a gymnasium, are in the same style, and perhaps by Taylor. This design is closely related to the Shingle Style, which also began as summer estate architecture. Rusticity in construction, the low, almost brooding profile, and the visual unity supplied by the heavy main roof are elements which mark this building as a departure from the complex, decorative and "historical" Victorian styles. The use of fieldstone walls, large glass areas (a remarkable feature, apparently 1), open living area, and exposed roof members accomplished two related purposes: rustic simplicity and a union between interior space and the external environment. The intimate relation between the building and the "great outdoors", as well as its essentially one-room layout, give it a very modern feel. The bungalow is a good introduction to twentieth-century design.

The intellectual assumptions of this architecture are clearly related to the Progressive's quest for unspoiled Nature. Indeed, summer at Norfolk was in many ways the fulfillment of the pastoral ideal: a small village surrounded forests, streams and large estates, in which agricultural pursuits could be combined with hunting, fishing, literary events, concerts, and art exhibitions. The summer residents of Norfolk were certainly wealthy, but more importantly, they were members of America's professional elite: doctors, scientists (Michael Pupin), professors, stockbrokers, and writers (Samuel Clemens spent a summer there). Differing from both New England's Brahmins and Newport's capitalists, they were a were a class which came of age in the first years of this century, both politically and intellectually.²

Frederic S. Dennis (1850-1934), a New York City resident and the bungalow's owner, was typical of the Norfolk summer set. A graduate of Yale, he became a nationally prominent surgeon and medical professor. He was active in the Norfolk Agricultural Association and the Rod and Gun club, as well as being a writer of local history. His guests at Tamarack Lodge and the bungalow are known to have included Andrew Carnegie, President Taft, the Mayo brothers, and Walter Damrosch, the renowned 'conductor. For the social historian interested in the nuances of upper class attitudes, and the architecture thereby produced, this stone bungalow is an informative resource.

See the description by Humphrey, cited on the following page.

Robert Wiebe, The Search for Order, 1877-1920 (New York: Hill and Wang, 1967).

Denni.	s, F.S. The No	orfolk Villag	e Green. Norf	olk: priv. printed, 1917.	
	rey, Minnie R.		olk, Then and	Now," Lure of the Litchf	<u>ield</u>
"Denn	is, Frederic		o Was Who In	America, Vol. 1. Chicago:	
	PHICAL DAT	ΓA ₅			
A[1,8] [6 ZONE EA	4,9 2,5,0 4	RTHING	B L ZONE E/ D	ASTING NORTHING	
The al	oove acreage r tely surround	eflects the the bungalow.	extent of the	cleared land and woods whi	ch
•					
LIST AL	L STATES AND COU	NTIES FOR PROPER	TIES OVERLAPPING	STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES	
STATE		CODE	COUNTY	CODE	
STATE		CODE	COUNTY	CODE	
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DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

PDO MANAGE

DATE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106 (203) 566-3005

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

For Buildings and Structures

11

FOR OFFICE USE ONL!	
TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:
UTM: 18/_//	/

QUAD:

DISTRICT: S NR:

ACTUAL POTENTIAL

IDE	NTIFICATION					
1	. BUILDING NAME: Common: _	Dennis Pavi	lion	Historic:	Tamarac Loc	lge
2	. TOWN/CITY:	VILLAGE:		COUN	TY:	
3	. STREET & NUMBER (and/or lo	cation):	Denn	is Hill State	e Park	
4	OWNER(S): State of Connec	ticut, 165 Capi	tol Ave., Ha	rtford, CT	XX PUBLIC	PRIVATE
5	. USE: Present: Park a	ttraction	Historic	. 06115 Guest hous	se, summer ho	
	. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: E		public road: X	yesno	e park.	no
DES	SCRIPTION					
7	. STYLE OF BUILDING:		DA	TE OF CONST	RUCTION:	1909
	. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or l clapboard wood shingle board & batten aluminum siding other:	ocation when appro	priate): ng g	brick _X fieldsto	n e granite tone	
9	. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: X wood frame: post and bea X load bearing masonry other:	structural iro	on or steel			····
10	ROOF: type: X gableflatgambrelshed material: Originally X wood shingleroll asphale	<u>X</u> 111p	monitor round		:h	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
	X asphalt shingle huilt up	tile	other:			
11	NUMBER OF STORIES: 1	APPROX	(IMATE DIME	NSIONS: porc	face of octa h and kitchen	gon is 23' <u>are 17x23</u>
	. CONDITION: Structural: Exterior:	excellent	X good	fair	deteri	orated
13	. INTEGRITY: Location: \underline{x} on or Alterations: \underline{x} no	riginal site moved yes, explain:	, when:		X inte	rior van- zed
14	. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OF barn shed shop	R LANDSCAPE FEA garage garden	ATURES:other land	dscape features	or buildings:	
15	. SURROUNDING ENVIRONME X_open landwoodlandcommercialindustrial	NT: residential rural	scattered high build	buildings visible ding density	from site	
۱6	INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BU The pavilion is on top of				238-acre Sta	te park.

17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

The pavilion is a massive, low, broad, granite fieldsone, octagonal structure. The roof over the central secion (living room) is bell-shaped and rises to a point, supported by intricate interior framing. A wing to the left, under gable roof, was the porch, and a wing to the right, under gable roof, was the kitchen. The roof seems to have a plastic flow over the building. The exterior chimney has a width and solidity reminiscent of 17th Century Rhode Island stone end houses and the interior fireplace is correspondingly large. The front porte-cochere had a second story bedroom and bath. There was a balcony at second floor level, all around the circular central living room, with open wooden balustrade. The interior has been NIFICANCE/gutted. The windows have been removed.

SIGNIFICANCE	gutted. The windows	have been removed.	
Architect:	Taylor & Levi	Builder:	•
18. HISTORICA	L OR ARCHITECTURAL	IMPORTANCE:	

Originally, this structure was referred to as a bungalow and was a building on the Dennis Estate (now Dennis Hill State Park). Its low profile, weight, mass, and horizontal orientation all relate to the Prairie School work of Frank Lloyd Wright, as does the open character of the interior. It shows that Taylor was aware of what was new and modern in his day, and that he worked effectively in the idiom. The bungalow is yet another example of the variety of Taylor's work. It is one of his most successful buildings. The name of the Dennis estate was Tamarac.

PHOTOGRAPH photographer: _	D. Ransom	
date: <u>October</u>	1978 view: North Connecticut Historical Commission	Place
COMPILED BY:	Competition instituted talimits in	Photograph
name:	D. Ransom date: 10-28-78	Here
organization:	Connecticut Historical Commission	
address:	59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, (CT
	0610	06
19. SOURCES:		

Prints of construction drawings are in the Taylor Collection.

20. SUBSECUENTXENER DXEVANXMAXMONS:

Verbal boundary description: The building is in Dennis Hill State Park.

UTM Reference: 18/649230/4645440. The structure is individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places as Tamarac Lodge. Less than one acre, surrounding the structure, is included in the nomination.

21. THREATS TO BU	JILDING OR SI	ITE:			
none known	highways	X vandalism	developers	other:	
renewal	private	X deterioration	zoning	explanation:	

