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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM	1:8 6:8 5:8 0:0 4:5 7:2 6:0 0
QUAD:	Branford
DISTRICT	IF NR, SPECIFY
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) *(Historic)*
Private Residence

2. TOWN/CITY
Branford

VILLAGE
New Haven

COUNTY
New Haven

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)
161 Damascus Rd. Map G6 and G7, Block 2, Lot 1.1; .80 acres

4. OWNER(S)
James Unfricht Public Private

5. USE (Present) *(Historic)*
One-Family Dwelling Same

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE IF YES, EXPLAIN
 Yes No Yes No

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING
New England Colonial

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
c.1750

8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Brick	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle South wall	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone	
<input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten	<input type="checkbox"/> Stucco	<input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone	
<input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Cut stone Type: _____	

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	<input type="checkbox"/> balloon
<input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry	<input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		

10. ROOF (Type)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable	<input type="checkbox"/> Flat	<input type="checkbox"/> Mansard	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor	<input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Hip	<input type="checkbox"/> Round	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
(Material)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt	<input type="checkbox"/> Tin	<input type="checkbox"/> Slate	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Built up	<input type="checkbox"/> Tile	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	

11. NUMBER OF STORIES
1 1/2

APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS
35 feet x 30 feet

12. CONDITION (Structural) *(Exterior)*

<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
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13. INTEGRITY (Location) WHEN ? (Alterations) IF YES, EXPLAIN

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Garage	<input type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house	<input type="checkbox"/> Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Garden	

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT

<input type="checkbox"/> Open land	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood-land	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input type="checkbox"/> High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
Located in a sparsely developed neighborhood, bordered on south by school and open space.

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

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

Constructed on a rectangular plan with its ridge parallel to the street this one-and-one-half story structure has a steeply-pitched roof (45° or 12:12) with an added lean-to at the rear. It has a brick center chimney which straddles the ridge. It has a three-bay facade with two-over-two window sash and a center entry. Its street facade and gable ends feature clapboard siding, while its rear elevation is finished in wood shingles.

18. ARCHITECT: N/A BUILDER: Unknown

SIGNIFICANCE

19. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This house was first recorded on the W.P.A. survey as the Blackstone Homestead, c.1750, but maps and other sources do not corroborate this as having been the Blackstone Homestead. The original form of the house is very well preserved and represents a modest farm house, probably of the mid-eighteenth century. In fact, the twenty-six acre farm remained intact until 1963 when the land was sold to the town for construction of a school.

This house is significant in Branford's collection of eighteenth-century houses for its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship. As an example of eighteenth-century architecture, it meets Criteria C of the National Register of Historic Places.

SOURCES

W.P.A. Federal Writers Project, "Census of Old or Distinctive Buildings in the State of Connecticut," c.1936, No. 10.
 Maps: Whiteford, 1852; Beers, 1868.

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER: Jane P. Bouley DATE: July, 1984

VIEW: West Elevation NEGATIVE ON FILE: CHC-File 2 Neg 3

COMPILED BY

NAME: S. Ardis Abbott & Robert B. Hurd DATE: 10/1/84

ORGANIZATION: Architectural Preservation Trust of Branford, Inc.

ADDRESS: 226 East Main Street, Branford, CT 06405



20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

None known Highways Vandalism Developers Other _____

Renewal Private Deterioration Zoning Explanaton _____