

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received MAY 12 1986  
date entered 6-13 86

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Osbornedale  
and or common Osborne Homestead Museum

2. Location

street & number 500 Hawthorne Avenue N/A not for publication  
city, town Derby vicinity of N/A  
state Connecticut code 09 county New Haven code 009

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Commissioner Stanley Pac  
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection  
street & number 165 Capitol Avenue  
city, town Hartford vicinity of state Connecticut

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Town of Derby Office of Twon Clerk  
street & number 35 Fifth Street  
city, town Derby state Connecticut 06418

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title State Register of Historic Places see continuation sheet has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no  
date 1986 federal  state  county  local  
depository for survey records Connecticut Historical Commission  
59 S. Prospect Street  
city, town Hartford state Connecticut

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

### **Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

Osbornedale is a gracious two-story ca. 1840 Greek Revival dwelling that was enlarged and completely remodeled in the Colonial Revival style between 1919 and ca. 1925. It is located in the Derby Neck section of Derby. Situated on a informally landscaped 8-acre site that includes formal, parterred gardens to the south, the house hints of its original styling and age only by its gable-ended massing and side-hall plan. The original (north) section (photograph 1) remains the focus of the house, with the numerous rear ells scaled and detailed to complement. The exterior is characterized by rich revival detailing which includes twelve-over-twelve windows with operable blinds; elliptical gable-end windows with radiating tracery; and a handsome Federal style pedimented entrance portico sheltering the door and its corresponding leaded elliptical transom. A flat-roofed solarium with a Chinese trellis roof balustrade is located on the east side overlooking the formal gardens, while a Tuscan-columned porch defines the farm entrance on the west elevation (photograph 2).

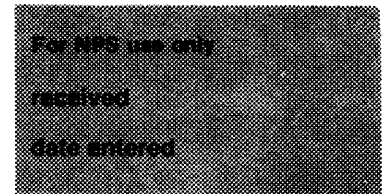
The interior is arranged with the formal public rooms in the front side-hall portion of the house and the service rooms and study in a single file to the rear. All woodwork and detailing are in the Colonial Revival style. A delicate, Federal style staircase with plain balusters and a continuous ramped handrail dominates the front entrance/stair hall. The wainscoted dado breaks to accommodate a window seat on the south wall. The hall communicates with the paneled library set with built-in bookcases, a handsome Federal style mantel, and window seats. Behind is the main parlor (photograph 3), which runs the width of the original section. The room is fully paneled in the Georgian mode with a coupled colonette Federal style mantel. Double-leaf glazed doors to the solarium are balanced on the north by a boxed bay window. The dining room (photograph 4), located off the west side of the parlor, is also fully paneled in the Georgian Revival style. Windows flanking the interior fireplace are set in arched recesses. A butler's pantry with a built-in cupboard and dresser links the kitchen with the dining room as well as the back staircase.

Most of the features of the large working kitchen are original to the Colonial Revival remodeling of the house and include a coal-burning cook stove set in a tiled niche, an oak ice box, and cupboards and dressers. The farm office and walnut-paneled study with an inglenook are set behind the kitchen. The study is the most academically detailed of all the rooms in the house. The second level contains five bedrooms and three white tiled bathrooms with period fixtures and accessories.

Although the detailing throughout the house is Colonial Revival, with wallpapers, windows treatments, and furnishings typical of the period, the use of so many built-in features such as the window seats, bookcases, plate rail, and inglenook reflect the influence of the Arts and Crafts movement. The house is an excellent well-preserved example of the graceful and elegant Colonial Revival style enhanced by the period decoration that survives intact.

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National Park Service**

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Continuation sheet Osbornedale Derby, CT Item number 6

Page 1

DEP Cultural Resources Survey  
1985 State  
Connecticut Historical Commission  
59 S. Prospect Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

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Two important outbuildings associated with the operation of the Kellogg household survive in a remarkably complete state of preservation. A small 20' x 30' greenhouse (photograph 5) with a three-section plank-sided frame mechanical house that was enlarged ca. 1950 is located behind (south of) the house. The greenhouse has fixed ridge glazing and operable side windows activated by a geared wheel and bar mechanism. The handsome picturesquely massed Tudor Revival chauffeur's quarters and garage was added at the southern edge of the estate overlooking the Housatonic River in ca. 1915. The rough-cast stucco structure with a jerkin-head roof is arranged with the residential portion with an inset porch and bay windows balanced by a large three-bay garage with handsome circular-headed double-leaf doors secured by wrought-iron strap hinges. The interior of the quarters is finished with the simple Colonial Revival style, and the garage has a poured concrete floor. Small-light windows are used throughout. A Colonial Revival detached one-car garage was built to the southwest of the house in 1976, is compatible in styling, but it is non-contributing because of its age.

## 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/		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)		

**Specific dates** ca. 1840, 1919–25 **Builder/Architect** Waldo Kellogg (renovation)

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Osbornedale is the well-preserved Colonial Revival home of Frances Osborne Kellogg (1876–1956), an early twentieth-century proponent of equal professional opportunities for women in Connecticut (criterion A). By assuming her father's business interests upon his death in 1907, she broke with tradition by entering the male world of corporate administration and went on to become the first woman in the state to serve as a bank director and the first female to serve on the Derby Board of Education. Her family home, remodeled between 1919 and ca. 1925 in the Colonial Revival style by Frances and her husband, architect Waldo Kellogg, is a superbly detailed and complete statement of period taste with the furnishings original to the Kellogg remodeling preserved in place (criterion C). The Osborne family was prominent and instrumental in the development of Derby as a major, late-nineteenth-century industrial center. It was also a major benefactor of civic and cultural programs in the community.

The family fortune was established by John W. Osborne, a pioneer in the brass industry in the Naugatuck Valley. He cofounded the Osborne & Cheeseman Company, which moved to Derby from Ansonia in 1858 and manufactured hoop skirts and suspenders. After returning from service as an officer in the Civil War, John's son Wilbur Fiske Osborne (1841–1907) joined the firm and assumed its presidency when his father retired. In 1882 the company was reorganized as the Schneller Osborne & Cheeseman Company (S.O. & C.), which controlled the eyelet business in the United States and Europe. The United Shoe Machinery Corporation, which began the automation and standardization of the shoe industry in the valley, purchased a controlling interest in S.O. & C. in 1901 and controlled it entirely by 1923. In addition to the presidency of S.O. & C., Osborne was an incorporator of the Derby Silver Company, which later consolidated with the International Silver Company of Meriden.

Frances Osborne Kellogg was Wilbur Osborne's only surviving child, and upon his death in 1907, she assumed his business responsibilities, which she continued until shortly before her death. In an era when women were not afforded the opportunity to pursue positions of leadership in the business world, Fannie Osborne succeeded, becoming the president of the Union Fabric Company, vice president of the Connecticut Clasp Company of Bridgeport, and treasurer of the F. Kelly Company, manufacturers of metal fasteners. She continued to set precedents for women by becoming in 1929 the first female bank director in Connecticut (Birmingham National Bank in Derby) and the first woman to serve on the Derby Board of Education (1948–1956). Of her many civic activities, which included the Derby Neck Library

Continued

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Heusser, Audrey. Personal Interview with Mary E. McCahon. May 21, 1985.  
Molloy, Leo T. Tercentenary Pictorial and History of the Lower Naugatuck Valley. Ansonia, CT: Emerson Brothers Press, 1935.

(see continuation sheet)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 8 acres

Quadrangle name Ansonia

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 

18	6 58 3 60	4 37 7 01 0
Zone	Easting	Northing

B 

Zone	Easting	Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

--	--	--

G 

--	--	--

H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Elizabeth McCahon, Consultant, edited by John Herzan,  
National Register Coordinator

organization Connecticut Historical Comm. date December, 1985

street & number 59 S. Prospect Street telephone (203) 566-3005

city or town Hartford state Connecticut 06106

## 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 May 7, 1986

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date 6-13-86

for Alvares Byers  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet Osbornedale Derby, CT Item number 8

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founded by her father, the Griffin Hospital in Derby, and the Connecticut Park and Forest Association, none had greater impact on the women of the community than her association with the Woman's Club of Derby. As its president and driving force, she sponsored educational and cultural events beyond the means of the small industrial community, including appearances by the leading classical musicians of the day as well as poet Edna St. Vincent Millay and aviatrix Amelia Earhart.

In 1919 Frances married Waldo Kellogg, an architect by training. Together they developed Osbornedale into one of the most successful cattle-breeding farms in the northeast. The couple also transformed the comfortable side-hall-plan Greek Revival house her father purchased in 1867 into a superbly detailed and appointed Colonial Revival dwelling noted for its handsome woodwork, gracious plan, and period decoration. The house has not been changed since Waldo's death in 1929, making it a remarkably complete statement of the popular Colonial Revival taste of the day with antique furnishings selected and placed by the Kelloggs to complement the interior detailing characterized by the eclectic elegance for which the best Colonial Revival structures are noted.

Trained at Cornell University, Waldo Kellogg worked in New York for Carrere & Hastings and McKim, Mead and White. His most prominent building in Connecticut is the Allingtown Veterans Hospital in West Haven. After the marriage, Kellogg devoted his energies to the development of the cattle farm until his death. His talent as a revival architect who worked with two of the most prominent firms of their day is well represented at Osbornedale.

Frances Osborne Kellogg left Osbornedale to the state in 1954, reserving life use of the house for herself and her bookkeeper/companion Eva Little, who died in 1976. The farm acreage, approximately 400 acres located on both sides of Hawthorne Avenue, is now Osbornedale State Park, a passive recreation area, while the house and surrounding acreage is carefully supervised by a board of trustees named by Mrs. Kellogg. All farm-related structures on the farm acreage were demolished by the trustees and the state. The trustees repapered and refreshed the upholstery and window treatments after Mrs. Kellogg's death, selecting reproductions to match the original as closely as possible. They also built the one-car garage located to the southwest of the main house in 1976. The state administers and interprets the house and grounds as a memorial to the dynamic and diversified Frances Osborne Kellogg, a farmer, businesswoman, civic leader, and conservationist.

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Prokop, Ann M., ed. An Osborne Treasury. Derby, CT: Trustees  
of the Frances O. Kellogg Estate, 1981.

The Evening Sentinel (Ansonia, CT). April 21, 1956. Obituary.



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Continuation sheet Derby, CT Osbornedate

Item number 10

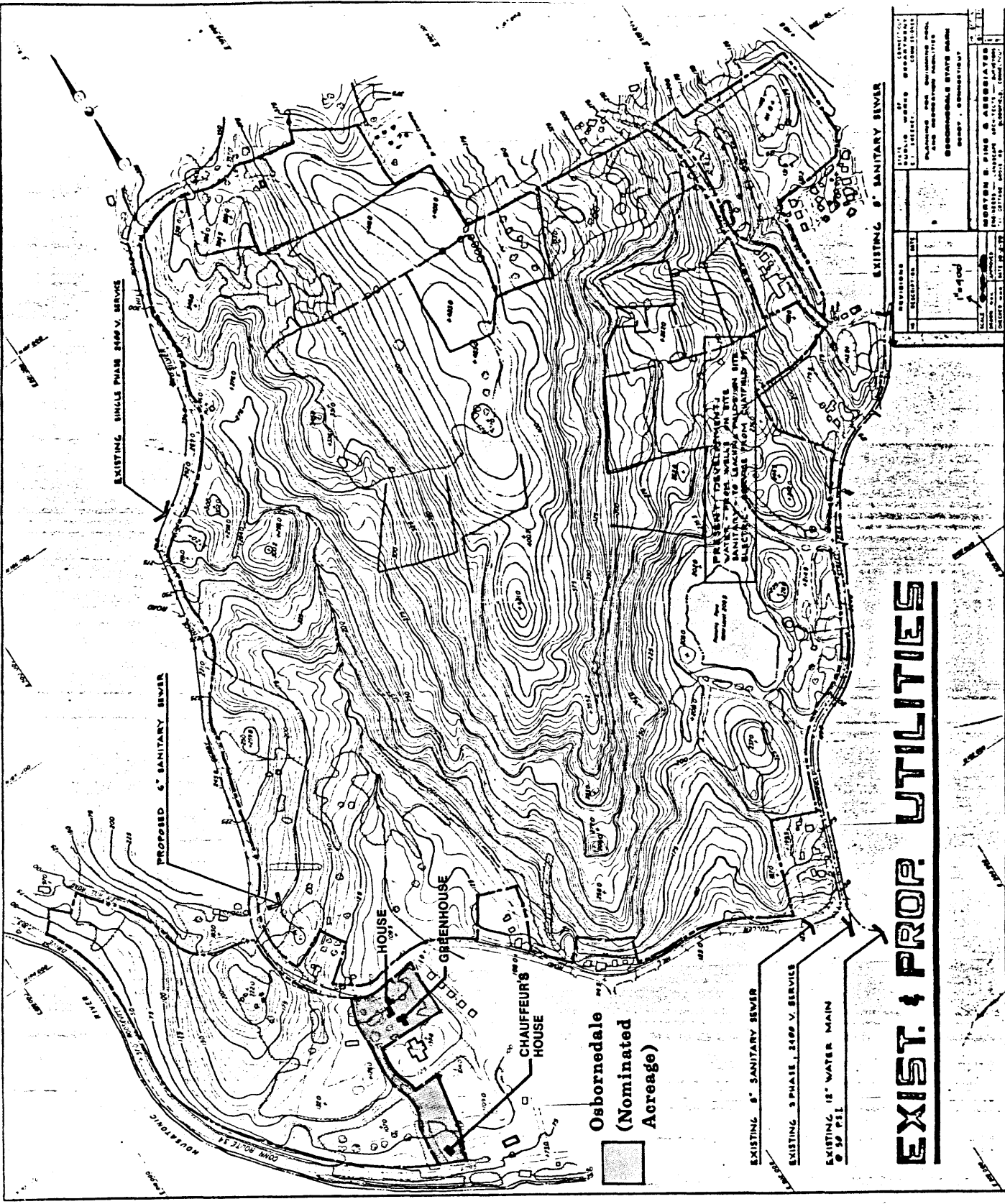
Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

For boundary description see attached map: Osbornedale State Park.  
Scale: 1" = 400'.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The site is part of a 412-acre state park composed of the acreage owned by Frances Osborne Kellogg. The nominated property encompasses the acreage historically associated with the Osbornedale house lot, less the section on the east side that was redeveloped by the State of Connecticut in 1984 as a nature center and a maintenance facility. The new buildings are located on the former kitchen garden and orchard. The nominated property retains its historic appearance.



Osbornedale  
(Nominated  
Acreage)



# EXIST. & PROP UTILITIES

REVISIONS	DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION

MORTON B. PINE & ASSOCIATES  
 ENGINEERS  
 100 N. 10th St., Minneapolis, Minn.  
 PROJECT NO. 100-1000  
 SHEET NO. 100-1000-1