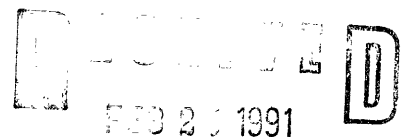


NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

**NATIONAL
REGISTER**

=====

1. Name of Property

historic name: STAMFORD HARBOR LIGHTHOUSE

other name/site number: N/A

=====

2. Location

street & number: South of breakwater, Stamford Harbor

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Stamford

vicinity: N/A

state: CT county: Fairfield code: 001 zip code: 06901

=====

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

N/A

Other Description: conical tower on caisson

Materials: foundation METAL: Cast iron roof METAL
walls METAL: Cast iron other GLASS

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

=====

8. Statement of Significance

=====

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: state.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: TRANSPORTATION
ENGINEERING

Period(s) of Significance: 1882 _____

Significant Dates: 1882 _____

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A _____

Architect/Builder: U.S. Light-House Board Engineers

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. X See continuation sheet.

=====
9. Major Bibliographical References
=====

X See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- _ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
_ previously listed in the National Register
_ previously determined eligible by the National Register
_ designated a National Historic Landmark
_ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
_ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- _ State historic preservation office
_ Other state agency
_ Federal agency
_ Local government
_ University
_ Other -- Specify Repository: _____

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property: approx. 1/2

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

Table with 4 columns: A, B, C, D. Row 1: A 18 622510 4541070 B _ _ _ Row 2: C _ _ _ D _ _ _

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

The nominated property includes the lighthouse and surrounding rip-rap, a portion of the property recorded in Stamford Land Records, Volume 2813, page 338 (1986).

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

The boundary includes the entire historic lighthouse and all associated stonework.

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

Name/Title: Bruce Clouette and Matthew Roth, Reviewed by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator

Organization: Historic Resource Consultants Date: September 5, 1990

Street & Number: 55 Van Dyke Avenue Telephone: 203-547-0268

City or Town: Hartford State: CT ZIP: 06106

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Description	Stamford Harbor Lighthouse Stamford, Fairfield County, CT	7-2
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Stamford Harbor Light was discontinued by the Government in 1953. Since that time, it has passed through a number of owners. It is now privately owned and maintained. Although the lighthouse has been boarded up, it appears to be in relatively good condition. The interior was not inspected or photographed for this nomination.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Significance

Stamford Harbor Lighthouse
Stamford, Fairfield County, CT

8-3

vessels making their way to and from New York, there was in this period extensive coastal navigation along the coast of Connecticut. Barges and schooners carried coal and other bulk materials for the many industries located in cities such as Stamford, passenger steamers made frequent trips to New York, and a new enterprise, commercial oystering, added an entire fleet of boats to the waters of the Sound. Stamford had been a locally important harbor since the days of the West Indies trade. After the Civil War, local leaders began agitating for improvements to their harbor, the approach to which was strewn with dangerous shoals and rocks. Finally, in 1881, Congress appropriated money for a lighthouse which would serve as a guide to the harbor entrance. Although marking the channel was its primary function, Stamford Harbor Lighthouse also served as a landmark for vessels headed for nearby harbors in Greenwich or making their way along the coast. Today the breakwater lights have taken over its primary function, but Stamford Harbor Lighthouse remains as a reminder of the region's maritime heritage, when such constantly attended lights provided the only margin between safe navigation and certain ruin.

NOTES

1. A variant on this technique, the pneumatic caisson, even allowed the iron-plate structure to be sunk beneath the level of the bottom in deep water, as when layers of sand made it impossible to anchor the lighthouse firmly to bedrock. In this case the caisson formed an airlock for workers digging out the bottom, allowing the caisson to descend through the sand.
2. In this way West Bank Lighthouse (1901) in New York harbor was raised two tiers in 1907 so that it could function as a range light with the newly constructed Staten Island tower.
3. Great Beds Lighthouse (1880) in New Jersey waters within New York Harbor is the earliest lighthouse of this type in the Northeast region known to the authors.

