

PH0688436

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 27 1979
DATE ENTERED

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
Jefferson-Seymour District

AND/OR COMMON
Jefferson-Seymour National Register District

2 LOCATION Cedar, Wadsworth, Seymour + Jefferson Sts.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Hartford VICINITY OF First CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Connecticut CODE 09 COUNTY Hartford CODE 003

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Multiple private

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Hartford VICINITY OF STATE Connecticut

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Town Clerk's Office, Municipal Building

STREET & NUMBER 550 Main Street

CITY, TOWN Hartford STATE Connecticut

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Hartford Architecture Conservancy Survey

DATE 1976 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Hartford Architecture Conservancy, 65 Wethersfield Avenue

CITY, TOWN Hartford, Connecticut 06114 STATE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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ITEM NUMBER 6 PAGE 1

State Register of Historic Places
1978 State
Connecticut Historical Commission
59 South Prospect Street,
Hartford, CT

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Jefferson-Seymour Streets District preserves an urban neighborhood of consistently residential character and personal scale. Here, many fine representative examples of major architectural styles are drawn together by the uniform use of brick as a building material to create a totality that is at once harmonious and varied.

Four streets comprise the Jefferson-Seymour Streets District. All of these streets had been laid out by the last half of the nineteenth century, which witnessed the development of this area. Jefferson Street, running east-west, forms the southern boundary, while Seymour, Cedar, and Wadsworth Streets, running north-south, complete the district. Buckingham Street defines the area to the north. The district also includes two blocks on Park Street.

Large institutions surround the district on three sides. The Jefferson Street Medical Building and the Hartford Hospital occupy the two blocks opposite the houses on Jefferson Street; Cedar Street faces out onto parking lots of commercial and state office buildings on Washington Street, and a large, empty lot on Wadsworth Street's east side, site of the now-demolished Chauncy Harris, or South District, School, further delineates the area. These differing adjacent uses create a series of one-sided streetscapes; only Seymour Street follows the traditional two-sided pattern.

The few commercial uses in this otherwise residential district include the State Awning Company, 100 Cedar Street, and the Hartford Cooperage, 174 Seymour Street, and several small storefront businesses and medical offices in former residences on Jefferson Street. Most houses are in fair to good condition and are rented to multiple tenants.

Eight apartment buildings dating from the early to mid-twentieth century constitute a departure in scale from the two and three story single and double family houses which predominate in the district. These later buildings are incompatible with the rhythm and scale of the closely set streetscapes, but with the exception of 169 Seymour, each of these later buildings follows the conventions of traditional architectural ornament, leaving the observer with a sense of the decorative modes of the day. A small one-story store at 34 Cedar Street and a concrete block structure to the rear of 175 Seymour Street, both apparently vacant, represent minor stylistic intrusions. In addition, an Amoco gas station is located at the corner of Buckingham and Wadsworth Streets. Thus, of a total of 66 buildings, 11, or 16.6%, are structures differing either in scale or use. Of these 11, only 3 (or 4.3%) the concrete block at 175 Seymour, the 1964 apartment building at 169 Seymour and the Amoco station on Buckingham Street, represent intrusions of significance.

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There are twelve vacant lots in the district. Of those twelve, four (at 171-173 Seymour, the northeast corner of Park and Cedar, 25-37 Wadsworth, and the extreme northern end of Wadsworth) are actually multiple lot vacancies, where two or more houses have been demolished. Another large vacant lot occurs at the southeast corner of Park and Seymour. The rest are single vacant lots located at the northwest corner of Jefferson and Seymour, at 151-153 Seymour (this is the most recent vacancy), between 43 and 53 Wadsworth, at 24 Cedar and again on Cedar between 34 and 44. Of these vacant lots, two, on Cedar between 34 and 44, and at Wadsworth's northern end, are graded for parking.

The district is a melange of nineteenth century building types and styles, reflecting its development as a residential section of Hartford. As William C. Brocklesby noted in the 1884 Memorial History of Hartford County, "the prevalence of brick buildings in the city is today a subject of pleasurable surprise." This continues to be so in the Jefferson-Seymour District where brick construction is the rule. By far the most common building type found in the district is the three-storied rectilinear Italianate free-standing single or double house, with its characteristic flat-set roof and wide overhanging eave. The detail that exists in these straightforward structures is usually found in their porches and porticos rather than at the roofline, as is oftentypical of the Italianate style.

Generally three bays wide with side hall entrances, the buildings form a uniform harmony of bulk and size. Simple fenestration, six over six sash with block lintels, emphasizes the total mass rather than its parts. The third story is usually characterized by smaller windows, often set off with a raised brick string course, creating a subtly integrated cornice effect. Reminiscent of the piano nobile of the Federal style, these diminutive third floor windows provide a counterpoint of differing mass and space with the windows below. This change in rhythm adds visual variety to the uncomplicated buildings. More than a third of the district's structures follow this basic form. Several outstanding examples of this building type can be found along the east side of Seymour Street, #148, #152-154, #174 and #180, at #124 Jefferson Street,

1. Trumbull, J. Hammond, Ed., Memorial History of Hartford County, Boston, Edward L. Osgood, 1886, Volume 1, p. 475.

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and at #57, #69, and #73 Wadsworth Street.

The buildings along Jefferson Street serve almost as microcosm for the rest of the district. The block at #76-78 Jefferson, though altered at the first floor level, retains the features of the simple Italianate double house. Characteristically, six over six double hung sash on the second floor are surmounted by smaller windows just below the third floor. Next door, number 82-88 Jefferson demonstrates the same features seen in the Italianate houses described above, employed here in a rowhouse. The unembellished facade contrasts with a heavily bracketted and entablatured entrance hood. The wide eave is adorned with single scroll brackets at both ends, while smaller arched windows at the third story complete the rather severe fenestration. Modern storefronts at the eastern side of the first floor have altered the appearance of the building, but the western half remains relatively intact.

A fine example of the Second Empire in the district occurs at the next building, number 94-100 Jefferson Street. The slate-tiled mansard roof with its round-hooded dormers is unusual in Hartford. Pendants at the corners of the eave and peaked lintels testify to the original form of this structure, though it is considerably altered at the ground floor by storefronts. Finally, a more recent apartment block at number 104-110 constitutes a minor intrusion but common height elevations help to maintain the continuity of low-scaled buildings which line the block.

Farther west, #124 Jefferson follows the Italianate pattern so strongly established in the district; the next three houses were constructed somewhat later, c. 1875, by Hartford joiner, Charles Loomis. In these three, only a different choice of lintels and subsequent minor alterations differentiate the double-bayed sidehall Italianates. The Queen Anne house at #142 Jefferson is of particular note. Built for Levi Lincoln Felt around 1879, the clapboarded structure with its angled gables, exposed, ornamented chimneys, veranda and arches is a striking stylistic departure from its neighbors. Thus, Jefferson Street coheres as a street primarily composed of Italianate structures, punctuated by two exemplary buildings in other styles.

Until late in the eighteen eighties, the Hartford Orphan Asylum occupied property backing up to Seymour Street on its western side. Hence, that side of the street developed later than the predomi-

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nately Italianate east side. Episodic development has given this side of the street an eclectic appearance. The corner house, #137, a high, square two family faces one of the later apartment buildings, #134, built in 1924. Number 159-161 Seymour, built late in the eighteen eighties for Hugh Harbison, the treasurer of Colt's, is flanked by a 1924 apartment building on the right and a capacious Queen Anne two-family to the left at #155-157. Number 159-161 is an intricately crafted double house of brick with lavishly carved wooden vegetation ornamenting its one-story porch. Despite its eclectic composition, Seymour Street is thickly planted with trees and shrubs, which softens changes in scale and style while framing the varying elements.

Cedar and Wadsworth Streets face away from each other, forming back-to-back one-sided streetscapes. The Chauncy Harris, or South District, School, now demolished, occupied most of the east side of Wadsworth Street, while Cedar Street fronted on the rear property lines of the large estates which lined Washington Street. Cedar Street presents a rhythmic and cohesive streetscape, virtually unmarred by vacant lots and nonconforming intrusions. Its houses are closely related in scale, though varying in style. The three houses at the extreme southern end of Cedar, isolated from the rest of the street by its one vacant lot, form their own unit on the street. A compact brick house at #16, solidly built to serve the simple needs of a working class family, stands beside a 1913 neo-Georgian apartment block. Next door, #26, a diminutive Queen Anne cottage, looks more rural, set back amid the hedges and trees of the vacant lot.

The pattern for the rest of the street is set with number 44-52, a u-shaped double house, the first of a series of "twins" which follow down down the street. Actually one unit of two double houses, dense foliage gives number 44-52 the appearance of two separate houses. 1920's stuccoing masks this pair of Italianate houses, set high on raised basements. Heavy bracketted door hoods and wide eaves provide reminders of the original building beneath the stucco. Two small Queen Anne two family houses stand next door at #54-56 and #58-60. Though #54-56 is presently sided with asbestos, #58-60 retains its original wood siding and is a simple gabled structure with little ornament but pleasant proportions. Next door, #62, a Greek Revival cottage, its low pitched pediment contrasting with the steep gables of its Queen Anne neighbors, has

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been somewhat altered by later additions of asbestos siding and an enclosed porch. Two more of the ubiquitous Italianates follow and are followed by a pair of Greek Revival houses, brick end-to-end gabled temple forms with side entrances. Their clean, forth-right lines are undiminished by their modern concrete and wrought iron entrances. The last three residential structures on Cedar Street, visually related by the fact that all three have prominent two and three story porches, are actually three very different buildings. Number 84-86 anticipates the stacked construction of the triple decker, so popular in Hartford around World War I. A high pitched roof adds to its steep verticality. The sheerness of the south wall is broken by a curved bay below a dormer gable. The partial gable return at the pediment of #90 next door suggests that this building, massed in Greek Revival proportions and entered at the side like its Greek Revival neighbors at #76 and #80, is actually a transitional building. The portico, with Doric entablature, is supported by reeded Egyptian Columns with palm capitals. This is the only instance of Egyptian Revival detailing in the district. #96-98 Cedar is a two story brick building with a two story wooden porch on the facade. Two large dormer gables on the southern side are interrupted by a smaller dormer in the center. String courses of decorative terra-cotta tile ornament the wall on the northern side. The last building on Cedar, #100, is a low, two-story commercial structure of brick with a wide cast-iron cornice running along the flat roof. Despite its commercial use, the building's scale and style are consistent with the rest of the structures along Cedar Street.

#17 Wadsworth Street is a well preserved Second Empire cottage, all ornamental detail, slate mansard roof, square pavilion, dormers, and cresting, intact. Another larger, less intricate Second Empire house stands down the street at #63 Wadsworth. A transitional Greek Revival house at #19 demonstrates the way in which differing architectural styles blend and are modified. Though Greek Revival in its massing, porch details are Italianate. With the exception of #43 Wadsworth, which again features a gabled, pitched roof and bracketted portico, six of the other eleven structures on the street present the Italianate form which characterizes much of the district; three bays wide, they all exhibit the smaller third floor window. #39-41 Wadsworth, built in 1887, is a large mansion type Italianate topped by a lantern with round-head windows. It is the largest house on the block of modest single families. A close look at #57 reveals a Gothic stained glass window in a second floor hallway; at #73, intricate lattice-work replaces

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the classical entablature on the portico. The Queen Anne cottage is one of the few wooden structures in the district and the last house on Wadsworth.

Jefferson-Seymour displays a complete and compact representation of almost every significant nineteenth century domestic architectural style. It documents the tastes of an urban middle class which long ago left the cities for suburban life. As today's middle classes begin to re-discover those same cities they once forsook, neighborhoods like Jefferson-Seymour will be recognized for the cultural and aesthetic resource they are.

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INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Street Address	Property Owner's Name	Owner's Address	Historic Assessment
76-78 Jefferson St.	Stiliani Zanias	82 Jefferson, Hfd.	critical
82-84 Jefferson St.			critical
82 Jefferson St.	Stiliani Zanias	82 Jefferson, Hfd.	
84 Jefferson St.	George Butler	c/o Peter's Ethical Pharmacy	
		84 Jefferson, Hfd.	
86-88 Jefferson St.	Lydia L. Messier	86 Jefferson, Hfd.	critical
94-96 Jefferson St.	Hartford Hospital	80 Seymour, Hfd.	critical
98-100 Jefferson St.	Gilbert Hershman	142 Penn Dr., WHfd.	critical
104-110 Jefferson St.	Josephine M. Cianci	56 Eaton St., Hfd.	critical
124 Jefferson St.	Mary F. Cline	124 Jefferson, Hfd.	critical
128 Jefferson St.	John Klemes	128 Jefferson, Hfd.	critical
132 Jefferson St.	Jolene Goldenthal	132 Jefferson, Hfd.	critical
138 Jefferson St.	Edw. G., Mary A. Presta	689 Franklin, Hfd.	critical
142 Jefferson St.	Casimir, Jeannette Pijanowski	142 Jefferson, Hfd.	critical
146 Jefferson St.	Alexis Foohey	146 Jefferson, Hfd.	critical
150 Jefferson St.	Lee L. Tager and Maurice Kenny	121 Orchard Rd., WHfd	critical
134-138 Seymour St.	Inez H. Dolin and Roseann K. Dolinsky	11 Alden St., Hfd.	critical
137 Seymour St.	Helen F. Moran	137 Seymour, Hfd.	critical
142 Seymour St.	Joseph A. Jaworski	142 Seymour, Hfd.	critical
148 Seymour St.	Michael Rafala	148 Seymour, Hfd.	critical
155-157 Seymour St.	Waleria Kosinski	157 Seymour, Hfd.	critical
152-154 Seymour St.			
152 Seymour St.	Josephine B., Antonio Miano	152 Seymour, Hfd.	critical
154 Seymour St.	John Federko	154 Seymour, Hfd.	critical
158-160 Seymour St.	Hartford Federal Savings & Loan Association	50 State St., Hfd.	critical
159 Seymour St.	Sophie Holt	185 Weir Ave., Glastonbury	critical
161 Seymour St.	Henry A. Holt Est., Sophie Holt	159 Weir Ave., Glastonbury	critical
164 Seymour St.	Emanuel, Maria Gulino	164 Seymour, Hfd.	critical
167 Seymour St.	Ralph M. Shulansky and Louise S. Fechter	P.O. Box 1257, Hfd.	critical
169 Seymour St.	Samuel Siegel and Nerice J. Bloomfield	26 Robin Rd., WHfd.	non-critical

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170 Seymour St.	The Flag Corporation	170 Seymour, Hfd.	critical
173 Seymour St.	Society for Savings	31 Pratt St., Hfd.	non-crit ^A
174 Seymour St.	Morris White Est., Et Al.	P.O. 6506, Hfd.	critical
180 Seymour St.	John, Sophie Gawlik	110 Rood Ave., Windsor	critical
182-184 Seymour St.	Fred Levy	887 Farmington WHfd.	critical
179 Seymour St.	Richard Christiana, Et Al. c/o Joyce Pytel	22 Baneberry Ln., Wethersfield	non-crit
183 Seymour St.	Edith Koenig	183 Seymour, Hfd.	critical
185 Seymour St.	Chester, Jadwiga Szymanski	185 Seymour, Hfd.	critical
16 Cedar St.	James Giuliano	16 Cedar, Hfd.	critical
20 Cedar St.	The 635 Corporation c/o Dow and Condon	242 Trumbull, Hfd.	critical
26 Cedar St.	Washington-Cedar Corp.	122 Washington, Hfd.	critical
44-52 Cedar St.	Richard M. Souza	581 Farmington, Hfd.	critical
54-56 Cedar St.	Josephine F. Marcinow	36 Bonner St., Hfd.	critical
58-60 Cedar St.	John J., Frances B. Barrett	60 Cedar, Hfd.	critical
62 Cedar St.	Pedro, Margarita Pimienta	62 Cedar, Hfd.	critical
66 Cedar St.	John, Josephine Blonski	66 Cedar, Hfd.	critical
80 Cedar St.	C. Gregory Dublin	80 Cedar, Hfd.	critical
76 Cedar St.	Andrew J., Helen M. Fisher	38 Grassmere Ave., WHfd.	critical
72 Cedar St.	Heriberto, Elena Bonilla	72 Cedar, Hfd.	critical
84-86 Cedar St.	Ernesto, Victoria Querido	107 Bonner St., Hfd.	critical
90 Cedar St.	Victoria Ignas Est. Henry Ramenda, Ex.	750 Main St., Hfd.	critical
96-98 Cedar St.	Victoria Ignas Est. Henry Ramenda, Ex.	750 Main St., Hfd.	critical
100 Cedar St.	The State Awning Co.	100 Cedar, Hfd.	critical
17 Wadsworth St.	Harry M., Berry	30 Banfield Ln., Bloomfield	critical
19 Wadsworth St.	The 635 Corporation c/o Dow and Condon	242 Trumbull St., Hfd.	critical
21-23 Wadsworth St.	The Washington-Cedar Corp.	130 Washington, Hfd.	critical
39-41 Wadsworth St.	Richard M. Souza and Sidney Gross	581 Farmington, Hfd.	critical
43 Wadsworth St.	The Petron Corporation c/o P. Blum	242 Trumbull, Hfd.	critical

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53 Wadsworth St.	Peter R. Blum	242 Trumbull, Hfd. critical
57 Wadsworth St.	Marc Roy	63 Wadsworth, Hfd. critical
63 Wadsworth St.	Dominique, Clairienne Roy	63 Wadsworth, Hfd. critical
73 Wadsworth St.	Robert e. Lundeberg	27 Overbrook Dr., critical WHfd.
69 Wadsworth St.	Wasył, Maria Weselyj	69 Wadsworth, Hfd. critical
77 Wadsworth St.	Bernice Machia	77 Wadsworth, Hfd. critical
229 Buckingham St.	The Buckingham Corp.	229 Buckingham, Hfd. critical
237-239 Buckingham St.	The Buckingham Corp.	229 Buckingham, Hfd. critical
213-217 Buckingham St.	Ida, Abraham A. Sacher	59 Huntington Dr., critical WHfd.
201 Buckingham St.	Amoco Oil Company c/o O. H. Hoth, Mgr.	Property Tax Dept., non-crit 555 Fifth Avenue, NY, NY
250-252 Park St.	The 635 Corporation c/o Dow and Condon	242 Trumbull, Hfd. critical
262-266 Park St.	The 635 Corporation c/o Dow and Condon	242 Trumbull, Hfd. critical
286-288 Park St.	Joseph C. Remusat	1164 Pleasant Vall Rd., Manchester critical
285 Park St.	Martin, Rita Ouellette	85 Goodwin Ave., critical Wethersfield
287 Park St.	The Metcalfe Glass Co. Inc.	287 Park, Hfd. critical
297-303 Park St.	Mary E. Meilus	750 Ridge Rd., critical Wethersfield

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15-17 May St.

99-101 Atwood St.

Lewis O. Pugliese

99-101 Atwood St.

Hartford, CT 06105

19 May St.

88-90 Atwood St.

Elmer C. Seymour

118 Fisk Dr.

Newington, CT 06111

23 May St.

Mary M. Chirico

23 May St.

Hartford, CT 06105

25-27 May St.

Dermoth H. Brown

10 Laurel St.

Manchester, CT 06040

43-45 May St.

Ruth K. Friedman

P.O. 344A Warehouse Pt., CT 06088

47-49 May St.

Segundo Las Heras

49 Winthrop St.

Hartford, CT 06103

51-53 May St.

James Thompson

137 Edgewood St.

Hartford, CT 06112

55-57 May St.

Ann P. Henahan

249 Collins St.

Hartford, CT 06105

26-28 May St.

Clanford L. Pierce

26-28 May St.

Hartford, CT 06105

87-89 Atwood St.

91-93 Atwood St.

Albert Daigle

91-93 Atwood St.

Hartford, CT 06105

95-97 Atwood St.

Carlton E. Mitchell

95-97 Atwood St.

Hartford, CT 06105

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/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		

Criteria A, C

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Jefferson-Seymour Streets District is a rich aggregate of residential buildings, marked by a representation of almost every major nineteenth century style, including the Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire and Queen Anne. It is unified by the consistent use of brick as a building material and by a familiar and human scale. This neighborhood was home for artisans, printers, foremen, dentists, gunsmiths, clerks, and insurance men. Neither grandiose nor sublime, these houses record for us the far more common lifestyle of the urban middle classes, before the advent of the suburbs drew them away from the cities.

Jefferson-Seymour survives today virtually untouched by buildings within the district whose size or use might threaten the residential character of its streets. Ironically, those external circumstances of chance and choice which shaped the development of the district are now those which threaten it. The Hartford Hospital, chartered in 1858, and the Hartford Orphan Asylum, incorporated in 1865, are two institutions whose existence helped determine the growth of Jefferson and Seymour Streets. Today, the needs of Hartford Hospital create pressure for expansion into the old residential sections.

In the late nineteenth century, the large estates of some of Hartford's most prominent citizens, including one-time governor, Richard D. Hubbard, lined Washington Street, occupying the entire block back to Cedar Street. Most of these mansions are gone now but in their place are the car dealerships and office buildings of today. What were once the lawns of these mansions are now parking lots for state employees. Already, one lot on Cedar Street's east side is graded for parking. Likewise, the Chauncy Harris, or South District, School which once stood at #36 Wadsworth Street, created a similar boundary. Thus, it can be seen that historically, the district has been ringed with differing uses which have created a compact residential core.

The people who lived here within this core of houses were members of an urban middle class created by a burgeoning technology which was reflected in Hartford's rapid growth as a commercial and industrial center. Horace Lord, a senior foreman at Colt's, lived at #53 Wadsworth. His neighbor across the street at #20 was

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hartford City Directories, Hartford: Elihu Geer, various volumes starting 1862.

Trumbull, J. Hammond, Ed., Memorial History of Hartford County, Boston: Edward L. Osgood, 1886, Volume 1.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 23

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	6,9,2	0,5,0	4,6,2	8,0,0	B	1,8	6,9,2	0,2,0	4,6,2	6,0,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C	1,8	6,9,2	0,5,0	4,6,2	8,0,0	D	1,8	6,9,2	0,4,0	4,6,2	6,2,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION 4625-000

See Item 10, No. 1

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

Sarah J. Zimmerman, Researcher

ORGANIZATION

Hartford Architecture Conservancy

STREET & NUMBER

65 Wethersfield Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

Hartford

DATE

1 April 1978

TELEPHONE

(203) 525-0279

STATE

Connecticut 06114

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

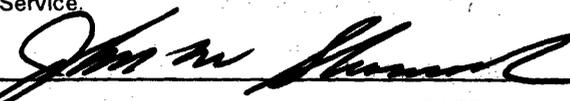
NATIONAL

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

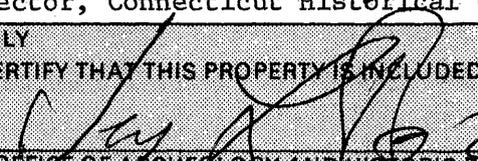


TITLE Director, Connecticut Historical Commission

DATE November 17, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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



DATE

8/4/99

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

5/2/99

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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MAY 4 1979

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Holdridge Primus, a black porter whose wife was a dressmaker. Nearby, on Seymour Street, Hartford mason Henry C. Tryon lived and had his business at #174 and later at #180. Around the corner, at #142 Jefferson Street, Levi Lincoln Felt, a clerk at the Traveler's Insurance Company, was at home in his fashionable new Queen Anne house. They were not wealthy people and their homes reflect this. Though solid and clean-cut, these structures are simple. Often the only ornament is a wooden portico, with its columns and entablature. Perhaps this emphasis on detail near the ground reflects the fact that these houses were built for members of the middle class who might not be able to afford "the works" and preferred to pay for embellishment at eye level rather than three stories up.

After the mid-nineteenth century, the area south of the Little River developed rapidly as dense residential neighborhoods. Jefferson-Seymour was one such residential area. Hartford then, as now, was a conservative city. This climate had a discernible effect on the architectural modes to be found in the Jefferson-Seymour District. The rippling effect of any "new" fashion travels gradually, thus, in the district, these new styles take hold slowly. Older patterns linger and are modified by stylistic innovations. The Greek Revival remained current well into the 1850's and many of the district's Italianate houses retain a Greek Revival massing and symmetry, missing in later Italianate structures. A comparison of #73 Wadsworth with #132 Jefferson reveals this. This tendency renders the arrival of the Levi L. Felt house at #142 Jefferson Street all the more notable.

Writing in 1884, William C. Brocklesby selected the Felt house as one which exemplified both purity of style and legitimacy of ornament, noting that the architect here did not construct ornament but rather ornamented construction.¹ Brocklesby remarks incidentally that the Felt house was only the second house in Hartford to be painted red.² This fact, when combined with the boldness of its design, made this house as unique to the city of Hartford then as it is now.

The Jefferson-Seymour Streets District's boundaries include examples of Greek Revival houses, both wooden and brick, Italianate single, double, and row houses; an outstanding Second Empire house stands at #17 Wadsworth Street and a significant Queen Anne house, the Levi L. Felt residence, is found at #142 Jefferson Street. Such a concentration of styles executed in a consistently high

1. Trumbull, J. Hammond, ed., Memorial History of Hartford County, Boston, Edward L. Osgood, 1886, Volume I, p. 472. 2. Ibid., p. 472.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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CONTINUATION SHEET

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standard of craftsmanship, in a neighborhood which maintains the residential character of its past, is unique to Hartford.

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ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Beginning at the southwest corner of Wadsworth Street and Buckingham Street, the boundary runs south along Wadsworth to its intersection with Park Street, then south along the building line of the east side of Seymour Street until reaching the rear property lines of 76-78 and 82-88 Jefferson Street. Then the boundary runs east to Hudson Street, south to Jefferson Street, then west along Jefferson Street to #146 Jefferson. From there, the boundary runs north and then immediately east along the rear property lines of 146-132 Jefferson to the rear property lines of the west side of Seymour Street, ① west at the rear property line of 297-303 Park Street, ② east to Cedar Street and north on Cedar Street to the intersection of Cedar and Buckingham Streets. The south side of Buckingham Street, from Cedar to Wadsworth, completes the district.

① ... then north to rear property line of 297-303 Park Street,

② ... then north to the south side of Park Street,



416

001

412

004

NOV 27 1976

JEFFERSON-SEYMOUR STREETS DISTRICT

BOUNDARY MAP & PHOTOGRAPH KEY

JEFFERSON STREET

STREET

STREET

009

005

STREET

JOHN STREET

STREET

SEYMOUR STREET

CEPAB

WADSWORTH

PAR

3

3

12

001

002

11

12

13

14

15

003

2

010

9

25

**Jefferson-Seymour
Streets District**

Hartford, CT
1" = 200'

Key
— National Register
Boundary

Evaluation of Buildings
of Architectural
Merit By
Hartford Architecture
Conservancy Survey

- Outstanding 1
- Best 2
- Better 3
- Good 4
- Built after 1930 5

- Age**
- Before 1830 A
 - 1830-1850 B
 - 1850-1869 C
 - 1869-1880 D
 - 1880-1896 E
 - 1896-1909 F
 - 1909-1930 G
 - After 1930 H
 - 1945-1977 I

■ = Intrusions

↑ North

