

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES**

HIST-6 NEW 5 77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT	IF NR SPECIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

#8

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) <i>(Historic)</i> Norfolk Downs Shelter		Norfolk Downs Shelter	
2. TOWN CITY Norfolk	VILLAGE	COUNTY Litchfield	
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location) Golf Road, west side			
4. OWNER(S) Edward C. & Elizabeth C. Childs, Windrow Road, Norfolk, CT 06058 <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private			
5. USE (Present) <i>(Historic)</i> None Clubhouse for golf course			
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:	EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD	INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE	IF YES, EXPLAIN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING Rustic		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1907	
8. MATERIAL(S) <i>(Indicate use or location when appropriate)</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Brick	<input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>(Specify)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone, rubble	
<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 type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> balloon	
<input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry		<input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>(Specify)</i>	_____		
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <i>(Specify)</i> Octagonal cone
<i>(Material)</i>			
<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 <i>(Specify)</i>
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 1 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 60' x 60'			
12. CONDITION <i>(Structural)</i> <i>(Exterior)</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY <i>(Location)</i> <i>(Alterations)</i> <i>(When?)</i> <i>(If Yes, Explain)</i>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES N/A			
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Garage	<input type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings <i>(Specify)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house	<input type="checkbox"/> Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Garden	
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open land	<input type="checkbox"/> Woodland	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input 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			

The golf course for which this building was once a shelter is now open land and woodland.

(OVER)

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The eightsided conical roof of the central section of this low building and its two projecting wings make an effective design for a golf course-related structure. There is a chimney and large fireplace. Other interior fittings of the building no longer are in place. Openings in at least the north side were once glazed. The Shelter is approached by wide stone steps leading to a paved terrace on the south side of the building. The chimney and fireplace are on the north side. The roof overhang is supported by round, undressed rafters, and the pointed roof is framed with similar members.

18 ARCHITECT

A.S.G. Taylor

BUILDER

Unknown

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

In 1897, the Misses Eldridge built a nine-hole golf course called the Norfolk Downs for the benefit of the town. In 1906, Taylor drew plans for the Shelter, and in 1907 it was in use. As the Misses Eldredge did not countenance playing golf on Sunday, the Norfolk Country Club, another nine-hole course, was in time organized next door. Efforts to join the two into a single 18-hole course never came to fruition, and Norfolk Downs fell into disuse.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Shelter is similar to the Dennis Pavilion. Over the years, the Dennis Pavilion has been widely known and admired as a Taylor design. Because of the similarity, it seemed likely that Taylor also drew plans for the Shelter, but there was no evidence and no date of construction was known. Recently, research by the Norfolk Historical Society has established the date and the architect. It is of considerable interest that the Shelter (1907) predates the Dennis Pavilion (1909). The plans are nearly identical. The Pavilion is more ambitious, on a larger scale, built with granite instead of rubble stone, with a bigger, higher chimney, a bigger, higher-pointed octagonal roof, and a porte cochere.

SOURCES

Newspaper clippings, 1906 and 1907, from the Winsted Citizen, in scrapbook at the Norfolk Library.

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER

D. Ransom

DATE

October 1978

VIEW

Northwest

NEGATIVE ON FILE

Conn. Historical Commission

Place

COMPILED BY

NAME

D. Ransom

DATE

Nov. 2, 1978

Photograph

ORGANIZATION

Connecticut Historical Commission

Here

ADDRESS

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT 06106

20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

Verbal boundary description: The Shelter is on a large tract of privately-owned land. UTM Reference: 18/647780/4649000. ~~Less than one acre~~, surrounding the structure, is included in the nomination. ↪ 1/2 ACRE SQUARE

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

- None known.
 Highways
 Vandalism
 Developers
 Other _____
 Renewal
 Private
 Deterioration
 Zoning
 Explanation _____