

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name _____
other names/site number Pequot Colony Historic District

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Gardner, Glenwood, Montauk not for publication
city, town New London & Pequot Avenues vicinity
state Connecticut code CT county New London code 011 zip code 06320

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>91</u>	<u>25</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		<u>1</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		<u>0</u> objects
		<u>92</u>	<u>26</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] October 25, 1988
Signature of certifying official Date
Director, Connecticut Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

[Signature] 12/1/88
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling
Domestic/multiple dwelling
Domestic/secondary structure
Religion/religious structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling
Domestic/multiple dwelling
Domestic/secondary structure
Religion/religious structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Mid-19th Century
Late Victorian
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Shingle
Weatherboard
roof Asphalt
other Porches: Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Pequot Colony Historic District is located approximately three miles south of the downtown section of New London on roughly 39 acres along the western shore at the mouth of the Thames River. There are 77 principal buildings in the district, including 61 contributing buildings, and 39 outbuildings, of which 29 contribute to the themes of the district. Mid-19th century, late Victorian, and 20th-century revival styles predominate in the district.

The eastern boundary is the river; the land rises gently to the west, with three major areas of historic building concentration defining the other district boundaries. The southern prong of the district is bounded by Glenwood Avenue and Montauk Avenue. The middle prong includes Chapel Drive, Montauk Avenue, and Lower Boulevard. The northernmost area is defined by Montauk Avenue and Gardner Avenue. Montauk Avenue runs in a north-south direction through the center of the district. All the streets mentioned above run perpendicular to Montauk Avenue in an east-west orientation (See Figure #1).

The eastern side of Pequot Avenue, which runs south along the Thames River, is almost entirely undeveloped and offers a panoramic view of the mouth of the river where the Thames opens into the Long Island Sound (Photograph #1). The expansive lawns and deep setbacks give the houses on the western side of Pequot Avenue commanding views. The magnificent scenery is matched by the massiveness of these houses, some of which represent high-style versions of architectural styles found elsewhere throughout the district; others are unique examples of their style in the city. Even the non-contributing Ranch-style dwellings on the northern end of Pequot Avenue have deep setbacks and low profiles which do not intrude on the scenic and historic setting. A variety of landscape features, including designed landscapes, street layout, fences, hedges, granite posts, and the ruins of a granite wharf are important design elements in the district.

The contributing buildings on Pequot Avenue dominate the western side of the street. The large Italianate dwelling at 563 Pequot Avenue, c.1864, underwent substantial alterations in the late 1880s, with massive chimneys, oriels, and a one-story rear addition heavily influenced by the Queen Anne style. The carefully designed landscape also dates from this period (Photograph #2). The size and setting of the Stick-style cottage at 597 Pequot Avenue, c.1875, keep the building from being completely overshadowed by the adjacent Georgian Revival mansion at 605 Pequot Avenue, built in 1923 (Photograph #3). The palladian plan of this brick mansion is accentuated by the imposing two-story

See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Architecture

Period of Significance

1852 - 1929

1852 - 1938

Significant Dates

N/A

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Foster, Frank J.

Jackson, Arthur W.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. The Pequot Colony Historic District, active between 1852 and 1930, is historically significant as one of the most prominent summer resort communities on the Connecticut shore. Residents and guests of the Pequot Colony included members of the diplomatic corps, distinguished Northeastern families and their employees, two 19th-century presidents, and a Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. In the early 20th century, the Pequot Colony began to undergo residential development for year-round occupancy, both by prominent local residents and by families who were employed on the larger estates. The Pequot Colony Historic District has a well-preserved collection of 19th-century resort architecture, including good examples of Italianate, Second Empire, and Gothic Revival buildings, and some of the finest examples of 20th-century Revival styles in New London. The dwellings and affiliated buildings include the work of famous architects and their employees, including James Renwick and Frank Forster, and the work of capable local builders and architects. The surviving landscape design of at least one dwelling is the work of the distinguished firm, Olmsted Brothers.

Historical Background

The southern end of New London was used primarily as farmland in the first two centuries following the founding of the city. In 1852, the same year the shoreline railroad connecting New London to New York was completed, two local businessmen purchased 35 acres of the Harbor's Mouth Farm and erected the Pequot House, a large public hotel, on the northwest corner of Pequot and Glenwood Avenues with 1000 feet of beach frontage. Their managerial skills were lacking, and the following year some local entrepreneurs formed the Pequot Hotel Corporation, taking over the ownership and management of the hotel. One of the company's first actions was the appointment of Henry S. Crocker as manager of the hotel. His ties with the Pequot House endured for more than two decades as he eventually assumed financial responsibilities for the property. During his tenure, eight rental cottages were constructed and the hotel underwent several additions. Including the cottages, the Pequot House could house 600 guests.

As the Pequot's reputation as a summer resort grew, families of great wealth and social position who were associated with the industrial growth of the United States during the 19th and early 20th centuries began to visit; many returned, either as guests or to build their own summer cottages. The New York Yacht Club erected a one-room club house at the foot of Gardner Avenue (no longer extant). Members of the diplomatic corps and prominent politicians frequented the Pequot. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Edward

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

American Architect, Vol. 130, No.2500. July 5, 1926.

Architectural Record, Vol. 67, No. 2; pp.121-127 "A House for Theodore Bodenweiser (sic)"

Caulkins, Frances M. History of New London, Connecticut. New London, Connecticut: H.D. Utley, 1895.

Decker, Robert Owen. The Whaling City. Chester, Connecticut: The Pequot Press, 1976.

"Diary of Mary Alice Townsend Sackett," New London, 1892. Photocopy of manuscript in possession of Belle Schenk estate, New London, Connecticut.

Junior League of Greenwich. The Great Estates. Greenwich, Connecticut, 1986.

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

Acreeage of property 39, approximately

UTM References

A 19 | 743700 | 4578500
 Zone Easting Northing

C 19 | 743060 | 4578710

B 19 | 743700 | 4578870
 Zone Easting Northing

D 19 | 743200 | 4578400

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See Figure #1 (Map)

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The Pequot Colony Historic District is located within a suburban section of New London which has been undergoing intensive residential development since the second World War. Modern intrusions in the area help define the outlying edges of the district by virtue of the jarring contrast between the structures located inside the district and those outside of it. See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Reviewed by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator

name/title Sharon P. Churchill, Executive Director

organization New London Landmarks, Inc.

street & number P. O. Box 1134

city or town New London

date May 1988

telephone 203-442-0003

state Connecticut zip code 06320

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Chapel Drive: 17, 25, 28, 29, 34, 35-39, 38, 43, 49, 57, 65

Crocker Street: 2-3, 5

Gardner Avenue: 15, 36, 48, 54, 89, 91, 92, 95, 98

Glenwood Avenue: 19, 31, 38, 39, 48, 51

Hall Avenue: 10, 35, 51

Harbor Lane: 6, unnumbered

Lower Boulevard: 12, 13, 31, 34, 39, 41, 47-51, fire station

Montauk Avenue: 745, 747, 753, 761, 767, 771, 791, 796, 801, 802, 803, 806,
810, 825, 835, 839, 840, 842, 843, 846, 851, 857, 883, 891, 899

Pequot Avenue: 535, 541, 545, 551, 560, 563, 570, 591, 597, 605, 625,
unnumbered

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semi-circular portico with six Ionic columns. The formal landscape design, with parterres, mature foundation plantings, and privet hedge bordering the streets, is the work of Olmsted Brothers. The landscape complements the classical motif of the house and the whole property provides a foil for the 1928 eclectic dwelling at 625 Pequot Avenue. This house, a composite of French Norman farmhouse designs, occupies the entire block between Chapel Drive and Glenwood Avenue, and uses brick, fieldstone, stucco, and half-timbering to create a rustic veneer on a very sophisticated building (Photograph #4).

A number of 19th-century cottage styles are represented in the district, indicating the rapid development of this area from the 1860s through the 1890s. These buildings are all frame; many have one- and two-story porches which wrap two or three sides of the building, typical of resort cottage architecture in the late-19th century. Italianate, Second Empire, and Gothic Revival styles predominate (Photograph #5, #25). Five adjacent buildings, from 835 to 857 Montauk Avenue, were built between 1872 and 1884; one house is actually an updated Greek Revival dwelling, raised one story and remodeled in 1879. The Gothic Revival Pequot Chapel (1872) at 857 Montauk Avenue, with board and batten siding and two windows signed by Tiffany Glassworks, Inc., has remained essentially unchanged for the last century (Photograph #6). The remarkable cottage next door at 851 Montauk Avenue (1876), with elaborate two-story porches, is an outstanding example of its period, imparting the flavor of the historic seasonal use and recreational nature of much of the district (Photograph #7).

More modest late-19th and early 20th-century buildings and American Foursquare dwellings are clustered along Lower Boulevard and the northern stretch of Montauk Avenue. These buildings, which retain much of their architectural integrity, represent the homes and social facilities of employees who worked on the large estates, the barns, and the carriage houses which were an integral part of the colony (Photographs #13, #14, #16, #24).

Some fine examples of Colonial Revival architecture are located on Glenwood Avenue and Montauk Avenue. All the contributing buildings on Glenwood Avenue are built in this style; 39 and 51 Glenwood Avenue are particularly noteworthy (Photographs #8, #9, #10). There is a strong visual connection between 51 Glenwood Avenue and the three houses on the opposite corner of Glenwood and Montauk Avenues. The three, which are nearly identical in massing and scale, represent Gothic Revival, Colonial Revival, and Shingle styles (Photograph #11).

The early 20th-century architecture found in the district is primarily revival-style in inspiration. When the large estates were subdivided, Dutch Colonial Revival, Colonial Revival, and Tudor Revival dwellings were built on the newly created lots along Montauk and Gardner Avenues and on the south side of Chapel Drive (Photographs #12, #13). Several examples of American Foursquare residential buildings and a good example of the Bungalow style are also found here (Photographs #14, #15).

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INVENTORY

Address Contributing (C) Style, Use, Date, Builder/Architect (if known)
Non-Contributing (NC)

Chapel Drive

17	C	French Second Empire cottage, 1878 (Photograph #5)
25	C	Italianate cottage, c.1860, aluminum siding, porch removed
28	NC	Colonial Revival/Moderne dwelling, c.1954
29	C	Italianate cottage, c.1860, porches replaced (Photograph #19)
34	NC	Ranch dwelling, c.1955; garage, (NC)
35-39	C	Italianate cottage triplex, c.1865; Colonial Revival porches (Photograph #19)
38	C	Colonial Revival dwelling, c.1928
43	C	Late 19th-century vernacular cottage, 1871; portion of porch removed, roofline altered, Lewis Crandall, builder (attributed) garage attached in rear (C)
49	C	Italianate cottage, 1875; Lewis Crandall, builder; garage (C)
57	C	Italianate cottage, 1875; Lewis Crandall, builder; garage (C)
65	C	Dutch Colonial Revival dwelling, 1926; Robert Tetrault, builder; garage (C) (Photograph #12)

Crocker Street

2-4	C	19th-century vernacular barn, c.1880; converted to dwelling, c.1920
5	C	19th-century vernacular stable, c.1890; converted to dwelling, c.1920

Gardner Avenue

15	C	French Second Empire dwelling, c.1877; side porch enclosed, front porch roof removed, finials removed, dormer altered
36	C	Gothic Revival cottage, 1863, moved to site 1881; side addition (Photograph #25)
48	NC	Colonial Revival dwelling, c.1948; garage (NC)
54	C	Italianate dwelling, 1876, with Colonial Revival addition and porches
89	C	Colonial Revival dwelling, 1938, aluminum siding; garage (NC) (Photograph #18)

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Address	Contributing (C) Non-Contributing (NC)	Style, Use, Date, Builder/Architect (if known)
<u>Gardner Avenue</u>		
91	C	American Foursquare dwelling, c.1896; porch replaced, aluminum siding (Photograph #18)
92	C	20th century vernacular dwelling with Colonial Revival features, 1936; garage, (C)
95	C	French Second Empire cottage, c.1872; moved to site 1893. Rear addition and garage, c.1984 (NC) (Photograph #18)
98	C	Dutch Colonial Revival dwelling, 1925
<u>Glenwood Avenue</u>		
19	C	Colonial Revival dwelling, 1929; A. Graham Creighton, architect; H.R. Douglas and Son, builder
31	NC	Brick ranch-style dwelling, 1951
38	C	Colonial Revival dwelling, 1930 (Photograph #10)
39	C	Colonial Revival dwelling, 1929; H.R. Douglas and Son, builder (Photograph #8)
48	C	Colonial Revival dwelling, 1926, garage (C) (Photograph #10)
51	C	Colonial Revival dwelling with Craftsman detailing in roofline, c.1896; Eugene T. Kirkland, architect Two-bay shingled garage (C) (Photograph #9)
<u>Hall Avenue</u>		
10	C	Italianate cottage, 1872; Lewis Crandall, builder
35	C	French Second Empire bowling alley, c.1866, moved to site, 1872; Lewis Crandall, builder (for move); converted to dwelling. 20th-century vernacular garage, (NC) (Photograph #20)
51	C	French Second Empire cottage, 1872; Lewis Crandall, builder (Photograph #21)
<u>Harbor Lane</u>		
6	C	19th-century French Second Empire carriage house, c.1870 (Photograph #22)
unnumbered	C	19th-century barn, c.1870

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Address Contributing (C) Style, Use, Date, Builder/Architect (if known)
Non-Contributing (NC)

Lower Boulevard

12	NC	Raised-ranch style dwelling, c.1965
13	C	Gothic Revival barn, c.1870 (Photograph #16)
31	C	20th-century vernacular dwelling, 1902, garage (C)
34	C	19th century vernacular dwelling, moved to site and remodelled c.1895
39	NC	20th century vernacular dwelling, 1954
41	C	Bungalow dwelling, 1931, garage (C) (Photograph #15)
47-51	C	Second Empire carriage house with crenellated tower c.1890, converted to dwelling c.1930.
unnumbered	NC	Brick fire station, 1976

Montauk Avenue

745	C	Late 19th-century vernacular carriage house, moved to site, 1905; converted to dwelling c.1920
747	C	Folk Victorian dwelling, 1894, Clarence Caulkins, builder; vernacular barn (C); shingled stable (C) (Photograph #24)
753	NC	Colonial Revival dwelling, c.1965
761	C	Colonial Revival dwelling, 1903 (Photograph #23)
767	C	Colonial Revival dwelling, 1911; Eugene T. Kirkland, architect; garage (C (Photograph #23)
771	C	Dutch Colonial Revival dwelling, 1919; garage (C)
791	NC	Ranch-style dwelling, c.1960
796	C	20th-century Folk dwelling, 1904; garage (C) (Photograph #13)
801	C	American Foursquare dwelling, 1905; garage(C) (Photograph #14)
802	C	Tudor Revival dwelling, c.1938; garage (C) (Photograph #13)
803	C	American Foursquare dwelling, 1906; garage (C) (Photograph #14)
806	C	Gothic Revival cottage, 1875, moved to site, c.1901; garage (C) (Photograph #17)
810	C	Second Empire cottage, 1875, moved to site 1899; garage (C)
825	C	Late 19th-century Folk Victorian commercial building with apartments, 1894
835	C	Italianate dwelling, 1884
839	C	Italianate dwelling, 1884; garage (C)

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Address Contributing (C) Style, Use, Date, Builder/Architect (if known)
Non-Contributing (NC)

Montauk Avenue

840	C	Dutch Colonial Revival dwelling, 1926; Robert Tetreault, builder; garage (C)
842	C	Dutch Colonial Revival dwelling, 1926; Robert Tetreault, builder; garage (C) (Photograph #)
843	C	Greek Revival dwelling with Folk Victorian alterations, moved to site c.1879; Bishop Company, builders (c.1879 alterations)
846	C	Colonial Revival dwelling, 1928; Robert Tetreault, builder; garage (C) (Photograph #)
851	C	Folk Victorian cottage, 1876; Bishop Company, architects and builders; garage (C) (Photograph #7)
857	C	Gothic Revival chapel, 1872, with two Tiffany windows; James Renwick, architect (attributed); wrought iron fence (Photograph #6)
883	C	Gothic Revival cottage, 1876; Bishop Company, builders; garage (C)
891	C	Gothic Revival cottage, 1876, substantially altered into a Colonial Revival dwelling, c.1900; Bishop Company, builders (1876); James Duffy architect (c.1900 alterations); garage (C) (Photograph #11)
899	C	Queen Anne cottage, 1875, substantially altered into a Shingle-style dwelling with Colonial Revival details, c.1900; garage (C) (Photograph #11)

Pequot Avenue

535	NC	Ranch dwelling, 1960; garage (NC)
541	NC	Ranch dwelling, 1954; garage (NC)
545	NC	Ranch dwelling, 1954; garage (NC)
551	NC	Ranch dwelling, 1953; garage (NC)
560	NC	Contemporary dwelling, 1983
563	C	Italianate dwelling, c.1864; carriage house (C); brick greenhouse, glass removed (C) (Photograph #2)
570	NC	Contemporary dwelling, 1971
591	C	Second Empire cottage, c.1867, with contemporary additions
597	C	Stick-style cottage, 1874; garage attached to house (NC) (Photograph #3)
605	C	Georgian Revival dwelling, 1923; Arthur W. Jackson, architect; Landscape design by the firm of Frederick Law Olmsted; utility shed (C) (Photograph #3)

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Address Contributing (C) Style, Use, Date, Builder/Architect (if known)
 Non-Contributing (NC)

Pequot Avenue

625	C	Brick and fieldstone dwelling is variant of vernacular French Norman farmhouse designs, 1928; Frank J. Forster, architect (Photograph #4)
unnumbered	NC	Granite pump-station, c.1975
unnumbered	C	Remains of granite wharf (Photograph #1)

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Douglass White, President Ulysses S. Grant, and ex-president Chester A. Arthur spent time at the Pequot. The exclusive social atmosphere of the Pequot Colony was reinforced with the formation of the private Pequot Casino Association in 1890.

In 1872, Henry Scudder Crocker donated land on Montauk Avenue between Glenwood Avenue and Lower Boulevard for the erection of a non-sectarian chapel for summer residents (Photograph #6). The Pequot Chapel and a series of Folk Victorian cottages define the perimeter of the guest area of the hotel, effectively separating it from the service area to the west and north. The stables for the hotel and the large private cottages were located along Lower Boulevard (Photograph #16). The 1894 Montauk Hotel on the corner of Lower Boulevard was used by the employees of the Pequot House and the larger homes, who were not welcomed in the resort hotel, and provided affordable vacations for working-class families who wished to experience the pleasures of a seaside resort.

By the turn of the century, a working-class neighborhood was developing along Montauk Avenue. Opened in 1889, the avenue provided an inland corridor from the Pequot Colony into New London proper, which became even more accessible with the laying of the trolley tracks along Montauk Avenue in 1893. The employees of the large estates, the Pequot House, and the Pequot Casino took this opportunity to purchase land for their own homes and establish permanent residences, which provided increased autonomy and consistent schooling for their children (Photograph #24). Many of the summer rental cottages were relocated to sites north of Lower Boulevard and used as year-round residences, including 806 and 810 Montauk Avenue, and 95 Gardner Avenue (Photographs #17, #18). Others built new homes, including 91 Gardner Avenue and 803 Montauk Avenue (Photographs #14, #18). The community which evolved was a cohesive one. The small numbers and relative isolation from town occasionally brought the two social elements together for mutual benefit.

The decline of the Pequot Colony as an important summer resort can be attributed to several factors. A major fire in 1908 completely destroyed the Pequot House and one cottage and damaged 13 others. Prohibition contributed to the decline of social activities of the colony. The drastic reversals of family fortunes for many after 1929 forestalled any efforts to revive the Pequot Colony as a socially prominent resort.

As the larger estates were increasingly left vacant for the summer season, two men came to the fore. Waldo E. Clarke put through Quinnepeag Avenue and divided many of the larger estates for development, often building houses for resale. Ernest Rogers was president of the Winthrop Trust Company from 1922 until his death in 1945. He was instrumental in dividing and selling the former Pequot Hotel Corporation holdings in the 1920s and 1930s. In 1923, he built a magnificent Georgian Revival house overlooking the Thames River at 605 Pequot Avenue (Photograph #3). Rogers served as State Treasurer and Lieutenant Governor but lost the gubernatorial election to Wilbur Cross in 1931.

The natural scenery which inspired the initial development of the Pequot Colony continued to attract both homeowners and speculators. In 1928, Theodore Bodenwein, owner and publisher of The Day, the major local newspaper, and his wife built their home on the grounds of the Pequot House (Photograph #4). Robert Tetreault, a local builder, erected four Colonial Revival homes on the site of a former estate in 1926 (Photograph #12). The Colonial Revival houses on Glenwood Avenue and at 38 Chapel Drive were the results of speculative development by Clarke and Rogers (Photograph #10). The children of the various estate employees also settled here, building their modest yet stylish homes in the neighborhood (Photographs #13, #15).

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Architectural Significance

The Pequot Colony Historic District contains a cohesive grouping of late 19th- and early 20th-century buildings which illustrates both resort cottage architecture and domestic architectural styles. Within the district are examples of high-style architecture unsurpassed in the city, a concentration of well-designed Colonial Revival houses, and a collection of fanciful cottages, modest in scale, but with a wealth of original decorative detail, indicative of the craftsmanship which local builders exercised in their construction.

The rental cottages built for the Pequot House or near the hotel are typical of 19th-century resort architecture. Lack of adherence to usual building design suggests the recreational nature of these cottages. Expansive porches which often wrap two or three sides of a cottage are evidence of the extensive use of these exterior spaces in temperate weather. 851 Montauk Avenue is perhaps the best extant example of this informal resort style in the Pequot Colony (Photograph #7).

The 1872 Pequot Chapel at 857 Montauk Avenue is a fine example of the Carpenter Gothic Revival style espoused by Alexander Jackson Downing, utilizing varying texture and color to enrich the building (Photograph #6). Its design has been attributed to James Renwick. The buttresses in the rear of the building emphasize the Gothic tradition. The board-and-batten construction stresses the rustic application of this style. The domestic version of Gothic Revival in the Pequot Colony is well illustrated by 806 Montauk Avenue (Photograph #17).

Lewis Crandall, self-described master carpenter and builder, converted 35 Hall Avenue from a bowling alley into a cottage and built at least five other cottages on Hall Avenue and Chapel Drive in both Italianate and Second Empire styles (Photograph #20). The cottages at 51 Hall Avenue, 810 Montauk Avenue, and 17 Chapel Drive are all well-preserved examples of Second Empire cottage design, with slight variations in the treatment of the square engaged towers, porches wrapping the houses, and round-headed dormer windows in the mansard roofs (Photographs #5, #21). The late-19th-century cottages and associated outbuildings built by the wealthy summer residents convey the more substantial nature of these dwellings (Photograph #2, #22).

The houses built at the turn of the century continued to employ high levels of design. Eugene Kirkland, an architect who worked for James Renwick, designed 51 Glenwood Avenue and 767 Montauk Avenue 15 years apart (1894, 1911) (Photographs #9, #23). The 1875 Gothic Revival cottage at 891 Montauk Avenue was altered in 1900 into a Colonial Revival dwelling by local architect James Duffy (Photograph #11). A local building firm, H.R. Douglas and Son, demonstrated mastery of the Colonial Revival style with the construction of 19 and 39 Glenwood Avenue in 1929 (Photograph #8).

The Ernest Rogers house at 605 Pequot Avenue is one of the finest examples of the Georgian Revival style in the city (Photograph #3). Designed by Arthur W. Jackson and built in 1923, the house is replete with both subtle and overt classical details which are well integrated into the overall design. The imposing two-story semi-circular Ionic portico conveys a powerful statement of permanence and prominence. The landscape design, which is well-preserved, is the work of the Olmsted Brothers firm. Equally outstanding is the 1928 home of Theodore Bodenwein at 625 Pequot Avenue, which dominates the opposite corner of Chapel Drive from the Rogers house (Photograph #4). The design is the work of

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Frank J. Forster and is based on vernacular French-Norman farmhouse styles. Use of half-timbering, stone, brick and stucco, and steeply pitched roofs with narrow dormers is found in Quarry Farm in Greenwich, which Forster designed a year later in a similar style. The cohesive architectural and landscape designs are not overwhelmed by the scenic beauty of the site, but effectively complement the natural setting.

Contemporaneous dwellings of working class families drew inspiration from the more illustrious residences in the Pequot Colony. Shingles, a common siding material in seaside communities, were used extensively on the Colonial Revival houses rather than the more traditional clapboard siding. The houses at 41 Lower Boulevard and 802 Montauk Avenue are subdued in their use of ornamentation, but demonstrate a stylish flair and good design (Photograph #15, #13). Use of Tudor Revival in the modest but well-executed house at 802 Montauk Avenue is unusual in the city, since the style was often used for more elaborate dwellings.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Pequot Colony Historic District, New London, Connecticut

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UTM References

Pequot Colony Historic District
New London, Connecticut

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Boundary Justification, Continued

The Pequot Colony Historic District is located within a suburban section of New London which has been undergoing intensive residential development since the second World War. Modern intrusions in the area help define the outlying edges of the district by virtue of the jarring contrast between the structures located inside the district and those outside of it. The result of newer development is an irregular district which has three prongs running west on Glenwood and Gardner Avenues and Chapel Drive. The inverse spaces of these prongs and the area immediately north and south of the district contain structures resulting from post-1940 subdivisions of former estates. With few exceptions, the structures surrounding the district boundaries are decidedly modern in appearance, including contemporary, split-level, and Ranch-style dwellings. Because of the modern development, it was impossible to stretch the district boundaries to include a few period buildings which were part of the Pequot Colony and still retain a sense of credibility in the district. The shoreline is highly developed to the north and south of the district.

Pequot Colony Historic District
New London, Connecticut
Figure #1
Photo Key ○

District Boundary 

Scale: 1" = 300'

Thames River

