

PH0000728

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Connecticut	
COUNTY: New London	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 90-10-09-0030	DATE 10/15/80

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
(Captain Richard) Charlton House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
12 Mediterranean Lane

CITY OR TOWN:  
Norwichtown

STATE Connecticut	CODE 06360	COUNTY: New London	CODE 011
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Mrs. Ozias Dodge

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Mediterranean Lane

CITY OR TOWN:  
Norwichtown

STATE:  
Connecticut

CODE:  
06

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Norwich

STATE:  
Connecticut

CODE:  
06

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: (1) Historic American Buildings Survey  
(2) Connecticut Historic Structures and Landmarks Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: (1) 1960 (2) 1968  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: (1) Library of Congress  
(2) Connecticut Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
(2) 75 Elm Street

CITY OR TOWN: (1) Washington, D.C.  
(2) Hartford

STATE:  
Connecticut

CODE:  
06

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COUNTY: New London  
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(restored) (Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is situated on a steep hillside on the northeast side of Mediterranean Lane. The hillside is terraced with stone walls and the walks to the entrance and around the house are stone, among the stones used in the walks are several old mill stones. The gardens are informal but elaborate.<sup>1</sup>

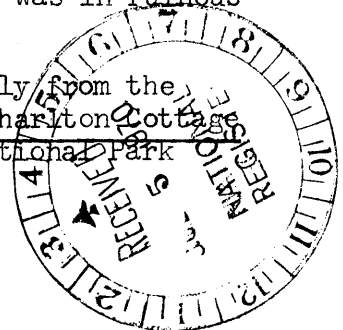
The building is small, 18' x 29', five bays wide and one and one half stories high. The foundations are stone of the local gneiss which is rough-cut. The frame of the house is of chesnut and oak and is sheathed with clapboards. The stoops are also of rough cut stone. There is one large central chimney.

The front and side doors are panel doors with two vertical panels. The front door has four sidelights on each side which have been restored with old bulls-eye glass. Four simple, flat pilasters enframe the front door and sidelights. The windows have six light sash over six light and are double hung. The roof is a gable roof which is shingled. The eave is closed with a fascia and there is no roof projection. The floor plan is of the central chimney type with the living room (originally the kitchen) on the southwest and a bedroom and small modern kitchen on the northeast. The living room floor slants slightly to the door to facilitate floor washing. There is a steep open stairway without a handrail against the chimney near the entrance. The flooring consists of wide pine boards. Walls have been restored with vertical boarding with feather molded edges. The doors are modern reproductions and their moldings are plain. Some of the hardware is old and made of wrought iron, some of the hardware is original.

The house is heated with two fireplaces and an oil stove. The brick fireplaces are very shallow and have plastered faces painted red in the manner typical of Norwich fireplaces. Left of the fireplace is an oven, oval in plan with a domed roof.

The original house was probably built as a seaman's hideaway for Captain Richard Charlton who died in 1757. The house in its present form was built by his son Samuel Charlton. Its probable date of erection is prior to 1812 in the last quarter of the eighteenth century. The heavy timber frame has unused mortises indicating that it was probably from an earlier building and dismantled and reused in this house. The present occupant, Raymond B. Case, has lived in the house for twenty-five years and has extensively restored and refurnished it. The building was in ruinous condition when he started work on it.

<sup>1</sup> Most of the facts of this account are taken directly from the Historic American Buildings Survey Sheets on the Charlton Cottage compiled by Osmund R. Overby, Architect for the National Park Service in October 1960 (HABS No. CONN-246).



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**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Prior to 1812, last quarter 18th century.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

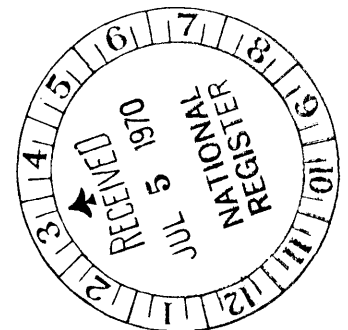
- |  |                                      |   |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | osophy                                  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house has architectural interest as a carefully restored example of a small frame cottage built about 1800. The historical interest of the cottage lies in its being at least the location if not the original cottage of a sea captain active in the commercial imperialism of the pre-revolutionary period: Captain Richard Charlton was killed in the capture of Havanna in 1757.

But the cottage has also a social significance which is contemporary. It represents the effort of a single individual to restore and recreate an authentic sea captain's cottage. Memorabilia of the sailor's life in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century fill the walls. These include a written guarantee of the privileges of a Nantucket man, harpoons, and at least one painted wooden figure head. Also among the furnishings are souvenirs from the orient which appear in various parts of the house. Just as every attempt to provide an historical perspective is an act of creation as well as documentation so also is this house an artifact, a product of the careful restoration and imaginative recreation by its long-time tenant, Mr. Case.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Ada R. Chase, "History in towns: Norwich, Connecticut, " Antiques, June 1961, pp. 560 - 565.

Interviews with Raymond B. Case, 12 Mediterranean Lane, Norwich, Conn.

HABS No. CONN - 246 prepared by Osmund R. Overby, Architect.

Marian K. O'Keefe and Catherine Smith Doroshevich, Norwich Historic Homes and Families. Stonington Connecticut: The Pequot Press, Inc. 1967.

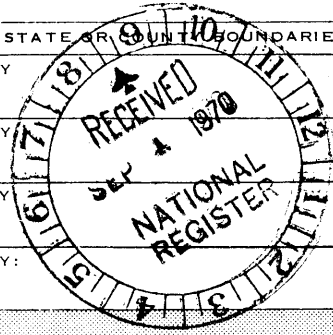
**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		41° 32' 55"	72° 05' 55"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Constance Luyster, Administrative Trainee

ORGANIZATION: Connecticut Historical Commission DATE: June 1, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:  
75 Elm Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hartford STATE: Connecticut CODE: 06

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name [Signature]  
State liaison officer and chairman  
Title Connecticut Historical Commission  
Date June 1, 1970

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

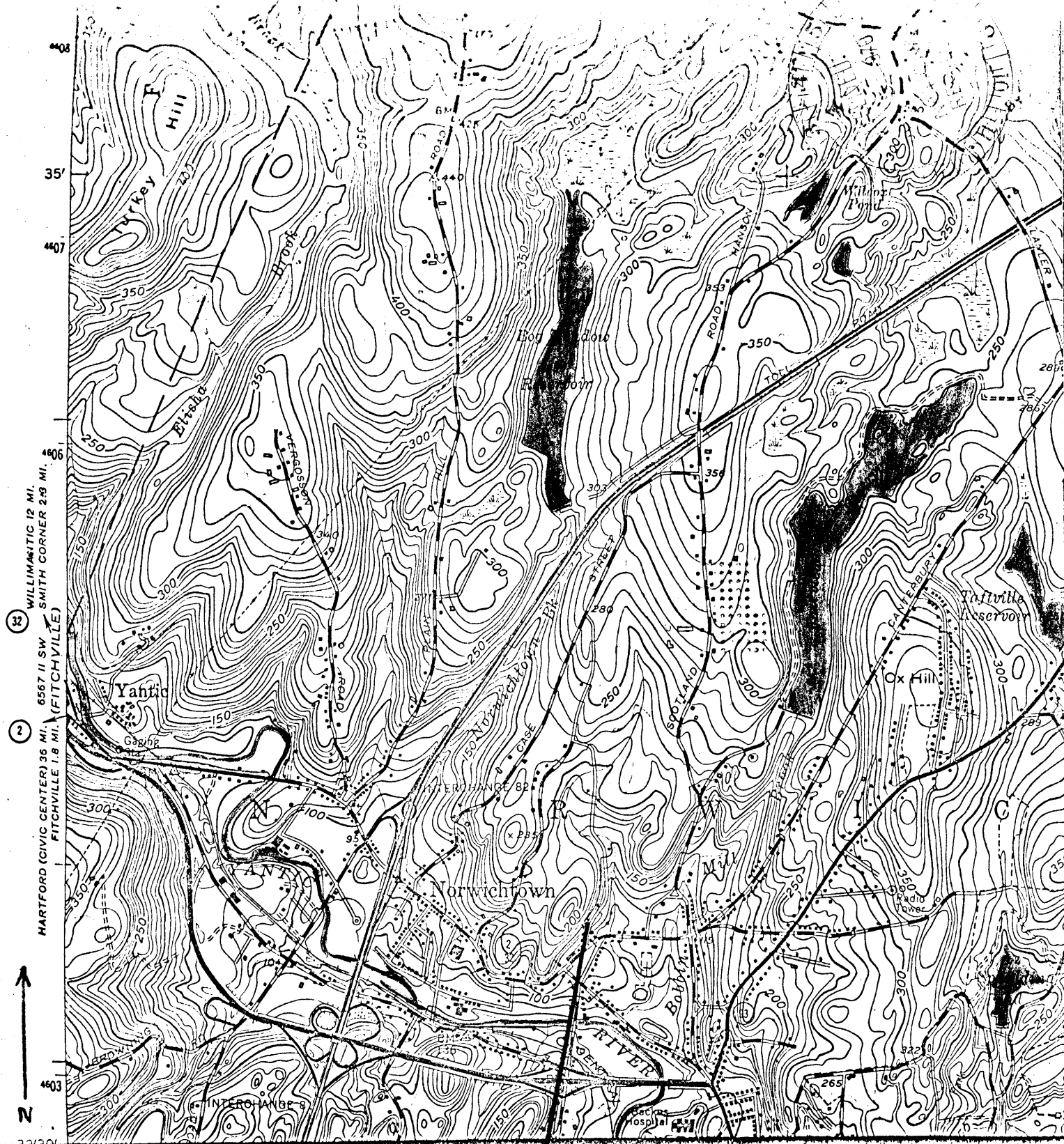
[Signature]  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date OCT 15 1970

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date Sept 28, 1970

SEP 28 1970



Captain Richard Carlton House

Latitude  $41^{\circ} 32' 55''$

Longitude  $77^{\circ} 05' 55''$