

PH0000540

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: CONNECTICUT	
COUNTY: HARTFORD	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-10.06.0005	DATE 10/6/70

1. NAME

COMMON:
Harriet Beecher Stowe House

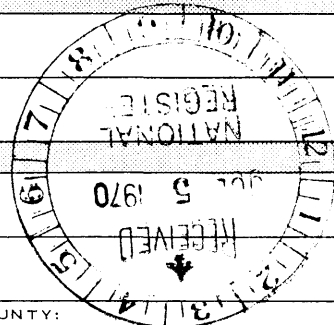
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Stowe House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
73 Forest Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Hartford

STATE: **Connecticut** CODE: **06** COUNTY: **Hartford** CODE: **003**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Yes:	Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Stowe-Day Library & Foundation

STREET AND NUMBER:
77 Forest Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Hartford** STATE: **Connecticut** CODE: **06**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Municipal Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
550 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Hartford** STATE: **Connecticut** CODE: **06**

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Connecticut Historic Structures & Landmarks Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: **1969** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Connecticut Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
75 Elm Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Hartford** STATE: **Connecticut** CODE: **06**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

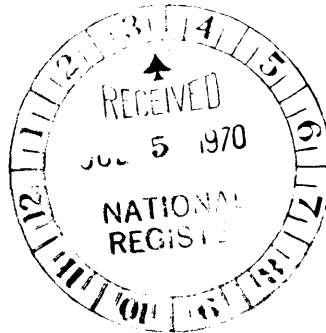
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Architecturally, the Stowe House is a fine example of the Gothic cottage suggestive of the romantic villas made popular by Andrew J. Downing and Calvert Vaux. The house derives its aesthetic merit from the dramatic placement of its architectural details and a nice sense of proportion. Two bay windows, a variety of porches and graceful exterior wood trim - large boards, brackets and drops - combine with a steep hip-roof to create a pleasing effect. An asymmetrical floor plan creates a more spacious interior than the facade would indicate and provides ample light and views of the grounds. The unknown designer of the Stowe House, built in 1871, showed the Victorian attention to decorative motifs and skill in creating a distinctive design. He employed a subtle combination of elements of the rustic cottage with the Gothic villa, translated into brick.

Restoration of the Stowe House has been made possible by the foresight and generosity of the late Miss Katharine Seymour Day, a grand-niece of Harriet Beecher Stowe. Miss Day lived in the Stowe House from 1927 until her death in 1964. In 1941 Miss Day established the Stowe-Day Memorial Library and Historical Foundation to which she bequeathed her entire estate. Since 1964 the Stowe-Day Foundation has carried out three major objectives: complete restoration of the Stowe House to its original state during Mrs. Stowe's residency, 1873 - 1896; conversion of a carriage house directly behind the Stowe House into a reception center and exhibition gallery; and lastly, the development of a research library. The library, built around the nucleus of Miss Day's collection of manuscripts, books, and pamphlets, concentrates on architecture, the decorative arts, history, and literature of 1840 - 1900.

Visitors' folder - Harriet Beecher Stowe's House in Nook Farm. Stowe-Day Library and Foundation

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. 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) 1873 - 1896

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

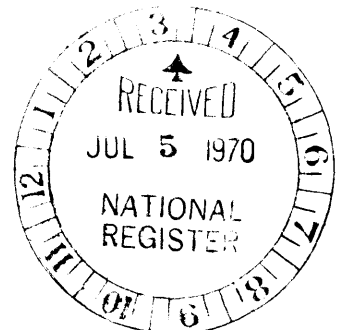
- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Aboriginal | Education | Political | Urban Planning |
| Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> | Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Phi- | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic <input type="checkbox"/> | Industry <input type="checkbox"/> | losophy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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Historically, the Stowe House was part of a remarkable neighborhood known as Nook Farm. On the western edge of Hartford, Connecticut, a wide meander of the Park River once embraced a heavily wooded tract long known as The Nook. In this area there developed a neighborhood of interrelated families and friends whose wide range of interests and accomplishments made Nook Farm a cultural center and a mecca for distinguished visitors during the second half of the nineteenth century. Its two foremost residents, Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811 - 1896) and Samuel L. Clemens (1835 - 1910), attained international fame. Mrs. Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin reached the emotions of the nation and helped change its attitude about slavery and the course of our country's portrayals of New England character and village life. The public continues to relish the keenness of Mark Twain's wit and his rare insight into the weaknesses and inconsistencies of mankind.

In 1864, when Professor Calvin Stowe retired from the Theological Seminary at Andover, Massachusetts, the Stowes moved to Hartford. Mrs. Stowe had a hand in the design of her first Hartford home, a Gothic villa called Oakholm, located near Capitol Avenue. Oakholm was designed by the English-trained architect, Octavius J. Jordan, and incorporated Harriet's plans for an elaborate conservatory - a feature copied in many Nook Farm homes including the Clemenses'. The encroachment of factories led Mrs. Stowe to sell Oakholm in 1870. The house was torn down early in this century. In 1873 Mrs. Stowe bought the Forest Street home.

Visitors' folder - Harriet Beecher Stowe's House in Nook Farm. Stowe-Day Library and Foundation

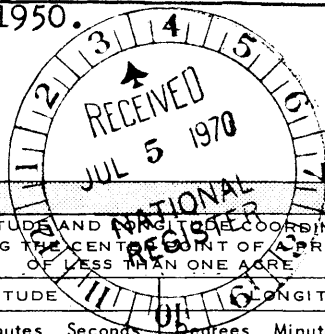


SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Van Why, Joseph S., Nook Farm. Bulletin of the Stowe-Day Foundation, 1962

Andrews, Kenneth R., Nook Farm. Mark Twain's Hartford Circle. Harvard University Press, 1950.



10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTRE POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		41° 46' 0"	72° 42' 04"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Herbert C. Darbee, Associate Director

ORGANIZATION: **Connecticut Historical Commission** DATE: **August 25, 1969**

STREET AND NUMBER:
75 Elm Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Hartford** STATE: **Connecticut** CODE: **06**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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: *Eric Hatch*
Eric Hatch

Title: State Liaison Officer and Chairman, Conn. Historical Comm.

Date: August 25, 1969

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest John Connolly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: OCT 8 1970

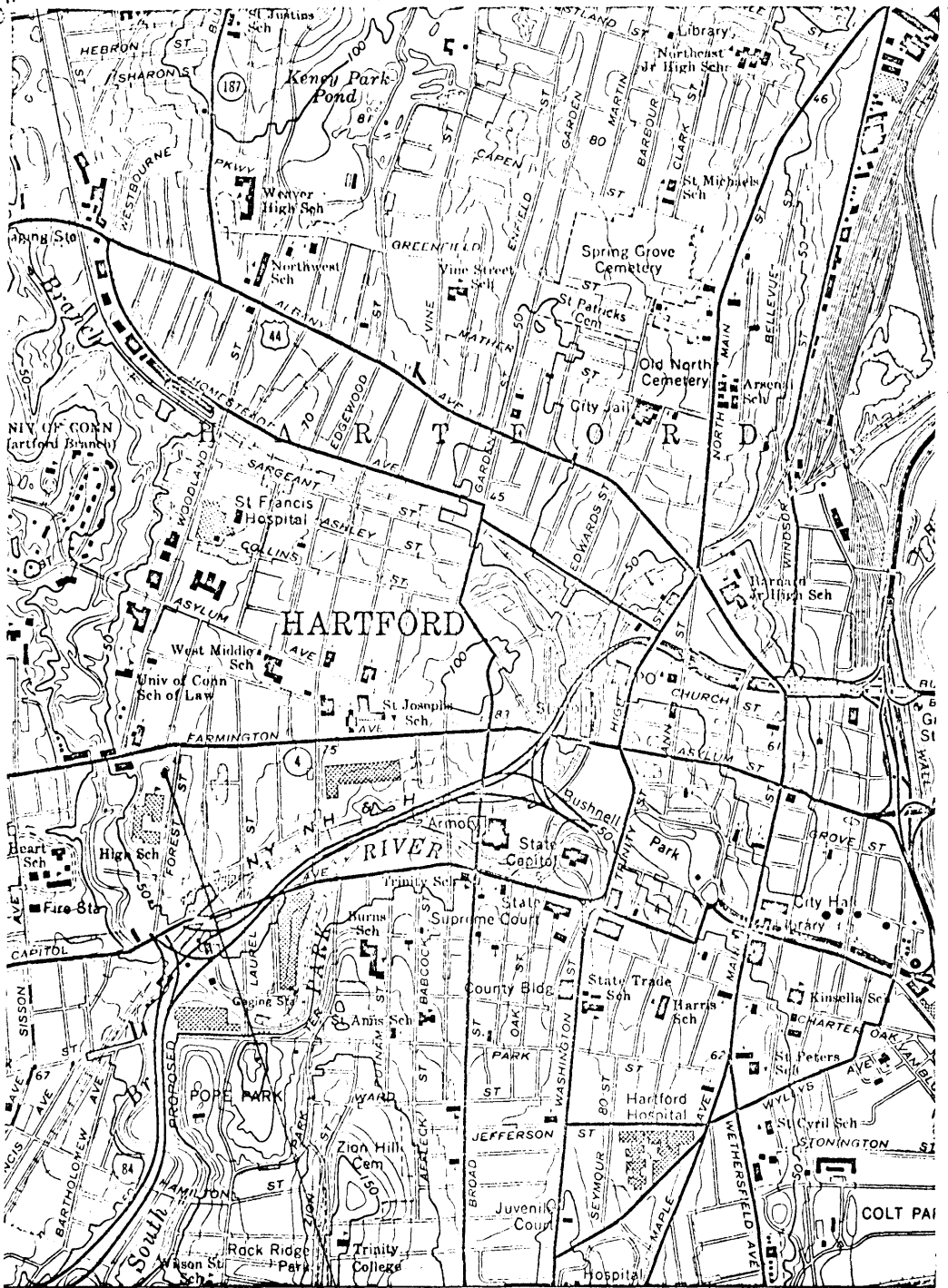
ATTEST:

William G. Brewster
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: AUG 28 1969

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

41° 47' 30"



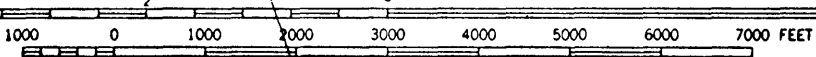
41° 45'

72° 42' 30"



691 | 692 (HARTFORD SOUTH) 6467 II NW | 693 | 72° 40'

SCALE 1:24 000



0.9 MI. TC
MERIDEN (VI)
1 MI

STOWE HOUSE
 Latitude 41° 46' 0"
 Longitude 72° 42' 04"