

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



08501189

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Five Mile River Landing Historic District
other names/site number Rowayton

2. Location

street & number _____ not for publication N/A
city or town Norwalk vicinity N/A
state Connecticut code CT county Fairfield code 001
zip code 06853

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally statewide _____ locally. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 _____ Date 7.29.09

CCT / SHPO
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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

Edson H. Bell 9.23.09

other (explain):

for

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>17</u>	<u>10</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>		sites
		structures
<u>1</u>		objects
<u>19</u>	<u>10</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>hotel</u>
<u>RELIGION</u>	<u>religious facility</u>
<u>RECREATION AND CULTURE</u>	<u>monument/marker</u>
<u>INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION</u>	<u>manufacturing facility</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>multiple dwelling</u>
<u>RELIGION</u>	<u>religious facility</u>
<u>RECREATION AND CULTURE</u>	<u>monument/marker</u>
<u>LANDSCAPE</u>	<u>park</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

MID 19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival

EARLY REPUBLIC/Federal

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Late Gothic Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

brick

roof asphalt shingle

wood shingle

walls weatherboard

wood shingles

vinyl

other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture _____

Period of Significance 1790-1908

Significant Dates N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository: Rowayton Historical Society

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property 7.2

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
1	18	<u>630645</u>	<u>4547722</u>	3	18	<u>630967</u>	<u>4547610</u>
2	18	<u>630969</u>	<u>4547706</u>	4	18	<u>630791</u>	<u>4547520</u>

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title James Sexton

organization _____ date March, 2007

street & number 274 Clinton Ave. telephone 914.235-8074

city or town New Rochelle state NY zip code 10801

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Additional Documentation
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage
or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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Property Owner
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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to range from approximately 18 hours to 36 hours depending on several factors including, but not limited to, how much documentation may already exist on the type of property being nominated and whether the property is being nominated as part of a Multiple Property Documentation Form. In most cases, it is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form to meet minimum National Register documentation requirements. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

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Architectural Classification (continued)

MID 19TH CENTURY

LATE VICTORIAN

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Late Gothic Revival

Narrative Description

The Five Mile River Landing Historic District is a residential neighborhood of small to medium-sized domestic and public buildings dating from the late 18th century through the early 20th century. It is the residential remnant of a larger 19th century maritime village. The district is located on the eastern bank of the Five Mile River in the village of Rowayton, in the southwestern part of the City of Norwalk. (Photographs 1-3) It includes Rowayton Avenue from the northern edge of Rowayton's business district to Jo's Barn Way. The district also includes Pennoyer Street. In addition to relying on the geographic boundary of the Five Mile River, the district's boundaries were drawn from the historic development patterns of the area - as early maps demonstrate, the 19th-century residential corridor along the Five Mile River did not extend beyond these streets in this area.

With its proximity to the river, the district is low lying. The high point is located at the eastern end of Pennoyer Street, which rises from Rowayton Avenue next to the river to the top of a small ridge. The streets are open and relatively free of trees, adding to the sense of a coastal setting. The buildings are located on a mix of small and medium sized lots with most of them located quite close to the street and to each other. The one exception to this is the Seeley-Dibble-Pinkney House at 177 Rowayton Avenue, which sits closer to the river than the road on a large lot relatively far away from its neighbors.

The Five Mile River Landing Historic District exemplifies a typical 19th century residential district, with a mix of styles from throughout the period. The buildings are wooden, mixing both timber- and balloon frames, and range in height from 1.5 to 3.5 stories. They are clad in clapboards, shingles, stucco, or a mix of these materials. In addition to the domestic buildings and their outbuildings, the proposed district also includes one church, a boathouse, a carriage house, and a building constructed as a hotel.

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The buildings also reflect a variety of styles. While many of the buildings in the district are vernacular, several are good examples of specific styles. The Federal style is represented by the side-entry Seeley Dibble Pinkney house (c. 1820) at 177 Rowayton Avenue. (Photograph 4) A simple example of the Greek Revival can be found at 186 Rowayton Avenue, the Captain William Sammis House (c. 1842). (Photograph 5) 12 Pennoyer, the Baptist Parsonage (c. 1872), was constructed in the Second Empire style. (Photograph 6) 8 and 14 Pennoyer Street, the James E. Stevens House (c. 1872 -- Photograph 7) and the Corvino L. Ogden House (c. 1888) respectively, were built in the Queen Anne style. The Methodist Church (c. 1868) was originally constructed as a simple, clapboarded building with an arched, tripartite window above the door and a small rose window in the gable. In 1908 it was thoroughly renovated into a Late Gothic Revival-style building. (Photograph 8)

In addition to the buildings, the district includes two open spaces. Near the southern end of the district a town park (established in 1966) includes two contributing buildings at its northern end and the contributing site of a former shipyard at its southern end. In 1901, a traffic island was created at the intersection of Rowayton Avenue and Wilson Avenue, near the southern boundary of the district, for a monument topped by a naval artillery piece to commemorate Rowayton's Civil War dead. The original inscription reads as follows:

Memorial Gun/Reminding us of the Heroic Deeds of our/Soldiers and
Sailors of the Republic in the War/Of the Rebellion for the
Preservation of the Union, Erected 1901./ From U.S.S. Tallapossa.

Plaques were subsequently added to the base of the monument to honor the citizens of Rowayton who died during World War I and World War II.

There are 27 buildings, 1 site, and 1 object in the district (exclusive of sheds and other minor outbuildings). 19 (66%) contribute to the district. Among the non-contributing structures are seven garages, two modern houses and a small boathouse.

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Inventory of properties

C= Contributing NC=non-contributing

Rowayton Avenue

C 166 [6-13C-7] *Rowayton Hotel* c. 1848
3-story Italianate hotel with wrap-around porch. Flat overhanging roof carried on brackets. Fenestrated roof lantern. Flared window lintels. Wood clapboard siding. 6-over-6 windows

C 168 [6-21-9] *Raymond-Pennoyer House* c.1790/c. 1810
1.5 story wood frame house. Steeply sloped overhanging gable roof covers a porch, carried on simple columns, running the length of the west façade. Shed dormer; tall brick chimney. To the south, a 2.5 story mansard-roofed addition, with gabled dormers, now forms the main portion of the house. Hip roofed porch, carried on simple columns. Federal-era door surround with attenuated paneled pilasters and a fanlight. Wood shingle siding and asphalt shingle roof. 6-over-6 windows.

Also on the property

NC Garage c. 1960

Opposite 168 Rowayton Avenue at the intersection Rowayton and Wilson Avenues

C *Object/Memorial Gun* 1901
Monument created to commemorate Rowayton's Civil War dead with a naval artillery piece placed upon a granite plinth. According to the monument's inscription, the artillery piece came from the U.S.S. Tallapossa.

C 176 [6-21-1] *Charles T. Lowndes House* c. 1887
2.5 story Italianate/Queen Anne house. Complex massing with cross gables and flat-roofed 2-story square bays on the north and south sides. Modillioned gable cornice and bracketed eaves cornice. Porch with bracketed eaves cornice, roof carried on chamfered Italianate posts carrying scroll-sawn brackets. Scroll-sawn railing. Projecting entry bay with gable roof supported by a simple truss. Round-arched doorway with heavy hood molding and Italianate double door with inset panels. Triangular arched window in attic story; principal façade windows have projecting flared lintels and paneled stiles. Wood clapboard siding and wood shingle roof.

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Inventory of properties

C= Contributing **NC**=non-contributing

Rowayton Avenue (Cont.)

Also on the property

NC Garage c. 1970

C 177 [6-1E-11] *Seeley-Dibble-Pinkney House* c. 1820

2.5 story, side entry house with wrap-around porch on the south and east sides. Gable roof, with brick chimney 1/3 of the way from south gable. 3-bay principal façade; 2-over-2 windows with flared lintels. The shed roof atop the porch is supported by turned posts. Wood shingle cladding, asphalt roof.

Also on the property

NC *Barclay Boat House* c.1860

1.5 story wood frame building with gable roof. Gable entry topped by hayloft door. Scroll-sawn trefoil vergeboard and gable trim. Wood shingle siding and asphalt roof. Moved to this site.

C *Barn/Shed* c.1880

1.5 story side-entry building with gable roof.

C *Site/Pinkney Park*

Public open space and site of former 19th century shipyard.

C 180 [6-22-5] *Rowayton United Methodist Church* c. 1868, 1908

Gothic Revival church. Cruciform-shaped, with three-story tower to the south containing entry doors. Three bay nave with buttresses. Large west window. Nave and transept are gable roofed with simple dentillated cornice; nave carries three gabled dormers. Lancet windows throughout with hood molds. Stuccoed exterior; asphalt shingled roof. A modern flat-roofed extension at the rear (east) houses offices and a school.

C 182 [6-22-4] *Elias Pennoyer House* c. 1855

2.5 story wood frame house with enclosed, gable-front entry porch. Gently pitched asphalt shingle roof with overhangs. Wood clapboard on principal façade, wood shingle on south façade. 2-over-2 double hung sash windows.

Also on the property

NC Garage 2004

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C= Contributing **NC**=non-contributing

Rowayton Avenue (Cont.)

C 184 [6-22-3] *Nicholas Vincent House* c. 1842
1.5 story wood frame house; 2.5 story addition. Steeply sloped overhanging gable roof forms a porch to the west. Shed dormer. Porch carried on slender turned posts with jigsaw brackets. Wood clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof. 2.5 story gable roofed addition has 2-story bay on west façade. The house was modified and expanded in 1878.

Also on the property

NC Garage 1997

C 186 [6-22-2] *Captain William Sammis House* c. 1842
1.5 story wood frame Greek Revival house with gable roof. 3 bay principal façade with center doorway. Later additions to the rear. Simple flat roofed porch over the entryway, with 6-light window above. A simple cornice and wide plain frieze run the length of the principal façade; the door surround comprises simple Doric pilasters and a transom light. Gable-roofed dormers cut through the simple frieze and into the roof plane. Wood clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof. 6-over-6 windows with flared lintels.

Pennoyer Street

C 6 [6-21-12] *Carriage House/House* c. 1887
Converted outbuilding for 176 Rowayton Avenue. 2-story wood frame, gable-front house, 3 bays wide. Gable roof with slightly overhanging eaves. Entry porch with gable roof, rectangular paneled columns. Wooden shingle cladding; asphalt shingle roof. First story has 2-over-2 double-hung sash windows with wooden shutters. Paired 1-over-1 windows in 2nd story with slightly flared lintels. Round attic window. Brick chimney.

Also on the property

NC Garage c. 1940

C 7 [6-22-5] *Methodist Church Parsonage* c. 1873
2.5 story wood frame, gable-front house, 3 bays wide. Gable roof. L-shaped flat-roofed porch carried on simple chamfered posts running across street

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C= Contributing **NC**=non-contributing

Pennoyer Street (Cont.)

façade. Vinyl siding; asphalt shingles. 2-over-2 double-hung sash windows. Segmental arched 2-over-2 attic window. Three-sided, single-story bay on the east side.

C 8 [6-21-2] *James E. Stevens House* c. 1872
2.5 story wood frame Queen Anne style house. Main body of house is gable roofed with slightly projecting eaves; jigsawed gable truss. Cross wings are flat-roofed. Large open porch with turned posts, scroll-sawn brackets and chinoiserie railing wrapping around main block of house. 3-bay main façade with doorway, flanked by sidelights, in the west bay. Wood clapboard siding, asphalt roof. Main façade has 2-over-2 windows with flared lintels and sills, wooden shutters. Attic carries round arched 2-over-2 window.

Also on the property

NC Garage c. 1915

NC 10 [6-21-3] 1975
2.5 story wood frame house on cast stone block foundation. Shed asphalt shingle roof. Long fenestrated monitor along roofline.

NC 11 [6-22-24] 1958
1.5 story wood frame Colonial Revival style house with gable roof, brick chimney.

C 12 [6-21-4] *Baptist Parsonage* c. 1872
1.5 story wood frame Second Empire house, 2.5 story gable roofed cross wing at rear. Gabled dormers with arched windows. Wrap-around porch, roof carried on simple columns. Wood clapboard siding, wood shingle roof. 2-over-2 windows with flared lintels.

Also on the property

NC Garage c. 1940

C 13 [6-22-6] *Emily DeWaters House* c. 1880
2.5 story Victorian vernacular gable front wood frame house, 3 bays wide. Flat

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Pennoyer Street (Cont.)

roofed front porch carried on simple turned posts runs the width of the main façade. Wood clapboard siding; asphalt shingle roof. 2-over-2 double hung sash windows with slightly flared lintels. Cross wing and attached garage (likely recent).

C 14 [6-21-5] *Corvino L. Ogden House* c. 1888
2.5 story wood frame Queen Anne house. Jerkin-headed roof, gable-roofed cross wing, flat-roofed rear ell, all asphalt shingled. Roof gable inset with "1888" in triangular panel beneath which is a simple stained glass window. A variety of sidings: Wood clapboard, tooth-shaped wood shingles, and stickwork. 2-over-2 double hung sash.

Also on the property

C Workshop/Garage c. 1900
1-story, 2 bay garage with attached side shed. Garage has swinging doors characteristic of early auto garages and may be a building that originally shows up on Sanborn maps as a workshop.

C 15 [6-22-16] *DeWaters House* c.1883
2.5 story wood frame Italianate house. Steeply pitched gable roof, with gable-roofed cross wing. Modillioned gable cornice, bracketed eaves cornice; substantial cornice returns. Wood clapboard siding, asphalt shingle roof. 2-over-2 double hung sash windows with heavy projecting lintels. Side ell with sloping gable roof. Rear partially enclosed porch with standing seam copper roof (new).

Also on the property

C Barn/carriage house C. 1883
Gable-roofed, side entry carriage house, with cross gable. Hay door still extant. Vertical wood siding, asphalt roof. 6-over-6 windows with slightly flared lintels. Converted to garage.

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Summary

The Five Mile River Landing Historic District demonstrates the development pattern of the domestic portion of a Connecticut riverine maritime village as it grew from an area of scattered farm houses to an oystering village and seasonal vacation spot and, finally, into a year round suburb. Since its founding, Rowayton has looked to the Five Mile River and Long Island Sound for sustenance. The area's earliest settlers turned to the river and Long Island Sound for fish, salt hay, and transportation. As the area developed, the importance of coastal trade and shipbuilding expanded in Rowayton. This was followed by notable growth in the oystering industry in the mid-19th century as well as the beginning of the area's time as a vacation destination. By the beginning of the 20th century oystering began to decline and vacationers started to build more permanent houses, changing the area's character from seasonal to suburban. (Elements of all of these phases of the village's development can still be seen in the historic district.) Throughout this time, the driving force behind all of these developments was the area's shoreline location. This pattern - moving from subsistence agriculture and fishing to trade and commercial fishing, or in the case of Rowayton aquaculture, to tourism and finally, to a suburb - is a common one along the Connecticut coastline. The district focuses on the area's domestic buildings built during the 19th century, when it enjoyed its greatest growth, although there are examples of buildings from each phase of the area's development.¹ Taken together the district represents a significant and distinguishable historic entity.

Historical Background

The district was first divided for settlement in 1705; 8 acres in the district were given to John Raymond.² A local historian suggests that the properties were most likely granted prior to this point but not officially recorded until 1705.³ By the end of the 18th century the area was populated with farmers and watermen; the Raymonds appear to have been farmers.

¹ The commercial aspects of the 19th century village are no longer extant as they have been subsumed by modern construction.

² Frank E. Raymond, *Rowayton on the half shell: the history of a Connecticut coastal village* (West Kennebunk, ME: Phoenix Publishing, 1990), p. 13.

³ Raymond, p. 13.

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The early nineteenth century saw the village slowly growing as its inhabitants continued to turn to the water for their livelihoods. The southern end of Pinkney Park was the site of the early 19th century shipyard of the Richards brothers and, subsequently, Alfred Seeley. Seeley was the owner and operator of a coastal trader, the *Enterprise*, which he docked just south of his house at 177 Rowayton Avenue.⁴

The middle of the 19th century saw explosive growth in the oystering industry. Oystermen discovered that rather than simply harvesting oysters they could cultivate the bivalves.⁵ It was a discovery that would spawn a new industry in Rowayton. While evidence of the oystering industry has, for the most part, disappeared the houses built by the village's oystermen are still visible in abundance. The oyster boom also prompted the subdivision of Pennoyer Street, adding housing for the growing village and expanding the village away from the relatively dense linear settlement along river's edge into this area. This portion of Rowayton retains the characteristics of a prosperous but restrained 19th century village.

The middle of the century also brought another change to Rowayton. As the railroad from New York made its way up the coast of Connecticut, the shoreline towns became summer resorts for New Yorkers looking to escape the hot city. Rowayton was no exception. Starting with the Rowayton Hotel in ca. 1848, Rowayton became a vacation spot. In addition to the hotel, this era is represented by summer boarding at the Seeley-Dibble-Pinkney House and the Raymond-Pennoyer House.⁶ For nearly 80 years New Yorkers would flock to the beach with the hope of cooling off.

The railroad brought a third change to the area. While the village had been called various things during its history, including Five Mile River Landing, a battle ensued during the late 1860s when the railroad called the local station File Mile River and the United States Postal Service named its branch the

⁴ Raymond, p. 45.

⁵ John M. Kochiss, *Oystering from New York to Boston*, Middletown, CT: Published for Mystic Seaport by Wesleyan University Press [1974], p. 11.

⁶ Deborah Wing Ray and Gloria P. Stewart, *Norwalk: Being an historical account of that Connecticut town*, Canaan, NH: Phoenix Publishing for the Norwalk Historical Society, 1979, p. 160.

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Rowayton office, arguing that the railroad's name was too long to be practical. The Postal Service won the battle.⁷

The oystering business reached its peak in the quarter century between 1885 and 1910. Coinciding with this boom in oystering was the advent of streetcar service to Rowayton in 1890. This amenity, along with the already extant trains and the soon to be prevalent car, prepared Rowayton for the final chapter in its history. In the early years of the 20th century the villagers began to look away from the water for their livelihood and began commuting to jobs in South Norwalk and beyond.⁸

By the end of this period the character of the area around the intersection of Pennoyer Street and Rowayton Avenue was set, with a few additions it would remain a reminder of *fin de siecle* Rowayton.

Architectural Significance

The buildings in the district reflect the steady growth and change of the area from the period after the Revolutionary War all the way up to the years just prior to World War I. The housing stock includes examples of a number of the building styles popular during this period, as well as a number of buildings where no specific style or stylistic influence is apparent but the general characteristics of the period are clear.

While nothing remains from the earliest years of settlement, one building is thought to exist from the end of the 18th century. Like much of the early history of the area, 168 Rowayton Avenue (the Raymond-Pennoyer House, c. 1790) is associated with the Raymond family. (Photograph 9)

177 Rowayton Avenue (*Seeley-Dibble-Pinkney House*, c. 1820) was constructed for coastal trader Alfred Seeley with a side hall plan and other elements characteristic of the Federal style. (Photograph 4) The house and its setting have been well-preserved by Norwalk's 6th Taxing District.

Another house built for a coastal trader, the Captain William Sammis House (c. 1842) at 186 Rowayton Avenue, shows the characteristics of the Greek Revival.

⁷ Ray and Stewart, p.132-133.

⁸ Raymond, 112-113.

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The Rowayton Hotel, with its cupola, demonstrates the massing and form of a building the Italianate style despite recent renovation. (Photographs 5 and 10) The hotel also serves as a point of transition between the historic residential neighborhood and the modernized commercial area of downtown Rowayton. Its location at a bend in the road allows it to visually close off the residential district and provide a gateway for the commercial.

The late Victorian era is the best represented in the district. 176 Rowayton Avenue (1887) shows a mix of the Italianate and the Queen Anne styles. (Photograph 11) 14 Pennoyer Street (1888) is a purer example of the Queen Anne style, while 12 Pennoyer was built in the Second Empire idiom (and later expanded). (Photographs 12 and 6)

The final historic changes to the area were the few barn or carriage house converted to garages, like the ones 176 Rowayton Avenue (which was converted a second time, this time into a house, now 6 Pennoyer Street) and 15 Pennoyer Street. These housed the early cars in the neighborhood. (Photograph 13)

The majority of the buildings in the area are well preserved. While a few have been expanded (like the mid-20th century addition to the Methodist Church, 5 Pennoyer Street) or modified (e.g. 186 Rowayton Avenue) the area retains much of the evidence of its late 18th and 19th century roots. The few infill buildings, like 11 Pennoyer Street, remain in scale with the historic structures and do not detract from the character of the district.

As important as the individual buildings is what one sees in the area: a streetscape that retains its integrity and demonstrates the history of the area. The lot containing 177 Rowayton Avenue provides both a glimpse of the earlier land use patterns in the area, with a building set far back on a large lot which was once used both as a residence and as a place of business (a shipyard) as well as allowing modern viewers a glimpse of the economic resource, the river, that drove the development of the community. Pennoyer Street and the western side of Rowayton Avenue demonstrate the dense settlement patterns of the maturing village of Rowayton, with closely spaced houses (and a church) filling their small lots. 166 Rowayton Avenue provides a transition between the residential and commercial areas - a function enhanced by the building's broad porches which indicate its original purpose as a summer hotel,

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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5 Mile River Landing Historic District
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county and State

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a function that is both domestic and commercial. Its location at a bend in the road emphasizes this as it provides both visual closure as one looks down Rowayton Avenue through the district and a significant building to usher one into the commercial district.

Taken together the buildings and sites in the district are a significant and distinguishable entity that succinctly recounts the growth of Rowayton's residential center from the end of the 18th century through the beginning of the 20th. In doing so, the district demonstrates a growth pattern found along much of Connecticut's coast.

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5 Mile River Landing Historic District
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county and State

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National Park Service

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Section 10 Page 14

5 Mile River Landing Historic District
name of property
Fairfield County, Connecticut
county and State

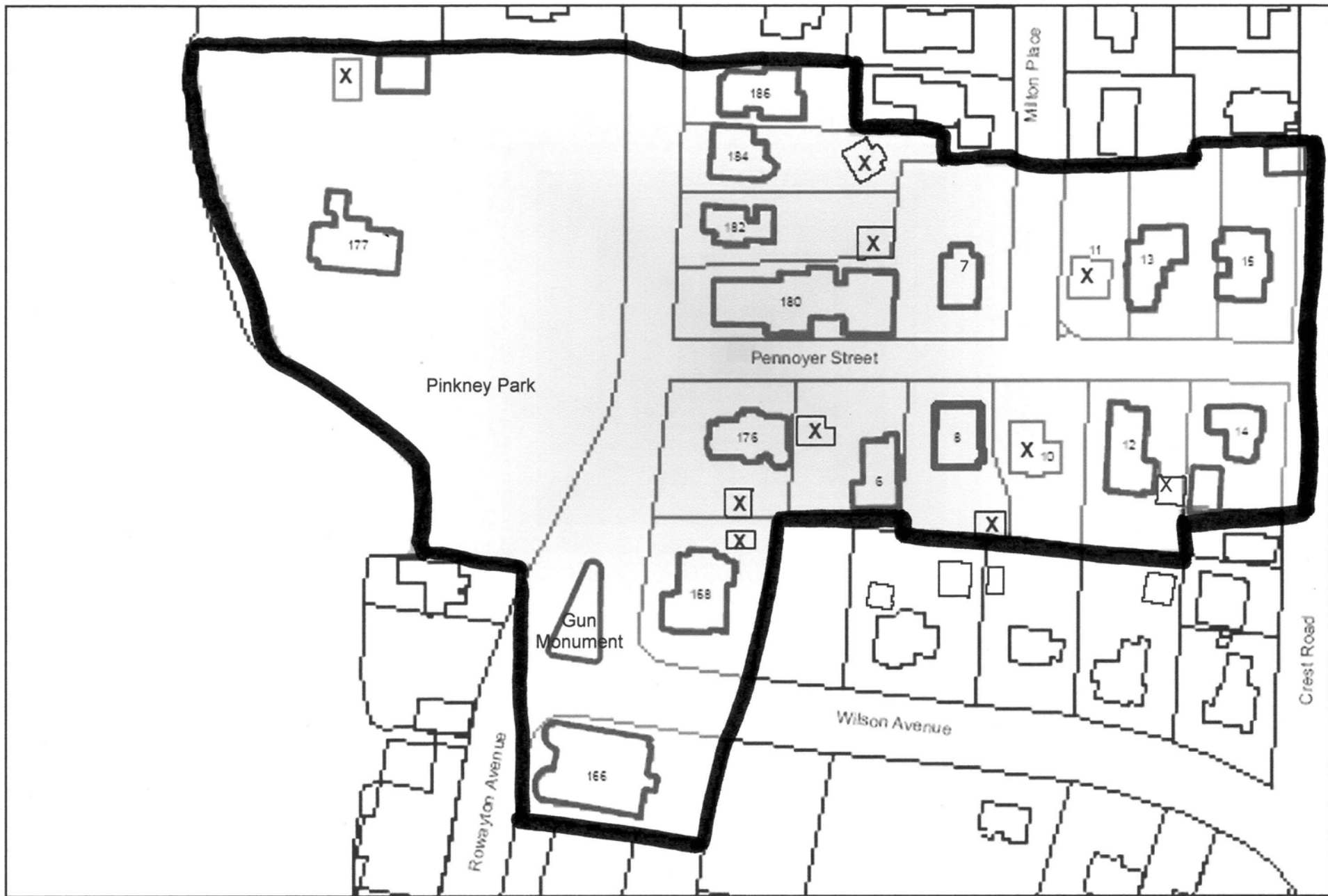
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Verbal Boundary Description


The boundary of the Five Mile River Landing Historic District is shown as the heavy solid line on the accompanying map entitled "5 Mile River Landing Historic District."

Boundary Justification


The boundaries were drawn to include as much of the 19th century residential area to the north of the Rowayton business district as possible. The character of the buildings changes just south of 166 Rowayton Avenue, as the street becomes commercial at this point. The commercial district is made up of predominantly modern buildings. The western edge of the district is provided by the river, which is both a geographical and political boundary. Both the northern and eastern boundaries are provided by streets and changes in housing types. North of Jo's Barn Way new construction, infill and renovation have made the few outlying 19th century buildings indistinguishable from their more recent neighbors. East of the district the development is predominantly 20th century in character. This boundary yields a concentration of contributing structures and limits the number of noncontributing buildings.



Legend

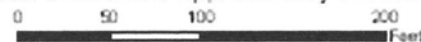
 5 Mile River Landing Historic District

 Contributing

 Non-Contributing

**5 Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut**

Size of district is approximately 7.2 acres



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: Five Mile River Landing Historic District

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: CONNECTICUT, Fairfield

DATE RECEIVED: 8/28/09 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/11/09
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY:
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08001189

DETAILED EVALUATION:

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 9/23/09 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Corrected items noted in return.

RECOM./CRITERIA C 178-19.8

REVIEWER *[Signature]*

DISCIPLINE Historia

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 9/21/09

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



Photograph 1

Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut
The district from the west, across the Five Mile River
February 2004 James Sexton



Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Photograph 2 Looking north along Rowayton Ave. from the district's southern boundary
December, 2004 Tod Bryant



Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut
Photograph 3 Looking south from 186 Rowayton Avenue to 166 Rowayton Avenue
December, 2004 Tod Bryant



Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut
Photograph 4 177 Rowayton Avenue from the southeast
March, 2002 James Sexton



Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut
Photograph 5 186 Rowayton Avenue from the northwest
June, 2007 James Sexton



Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut
Photograph 6 12 Pennoyer Street from the northwest
June, 2007 James Sexton



Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut
Photograph 7 8 Pennoyer Street from the northwest
August, 2004 Andrew Freeman



Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut
Photograph 8 180 Rowayton Avenue from the southwest
June, 2006 James Sexton



Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut
Photograph 9 166 Rowayton Avenue from the northwest
June 2006 James Sexton



Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut
Photograph 10 166 Rowayton Avenue from the northwest
June, 2006 James Sexton



Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut
Photograph 11 176 Rowayton Avenue from the northwest
June, 2005 James Sexton



Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut
Photograph 12 14 Pennoyer Street from the northwest
June, 2007 James Sexton



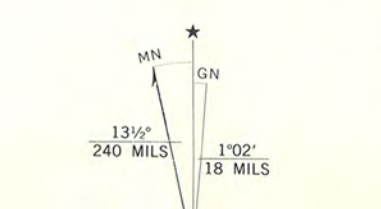
Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut
Photograph 13 Garage for 14 Pennoyer Street from the northwest
June, 2007 James Sexton



FIVE MILE RIVER LANDING
HISTORIC DISTRICT
NORWALK,
FAIRFIELD COUNTY, CT

1. 18/630645/4547122
2. 18/630969/4547706
3. 18/630967/4547610
4. 18/630791/4547520

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Connecticut Geodetic Survey
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1949. Field checked 1951. Revised 1960
Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS chart 221 (1959)
This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on
Connecticut coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 6 meters south and
36 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



SCALE 1:24 000
1 MILE
1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 7.2 FEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation
with State of Connecticut agencies from aerial photographs
taken 1982 and other sources. This information not
field checked. Map edited 1984
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

NORWALK SOUTH, CONN.
41073-A4-TF-024
1960
PHOTOREVISED 1984
DMA 6366 III SW—SERIES V816

TO: J. Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Stacey Vairo, National Register Coordinator

SUBJECT: National Register Nomination
Resubmittal

The following materials are submitted on this 25 day of August
2008, for nomination of the Five Mile River Landig
Connecticut
Resubmittal

to the National Register of Historic Places:

- Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form
- Multiple Property Nomination form
- Photographs
- Original USGS maps
- Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)
- Pieces of correspondence
- Other CD of images already on file w/NPS.

COMMENTS:

- Please insure that this nomination is reviewed
- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- The enclosed owner objections do _____ do not _____
constitute a majority of property owners.
- Other: _____



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Comments Evaluation/Return Sheet

Property Name: Five Mile River Landing Historic District
Property Location: Fairfield County, CT
Reference Number: 08001189
Date of Return: December 16, 2008

Reason for Return: The Five Mile River Landing Historic District nomination is being returned for an inadequate boundary description, clarifications needed in Section 7, and for technical corrections. The following must be addressed for this nomination to be considered acceptable:

Section 5. Number of Resources. The monument to Rowayton's Civil War dead should be counted as an object and not as a site. Please revise.

Section 7. The ending date for the district's Period of Significance is presumably tied to the 1908 renovation of the c. 1868 Methodist Church. On page 2, please provide further details on this "thoroughly renovated" church. What was the style of the church before being modified into a Late Gothic Revival-style building?

Also on page 2, please add the name of the "triangular park" to the description. The mounted artillery piece located in the park is referred to both as a "cannon" (misspelled in the inventory list) and a "naval gun." Is this actually a naval artillery piece? On page 2, indicate what war this object commemorates.

Section 10. Boundary Description. The verbal boundary description is defined as a heavy, solid line drawn on the map. This map provides no scale or north arrow and shows a boundary line running through a building (shown in the upper right hand corner of the map). Please refer to page 58 of the NR Bulletin *How to Complete the National Register Registration Form* for guidelines and submit a revised map. For ease of use and since all the properties on this district map are shaded, please mark noncontributing properties with an "x" and identify this in the map legend.

The USGS map also needs to have the UTM references labeled on the map.

Please call me at 202-354-2239, or e-mail at <lisa_deline@nps.gov> if you have any questions.

Lisa Deline, Historian
National Register of Historic Places
December 16, 2008