

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

JAN 24 1979

RECEIVED

APR 11 1979

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC/

Hawley, Thomas House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

514 Purdy Hill Road

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Monroe

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th--Ronald Sarasin

STATE

Connecticut

VICINITY OF

CODE

09

COUNTY

Fairfield

CODE

-001

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES: RESTRICTED
 YES: UNRESTRICTED
 NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE
 COMMERCIAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Charles M. & Jane C. Hall

STREET & NUMBER

514 Purdy Hill Road

CITY, TOWN

Monroe

VICINITY OF

Connecticut

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Monroe Town Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

7 Fan Hill Road

CITY, TOWN

Monroe

Connecticut

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Connecticut Statewide Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1978

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Connecticut Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Hartford

Connecticut

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Thomas Hawley House is a pre-Revolutionary saltbox dwelling located at the intersection of Old Newtown Road and Purdy Hill Road in Monroe, Connecticut. It is set back approximately 100 feet from Old Newtown Road and 150 yards further back from the heavily-traveled Connecticut Route 25, a modern highway that bypasses the house's semi-rural neighborhood. On the opposite side of Purdy Hill Road is a 1950s development of modest suburban houses, while to the north is a considerable stretch of open, vacant farmland. On both east and west sides are single, architecturally undistinguished houses surrounded by open and wooded land.

The Hawley House is two and one-half stories high and three bays wide with a side gable roof, center entrance, and center fieldstone chimney. Its dimensions are approximately 37 by 40 feet. The roof pitch is 45 degrees in the main portion, lessening to 30 degrees in the kitchen appendage, a probable indication that this was added subsequently. The exterior is clapboarded, painted an appropriate dark red color, and there is a natural wood shingle roof. Window sash is 9-over-6 on the first floor, 6-over-6 on the second, and 9-pane single-hung in the attic. The facade and elevations visible from the road have not been materially altered in the last century as evidenced by an extant 1879 photograph of the house and its occupants¹.

The house has undergone considerable renovation in the past five years, which included expanding the former half basement to full-size and rebuilding the foundation walls with concrete block (the visible exterior portion was stucco-faced). The 15-foot square chimney base, while left intact, was reinforced with concrete retainers. The south front room (hall) subfloor was rebuilt using modern materials. Two new rooms were added to the rear of the kitchen to replace an earlier addition that had deteriorated.

The north front room (parlor) is of considerable interest. Its entire chimney wall is paneled in an archaic classical style, and contains a fireplace surrounded by a bolection moulding. In the southeast corner (against the chimney wall) is a corner cupboard. The beams are cased and join both wall and ceiling with an elaborate, heavy moulding.

The hall is entirely plastered. It contains a chamfered summer

¹Hawley Record p. 516

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 6 PAGE 1

State Register of Historic Places - 1978

Connecticut Historical Commission
59 So. Prospect St.
Hartford, Connecticut

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CONTINUATION SHEET

1

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE

3

beam (the only other room in the house with one is the upstairs parlor chamber) and a corner cupboard in the southeast corner. The 5½ foot wide fireplace has a raised hearth and a rear bake oven, giving credence to the speculation that the present kitchen across the back was a subsequent addition.

The kitchen occupies most of the rear of the structure. It contains a fireplace approximately 10 feet wide, 4 feet high, and 4½ feet deep with a segmented hearthstone and a rear bake oven. It is surmounted by a wood lintel 15 inches wide.

The main staircase to the second floor is a right hand three-turn stair at the front end of the chimney bay. There is a moulded handrail without balusters beneath and square newell posts. Below is panelling of the same type as in the parlor, and along the north wall the back of the parlor panelling is left exposed. A cellar stair occupies the space underneath.

The hall chamber has a fireplace 4 feet wide surrounded by a simple moulding. A modern closet has been constructed along the rear wall. The parlor chamber is without a fireplace and contains the previously-mentioned summer beam. The kitchen chamber includes a modern bathroom.

None of the early farm outbuildings survive. There are no surface remnants of a barn and slave house mentioned in an early 19th century estate inventory (see Section 8, paragraph 3) in the vicinity of the Hawley House, and an archeological study has never been undertaken on the property.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

Criteria A and C

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1755

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Thomas Hawley House is an exceptionally well-preserved mid-18th-century saltbox, one of the relatively few survivors of its era in the "back country" of northeastern Fairfield County. Built for a farm family, the house is still enhanced by an open, rural setting.

Thomas Hawley was the grandson of Joseph Hawley, one of the original settlers of Stratford, who purchased most of the present town of Monroe from the Paugusset Indians in 1671. Thomas was born at the old family homestead in Stratford Center. He moved north with many of his generation and supposedly built the house when he was 21 years old (the traditionally ascribed date of 1755 seems plausible in light of architectural evidence). The surrounding land had only recently been opened for settlement and this house must have been one of the most ambitious in its neighborhood.

An inventory of Thomas Hawley's estate at the time of his death in 1817 shows that he owned 149 acres of surrounding land. The house was valued at \$160.00, slave house at \$10.00, and barn at \$130.00 (the estate totalled \$6050.00)². David Hawley was the beneficiary of his father's house, and his descendants occupied the homestead into the present century. In the 1920s it was purchased by F. William Behrens, mayor of Bridgeport from 1923 to 1929, as a summer home. He later built the house located approximately 400 feet east of the Hawley House, which was known as "Pineview Manor"³.

Today the Hawley House is one of Monroe's outstanding historic structures and a classic example of an 18th-century Connecticut saltbox. It was singled out for special notice in the WPA's Tercentenary Guide to Connecticut (1936). Its early date (the bulk of the town's farmhouses were constructed in the post-Revolutionary and Greek Revival periods) and its exceptional degree of preservation make it a most important asset to its community and a good example of the state's early architecture.

² Hawley Record p. 518

³ Information based on conversation with Edward N. Coffey, President, Monroe Historical Society, 12 August 1978.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Coffey, Edward Nichols: A Glimpse of Old Monroe. Monroe: Monroe Sesquicentennial Commission, 1974.
 Hawley, Elias S.: The Hawley Record. Buffalo: E.H. Hutchinson & Co., 1890.
 Wilcoxson, William Howard: History of Stratford, Connecticut. Stratford: Stratford Tercentenary Commission, 1939.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.282

QUADRANGLE NAME Botsford

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5 minute

UTM REFERENCES 280

A 18 646380 4517319.30
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Northerly 293.39', more or less, by land now or formerly of Wm. Benedict; Easterly 253.08', more or less, by land now or formerly of the L & D Corp.; Southerly 377.54', more or less, by Purdy Hill Road; Westerly 107.50', more or less, by Old Newtown Road.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Charles W. Brilvitch
 ORGANIZATION

Consultant
 DATE

STREET & NUMBER

128 Walnut Street
 CITY OR TOWN

August 1978
 TELEPHONE

203-336-5737
 STATE

Bridgeport

Connecticut

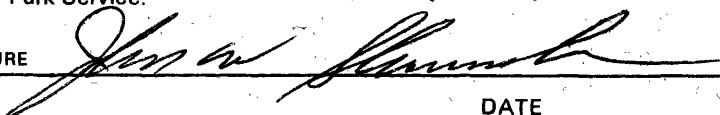
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE x LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE

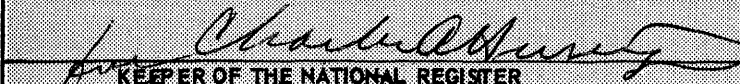
Director, Connecticut Historical Commission

DATE

January 18, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER


DATE 9-11-79

ATTEST: CHIEF OF REGISTRATION


DATE 9/11/79

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CONTINUATION SHEET 2

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 6

