

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 53

Item number 7

Page 53

NAME: Richard Wickes Greene House

LOCATION: 27 Homestead Avenue

OWNER: Mrs. Phyllis Boucher  
27 Homestead Avenue  
Warwick, R.I. 02889

CONDITION: Excellent; Altered; Original Site

DESCRIPTION:

The Richard Wickes Greene House stands on a large lot abutting Warwick Neck Avenue, from which it is visible, across the street from the former Aldrich Estate (see inventory listing below). The neighborhood is a low-density suburban residential area with a considerable amount of open and wooded land. The Greene House is a very large, two-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed, clapboard-sheathed wooden dwelling in a transitional style incorporating elements of both the Federal and Greek Revival styles. It is square in plan with a rear ell and has a fieldstone foundation. A fine Greek Revival doorway with paneled pilasters and an entablature is set in the center of the five-bay facade (east front). The house follows a center-hall plan with four brick end chimneys. Originally there was also a chimney in the ell, and the house was known as "Five Chimneys." This ell chimney is now gone, and the old northwest chimney has been replaced by a new one constructed outside the exterior wall plane. The kitchen was originally located in the ell, but it has been moved into the main block of the house, and the ell has been converted into a two-car garage. The garage connects to an old shed with a root cellar, which was either an outbuilding or part of an earlier dwelling on the site. The new kitchen/family room is modern "Colonial" in character; the rest of the rooms have original mid-nineteenth century Greek Revival finish, including simple one-story pilastered mantels on the fireplaces and paneled shutters on the windows in the parlors and dining room.

PERIOD: 1800-1899

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

SPECIFIC DATE: 1849

BUILDER/ARCHITECT: Unknown

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Richard Wickes Greene House is an exceptionally handsome, well maintained, reasonably well preserved example of mid-nineteenth-century domestic architecture associated with important local historical figures and development patterns. Once the center of a large farm, it is unusually refined and elegant for a farmhouse. Richard Wickes Greene, a sea captain, acquired this property from the Wickes family

(See Continuation Sheet #54)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 54

Item number 7

Page 54

in 1826 and constructed the present house in 1849 slightly south and west of an earlier house on the site. Greene's son sold the house in 1871 to Henry J. Smith of Providence for use as a summer residence. This illustrates the early development of Warwick Neck as a seasonal resort. In the early twentieth century, the house was owned by Henry A. Kirby, a partner in the Providence firms Kirby and Mowry and, later, H.A. Kirby and Company, manufacturers of fine jewelry. The house thus documents the neighborhood's evolution from an agricultural area to a resort and suburban community.

ACREAGE: 1.66 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME: East Greenwich, R.I.

UTM: 19 301870 4616880

**BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION:**

The nominated property is coextensive with lot 45 in Assessor's Plat 382, as defined by the City of Warwick, and measures 1.66 acres. This parcel includes the cultural resource and its immediate surroundings.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: LOCAL

(See Continuation Sheet #55)