Form 10-300 (July 1969) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE:
Connecticut
COUNTY:
Hartford
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
MAY 5 1972

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<u> </u>	NAME COMMON:								
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	Brown Tavern					(8) A	<u>>:</u>		
	AND ON HISTORIC.					Y RECEIVEN			
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	Site Structure	▼ Private] In Proc	ess	☑ Unoccupied		stricted	
	☐ Object	☐ Both] Being (Considered	Preservation wo	rk	restricted	d
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	PRESENT USE (Check One of	More as Appropriate)				-	I		
	Agricultural	Government	Park			Transportation	Com	ments	
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CONDITION	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	🔀 Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed				
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	X Alter	ed	☐ Unaltered			🔀 Original Site				

This structure, used at one time as a tavern, is now in somewhat poor condition. Potentially restorable to prominence on the town green, it has many interesting features. / transitional building of the Federal period of the late 18th or early 19th century, its cable end is turned to the road. It is given a blocky, square look by its centered front entry and Palladian style window above. The front entry has a fanlight in five sections and five-pane sidelights. Its triangular pediment was once sup orted by columns; it now stands alone . Its very small modillions give it a carefully planned and executed appearance. Adding to the detail is a design around the fan window. Flush against the facade, fluted vilasters meet a wide frieze. The modified version of a Palladian window echoes the fluted pilasters and frieze at the capitals, flanking the center window, the arch of which contains a keystone in the center. The window sash is twelve over twelve and has gracefully arching muntins at the top forming the rounded center. In the front gable is a delicate wooden fanlight. On the raking and return cornices are modillions and dentils, again testimony to the degree of detail offsetting the house.

In the rear is a one-story wing in quite bad condition. Behind the house, to the rear of the property, is a shed, apparently of tar-paper, and seeming to be structurally unsound. The two chimneys sit on opposite slopes of the roof and are covered with stucco or cement. The foundation is of dressed sandstone blocks. The sheathing is covered with asbestos shingles, as is the roof, all of which detracts from the basically pleasing appearance of the building. The trim is dark red. This could be an extremely distinguished house adding much to the Burlington town green.



ERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🖾 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ole and Known) late	18th or early 19th	century
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropr	iate)	
Abor iginal	Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	Industry	losophy	_
Agriculture	Invention	Science	
X Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

The Brown Tavern, said to be so called for its color, offers a great deal to the town green of Burlington. A state highway has chipped away at the center and its green, but structures surrounding the small triangle remaining are quite distinguished. The Methodist church of about 1840 stands opposite the Tavern, and in the immediate vicinity is a brick house of some age, the town's post office, housed in a well-kept Greek Revival house, and another town building, slated for restoration. The fate of the Tavern is uncertain as the owner recently died and nothing has yet been done with the house. Reportedly, it is to be "fixed up" and sold and the town officials are concerned about its future.

The house is attributed to David Hoadley, the Connecticut architect born in Materbury, who did many churches and homes in northwestern Connecticut and New Haven. If this is true, the structure could be important for that alone. It is not documented, but research is being done on Moadley's work, both locally and at Minterthur. The house is important also because it is architecturally unusual and because of its place in the town.



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