Form 10-300 (July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(NATIONAL HISTORIC

STATE:	
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Newport	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
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Wanton-Lyman-Haz	zard House					}	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	. 1 77						
Wanton-Lyman-Haz	zard House						
2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER:							
17 Broadway							
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OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME:			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		·		
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DESCRIPTION				16	31	- 12 - 12 - 12 - 12 - 12 - 12 - 12 - 12
				(Check One)		
CONDITION	🔀 Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed
CONDITION		(Check Or	1e)		(Che	ck One)
	🔀 Alte	re d	☐ Unaltered	ı	☐ Moved	Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PE	ESENT AND OR	GINAL (if kno	wn) PHYSICA	L APPEARANCE		

The Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House as originally built was a two story, massive frame structure with a steeply pitched roof. It had a typical Massachusetts and Newport ground plan of a single room on either side of a central chimney. The chimney was constructed of brick but its pilastered top and mammoth size as well as the fireplaces with coves and rounded walls are typical of the earliest Rhode Island practice.

The steeply pitched roof extended out in front to form a hugh plaster coved cornice, illustrated in the often used builder's manual, Moxon's Mechanic Exercises of 1698. A study of the roof framing revealed that this cove was evidently part of the original construction.

A paneled door, surmounted by a simple pediment and flanked by two plain pilasters was probably added in 1782 when Lyman enlarged the house by adding a two-story lean-to across the back. He also put in three pedimented dormer windows in the front roof which were removed in the restoration. The sash windows were installed in 1772 by Wanton.

On the interior, there is much evidence of transitional style. The stairway, although built against the chimney, is done in three runs which is luxurious in comparison with the ladder-like steepness of seventeenth-century stairs. The closed stringcourse with heavy moldings of cyma profile and short thickly turned balusters reveal a Jacobean flavor.

The framework was originally exposed in all of the rooms. This was masked in solid mid-eighteenth century fielded paneling. At this time the framing beams, including the summer beams, were also encased in paneling. The main parlor had extra detailing of fluted pilasters, framing an overmantel above the fireplace.

During the restoration of 1927, the framework in the upper north chamber was unmasked to show the chamfered ceiling beams and massive gunstock corner posts. The vertical boarding of the sheathed walls is painted to imitate paneling, marbled in dull red and gray. The cupboards flanking the fireplace in the dining room were altered so they could be opened to reveal the seventeenth-century brick fireplace, with the rounded side walls, and the curve of the cove between the mantel and chimney girt. The early diamond pattern of the paint in the early eighteenth -century kitchen ell was also restored.

BOUNDARY

The Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House is located on a corner lot with a small terraced garden behind. The boundary is drawn to include the

SIGNIFICANCE			en de la companya de
PERIOD (Check One or More as .	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbion	16th Century	🔀 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	🔀 17th Century	19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	e and Known) 1700,	c 1765	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropr	iate)	
Aboriginol	Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religian/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	[Invention	Science	
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Archite cture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itorian	
Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	
			

The Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House, probably built around 1695, is one of New England's best Jacobean houses, highly significant as a representation of architectural transition from the seventeeth-century to the eighteenth-century. While its framing methods illustrate the construction of houses of the early period, the elaboration of structural detail and ornamentation reflects the changes which began early in the eighteenth century and developed into Georigan design of the mid-century Although other seventeenth-century structures may survive in Newport, none presents to such degree the lines and character of its original period. Few houses survive anywhere which so carefully preserve the early decorative features of a colonial house. The effort at architectural transition reflected by the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House makes the building a valuable surviving link between the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

HISTORY

The earlier known mention of the house occured in 1700 in a note from a town meeting which indicates that a Stephen Mumford probably built it just prior to 1700. The early method of framing supports the belief that the house he sold to Richard Ward in 1724 was the same one. The next record of ownership shows that Samuel Marryatt, tailor, owned it before 1749, the year he sold it to William Earl.

In 1765, Martin Howard, Jr., an English loyalist and author of the pro-British, "A Letter from a Gentleman at Halifax" was living in the house for it was in that year that an angry mob attacked the house, smashing the doors, windows, and furniture when news of the Stamp Act reached Newport. By his own record, Howard had refinished the house and he was probably responsible for the installation of paneling in the south parlor and chamber above.

One month after the attack, John Wanton purchased the house at public auction. He made repairs and may have added the pedimented door. His daughter, Polly, married Daniel Lyman in 1781 and their daughter, Harriet, married Benjamin Hazard. The house remained in the Hazard-Lyman family until 1927 when it was bought by the Newport Historical It was restored the same year by Norman Isham to preserve features of the various historical periods and is still operated as a

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

((NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

(Continuation Sheet)

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COUNTY	
Newport	
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7. Description second page

house and all its grounds beginning at the northwest corner at the intersection of Broadway and Stone Streets then continuing east along the south curb of Stone Street to the house located at the northeast corner on Stone and Spring Streets, then south along the wall of the house to its end, turning east and following the wall of the house to Spring Street, then south along Spring Street until the beginning of the fence which marks the southern boundary, then west along this fence until it intersects Broadway, then north along the eastern curb of Broadway to the point of beginning, as shown on the sketch map.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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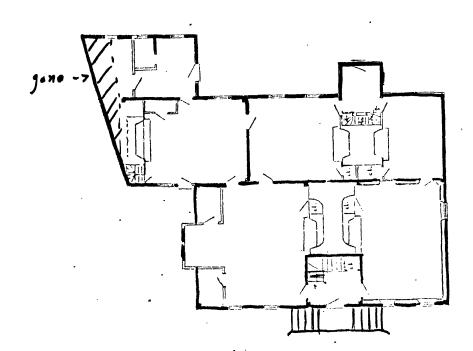
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Description



Floor plan of Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House from HABS drawing.

