

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0685585

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED OCT 4 1978
DATE ENTERED NOV 30 1978

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

Hait, Benjamin, House

AND/OR COMMON

Hoyt House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

92 Hoyclo Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Stamford

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Connecticut

CODE

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

Barbara F. and B. Kimberley Prins Jr. ✓

STREET & NUMBER

92 Hoyclo Road

CITY, TOWN

Stamford

VICINITY OF

STATE

Connecticut

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Stamford City Hall

STREET & NUMBER

429 Atlantic Street

CITY, TOWN

Stamford

STATE

Connecticut

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Bicentennial Placquing of Pre-Revolutionary Houses Survey

DATE

1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Stamford Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Stamford

STATE

Connecticut

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 DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Benjamin Hait House is a typical example of a Connecticut farm house from the first half of the eighteenth century, two and one-half stories high and five bays wide with a central chimney. It has undergone changes since the time of its construction, but stands today restored to much of its original ambiance.

The exterior of the house is strongly suggestive of its period of origin. It is painted a dull red with white (mostly 12-over-12 pane) window sash. The roof is wood shingled as are the side walls. The north side wall retains some eighteenth century hand-split shingles fastened with rose head nails; they show 17 inches to the weather and are 36 inches in overall length. The rest of the house has been re-sided in recent years. The chimney has been rebuilt of brick in eighteenth century style from the attic floor up. A simple, unornamented front door frame has no side or top lights and contains an eighteenth century reproduction door with nine panels.

Modern additions include an eight foot wide parlor extension across the south side of the structure on the first floor; a porch across two-thirds of the back, and a one-story kitchen addition at the northwest corner. All have been built in a style that recreates the design of the original portion of the house.

The interior of the house has been much restored. The south front parlor has been replastered, window frames and sash replaced, and the fireplace wall rebuilt. All have been carefully reproduced as much as possible from the originals. The fireplace wall is sheathed with beaded oak boards copied from two deteriorated segments found in storage on the property. The mantle, which surrounds an opening 45 inches wide, 32 inches high, and 15 inches deep (probably reduced in size in a circa 1810 renovation of the house), has been copied from one of the period illustrated in J. Frederick Kelly's Early Domestic Architecture of Connecticut. The fireplace contains two brass topped andirons listed in an 1811 inventory of the house.

The north parlor, although its original floor is missing, has remained virtually unchanged from the time of the circa 1810 remodeling. There is a chair rail around the room and a fine Federal period mantelpiece with dentil ornamentation. A contemporary wall cabinet is also in the fireplace wall.

The kitchen retains its original floor, which is mostly of oak with one 4 foot by 8 foot section of pine. The fireplace, also apparently reduced in size in the early 19th century renovation, is lined with square-cut granite blocks. There is a brick bake oven at the side, and the whole is surmounted by a wood lintel. At the south end of the room is the back staircase with its original pine sheathing boards. Underneath it is the cellar stairway, closed off by an 18th century batten door.

The other original first floor room, a one story extension at the southwest corner, was formerly a milk room and has been converted to a bed room.

There is a half basement under the house. The chimney base is approximately 12 feet by 13 feet, and there is a stone partition separating a root cellar.

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CONTINUATION SHEET 1

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

The present main staircase to the second floor was constructed in 1922. Upstairs, the south chamber probably contains more that is original than any other part of the house, retaining its early plaster, flooring, and four panel doors with HL hinges. The corner posts jut into the room approximately 2 inches by 3 inches. The remainder of the second floor was formerly known as the "loft" and was not finished off until 1922.

The attic stairs are 42 inches wide. The unusual width is accounted for by the fact that a bootblack-making operation was once housed there. Today the attic contains a modern bedroom and studio.

There are two notable outbuildings on the property. One is a 25 foot by 65 foot barn of early 19th century braced frame construction with a board and batten exterior. Much of the lumber used in its construction was recycled and the beams contain mortise joints. The other outbuilding, probably once a butcher shop, is a one and one half story board and batten structure with a plastered interior that dates from the late 19th century.

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		

SPECIFIC DATES 1728-35

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Benjamin Hait House is the oldest remaining structure in the High Ridge section of Stamford, and is possibly the only dwelling from its period to survive in all of North Stamford. It has been restored to basically its original appearance and stands as a rare example of an early New England farmhouse in its suburban environment.

The house was built by Benjamin Hait (Hoyt), a prosperous farmer who owned considerable land in the High Ridge area. The date of its construction was probably between 1728, when a warranty deed from Richard Davis made no mention of any building, and 1735, when a deed for an adjoining piece of property makes note of a boundary "3 rods South of a house that Benjamin Hait hath all ready sett up." Judging from architectural evidence it can be said that this is almost certainly the same structure.

The house faces Hoyclo Road, now a quiet side street but formerly a part of High Ridge Road, a major thoroughfare between Stamford center and the agricultural areas of North Stamford and nearby New York State. The segment was bypassed in the early 20th century.

The Hoyt (Hait) family was one of the most prominent and numerous in the annals of Stamford history. They retained ownership of the Benjamin Hait House from the time of its construction until it was acquired by its present owners in 1960.

The house together with its outbuildings are the last vestiges of the once extensive agricultural industry in evidence in their area. The classic colonial Connecticut farmhouse, the barn (the only remaining sizable one in North Stamford) and the nineteenth century butcher shop form a composition that is a unique survival in High Ridge.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Title search, "Benjamin Hait House"; manuscript in files of Stamford Historical Society

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.00437

QUADRANGLE NAME Pound Ridge

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5 minute

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 | 6251000 | 45541000
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B [] | [] | []
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C ~~18~~ | ~~654320~~ | ~~4540220~~

D [] | [] | []
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

Use this → E 18 | 621510 | 45560210

F [] | [] | []
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

G [] | [] | []

H [] | [] | []
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Northerly 240' by portion of Lot #10; northeasterly 29.46' by High Ridge Road; easterly 138.35' by Hoyclo Road; southerly 66.58'; westerly 25'; southerly 303.47' by land of Leroy Hoyt; northwesterly 182.14'

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Charles W. Brilvitch

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

128 Walnut Street

TELEPHONE

203-375-5739

CITY OR TOWN

Bridgeport

STATE

Connecticut

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

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

September 27, 1978

FDR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST: *Charles W. Brilvitch*
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 11-30-78

ATTEST: *Paula Dwyer*
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 11/30/78