

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES**

HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

| | |
|--|--|
| Town No.: | Site No.: |
| UTM 1:8 6:8 7:4 0:0 4:6 2:4 3:8 0 | |
| QUAD: | Hartford North |
| DISTRICT | IF NR, SPECIFY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR | <input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential |

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) *Dr. Brace House* (Historic) *Benjamin Colton House*

2. TOWN/CITY *West Hartford* VILLAGE _____ COUNTY *Hartford*

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location) *25 Sedgwick Road approx. .5 acre Vol. 970, p. 202.*

4. OWNER(S) *George Guimond* Public Private

5. USE (Present) *residence* (Historic) *residence*

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD Yes No INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE Yes No IF YES, EXPLAIN _____

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING *Center Chimney Colonial* DATE OF CONSTRUCTION *c. 1770*

8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate)

Clapboard Asbestos Siding Brick chimney Other (Specify) _____

Wood Shingle Asphalt Siding Fieldstone fdn

Board & Batten Stucco Cobblestone

Aluminum Siding Concrete Type: _____ Cut stone Type: _____

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM

Wood frame Post and beam balloon

Load bearing masonry Structural iron or steel

Other (Specify) _____

10. ROOF (Type)

Gable Flat Mansard Monitor sawtooth

Gambrel Shed Hip Round Other (Specify) _____

(Material)

Wood Shingle Roll Asphalt Tin Slate

Asphalt shingle Built up Tile Other (Specify) _____

11. NUMBER OF STORIES *2* APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS *38 x 30; side addn 22 x 20; rear addn 28 x 18*

12. CONDITION (Structural) Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated (Exterior) Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY (Location) On original site Moved WHEN ? _____ (Alterations) Yes No IF YES, EXPLAIN _____

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES

Barn Shed Garage Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) _____

Carriage house Shop Garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT

Open land Wood-land Residential Scattered buildings visible from site

Commercial Indus-trial Rural High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

In a residential area of 20th century single family homes one block west of South Main Street.

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (Interior and/or exterior)

This is a fine example of the center chimney Georgian Colonial, with a 5 bay facade, double overhang construction. Windows are 12/12 double hung sash. Narrow clapboard. Wood shingles on the gable roof. Center entry, with no sidelights or transom. Brownstone foundation. The house sits on a slight rise. Earlier photographs (c.1925) show a broken arch, swan's neck pediment over the door, probably a later addition, which has been removed. There is no ornamental detailing.

18. ARCHITECT *N/A* BUILDER Captain Benjamin Colton, Jr.

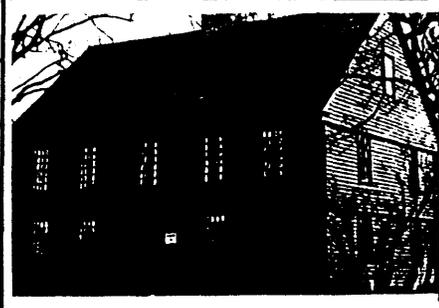
SIGNIFICANCE

19. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This house is one of the surviving 18th century houses in West Hartford, and is a fine example of the double overhang center chimney style. The house is located on a section of land which originally belonged to Samuel Sedgwick, one of the most prominent of the early settlers of the West Division. When Benjamin Colton, son of the first pastor of the West Division's Congregational Church, purchased the land from Benjamin Sedgwick, there was an old house standing. Whether this house incorporates any of the original house is not known. Colton's son Joseph inherited the land and house, and his daughter married Dr. Edward Brace, who owned the house during much of the 19th century. For many years Dr. Brace was the town's only physician.

SOURCES

Hartford Land Records 7:585; 45:6; 35:187; 66:323; 66:460
 Hartford Probate Records : Samuel Sedgwick; Joseph Colton
 West Hartford Land Records
 Hall, West Hartford, pp. 67-68 , 234-5
 Maps 1854, 1869
 1896, 1909, 1923 Atlases

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| PHOTO | PHOTOGRAPHER K. Cruse | DATE Apr. 1982 |  |
| | VIEW northwest | NEGATIVE ON FILE CHC roll XI frame 2 | |
| COMPILED BY | NAME E. Hatheway | DATE Nov. 1982 | |
| | ORGANIZATION Noah Webster Foundation | | |
| | ADDRESS 227 South Main Street, West Hartford CT | | |

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

None known Highways Vandalism Developers Other _____

Renewal Private Deterioration Zoning Explanation _____