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 General Martin Kellogg House

and or common Kellogg-Eddy House

Location 2.

679 Willard Avenue street & number

city, town

Newington

N/A vicinity of

state 3.

city, town

code 09 Connecticut

Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
district	_X_ public	_X_ occupied	agriculture	<u> </u>
$\underline{\mathbf{X}}$ building(s)	private	unoccupied	commercial	park
structure	both	work in progress	educational	private residence
site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	entertainment	religious
object	in process	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	government	scientific
-	being considered	yes: unrestricted	industrial	transportation
	N/A	`no	military	other:

county

Hartford

Owner of Property 4.

Town of Newington name

131 Cedar Street street & number

city, t	town ^{Ne}	wington	N <u>/A</u>	vicinity of		state	Connectic	ut
5.	Locati	on of	Legal De	scriptio	n			
court	house, registry	of deeds, etc.	Newington 7	Town Hall				
stree	t & number		131 Cedar S	Street				
city, 1	town		Newington			state	Connectic	ut
6.	Repres	sentat	ion in Ex	isting S	urveys			
title	State Regis	ter of His	toric Places	has this prop	erty been detern	n ined e l	igible?	. yes no
date	1987				federal	sta	te coun	ity local
depo	sitory for survey	records Con	necticut Histo	orical Commis	sion, 59 Sou	ith Pr	ospect Str	eet
city. 1	town	Har	tford			state	Connecticu	t

For NPS use only AUG 31 1987 received date entered OCT - 1 1987

N/A not for publication

code 003

7. Description

Condition		Check one
x_good	deteriorated ruins unexposed	unaitered altered

Check one _X__ original site ____ moved date __

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The c. 1808 General Martin Kellogg (Kellogg-Eddy) House is a two-story, five-bay center-entrance flank gable, Georgian-Federal style structure, with a subsidiary Colonial Revival-style side and rear wings added in 1927-28. The house is of braced-frame construction and is clad in white-painted clapboarding.Surviving original decorative features include a fanlight-topped front entrance with a gable roof, column-supported door porch, and a Palladian window above; cushion friedze window caps; and fine triglyph-decorated mantelpieces in the two front downstairs rooms. The house, which has six original fireplaces, now serves as a historic house museum. (Photographs 1,2, and 4.)

The Kellogg House stands in the center of a several-acre lot and faces east toward Willard Avenue, one of Newington's principal arteries. A white picket fence and extensive plantings of shrubs near the street shield the house from traffic noises and fumes. A large lawn containing several old trees flank the structure on the east, south, and west, while a shallow lawn, plantings, drives, a courtyard, and a matching 1927-28 garage (Photograph 8) flank its north side. The house and the garage contribute to the historic character of the property.

The house consists of three sections: main block, a wing which extends back (west) from the north end of the main block's rear wall, and a second wing (Photograph 3) which extends north from the north side, east end of the west wing. (See floor plans.) The west wing was remodeled and the north wing added in 1927-28. Both wings are two stories in height and have gable roofs and clapboarding exteriors.

Standing on a foundation of coursed brownstone ashlar, the house's main section is approximately 44 by 35 feet in ground dimensions. Its exterior has 12-over-12-light double-hung sash windows in both stories and 6-over-9-light windows in the gables. The first-floor windows in front, and all end-wall windows have molded caps with cushion friezes and classical cornices with modillions and dentils. The main entrance in front has a six-panel door topped by a fanlight and fluted pilasters. A gabled door porch, its unfluted "Tuscan" columns supporting an entablature with a broad, reeded frieze and dentil and modillion bands, screens the entrance and rests on dressed sandstone steps. Above the main entrance is a Palladian window whose cap also features dentil and modillion work. The house has narrow cornerboards and a robust classical cornice (with returns) replete with dentils and modillions. (Photographs 1 and 2.)

The house's first floor is laid out with a central, east-west hall flanked by a north parlor (Photograph 4.) and a south parlor, or music room. One large meeting room (Photograph 5.), originally two separate rooms, extends across the entire back of the main block. It has an exterior door at its south end. (See floor plan.) This room's Colonial Revival woodwork dates from the 1927-28 alteration.

Chimney stacks at each end of the house are located in the centers of the rear (west) walls of the north and south parlors. Fireplaces open from each stack on either side into the parlor and the meeting room (so that the meeting room has two fireplaces on its east wall). (See floor plan.)

A straight-run staircase (Photograph 6.) located against the north wall of the central hall leads to a broad, second-floor central hall extending in an east-west direction entirely through the house from front to back. Front and back chambers, the rear one on each side somewhat smaller than the front, flank the central hall on either side. (See continuation sheet.)

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> <u>Old Houses of Connecticut</u>, Connecticut Society of Colonial Dames in America, Hartford, Connecticut, 1915, Unpub. mss., on deposit at Connecticut State Library.

Historic Resources Survey of Newington, 1979, Elizabeth S. Baxter et als, on deposit at Connecticut Historical Commission, 59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut and Lucy Robbins Welles Library, 95 Cedar Street, Newington, Connecticut and Newington Town Hall, 131 Cedar Street, Newington, Connecticut.

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Only the northwest corner chamber (marked "office" on floorplan) has a fireplace. In each of the front chambers, the back or rear wall was moved forward in 1927-28 to provide space in each room for a bathroom and closet with an arched recess between. (Photograph 7 and accompanying second floor plan.)

The narrow and steep attic staircase, entered from the north side of the stair hall at the upper stair landing, rises between the two north chambers. Its zigzag course takes it around the north chimneystack.

In the open attic the roof construction can be seen. The rafters on either side of the ridge are supported at the half-way point by a massive purlin. The rafters meet in a small ridgepole, whose edges are beveled to receive them squarely. The purlins are supported by four sets of posts, one in each end wall and one on either side of the space above the central stair hall. Modern two-by-six-inch planks (installed in 1976) form braces between the two southernmost posts on the east side and the plate. The end walls have three-by-three-inch studs and horizontal planking. The roof is now sheathed in gray/black asphalt roofing.

Two-story gable-roof north and west wings (Photograph 3) constructed in 1927-18 reflect in their Colonial Revival styling the general character of the house's older front portion. They are positioned so that they do not obscure the front or either side wall of the original front section. The west wing contains the former kitchen stack and perhaps other remnants of a now-demolished older wing which stood on the same site. A doorway from the north end, west wall, of the large meeting room in the back of the original house provides access to the dining room, the east room in the wing. (See accompanying floor plan.) The dining room has French doors with sidelights in its south side and the large old kitchen fireplace with bake oven in the west wall. A west doorway from this room leads into an enclosed porch (called flower room in floor plans) which has a slightly depressed fieldstone floor.

The first floor of the north wing contains the present kitchen, pantries, and a subsidiary second-floor staircase. The second floors of both north and west wings now house living quarters for the building's caretakers. (See accompanying floor plans and photograph 3.)

A three-bay clapboarded garage (Photograph 8), also added in 1927-28, stands a short distance across the courtyard to the north of the north wing. Waist-high random ashlar sandstone walls flank the east and west ends of the garage and help to define this paved courtyard area.

8. Significance

1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899	agriculture architecture art commerce communications		Iandscape architecture Iaw Ilterature Ilterature Illitary	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates		Builder/Architect	Jnknown	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Kellogg House possesses significance in the Newington context as the home of two of Newington's leading citizens, General Martin Kellogg (1781-1868), who lived there from the time of construction of the house until his death, and E. Welles Eddy (1887-1968), who resided there from the 1910s until his death. In architectural terms, the house is notable as Newington's most fully developed example of Georgian/Federal design and for its sophisticated Colonial Revival alterations and additions designed in the late 1920s by Hartford architect Roy D. Bassett.

The house was built for General Martin Kellogg, the fourth of that name in Wethersfield and Newington, then a society or parish of Wethersfield. He was the son of well-to-do farmer Martin Kellogg (1746-1828), who lived next door to the south at what is now the northwest corner of Willard Avenue and Cedar Street. He was the great grandson of Captain Martin Kellogg (1686-1753), who moved to Newington in 1734. Captain Kellogg (he was captain in the colonial militia) became one of Newington parish's largest property owners and leading citizens, following capture by the French and Indians twice in his youth --1704 and 1708-- and imprisonment for several years in French Canada.

General Martin Kellogg's father is thought to have had the house built for his son in 1808, at the time of the general's marriage to Mary Welles (1789-1865), the daughter of near neighbor General Roger Welles. However, no solid documentation of the house's date of construction has been found. The Wethersfield land and tax records are inconclusive. The first real estate transaction mentioning the house does not take place until 1827. On July 12 of that year Martin Kellogg,Sr., sold to his son, the general, for \$500 one-half of the house in which the general then lived, with one-half of the land beneath it, plus the barns and outbuildings on the property and the land covered by them. Martin Kellogg,St., died only one month later and it appears that General Martin Kellogg received the rest of the farm on which the house in question stands, by inheritance then; but, the Hartford County probate records contain no file for Martin Kellogg,Sr.

The Wethersfield tax records for the period may offer some corroboration for the 1808 date. The annual lists of "Polls and Rateable Estates of the Inhabitants of the Society of Newington" indicate the ownership of houses only by reference to the total number of fireplaces of various "classes" for which an inhabitant was taxed. For Martin Kellogg Sr., and his only son, the general, the total number of fireplaces and the number listed as being in the first, second, third, or fourth "class" varied considerably from year to year in the period 1800 to 1808. In 1809, however, occurs for the first time a separate listing--including two fireplaces first class and three second class--for Martin Kellogg,Jr. The 1811 list refers to five fireplaces second class and three third, and the 1811 and subsequent lists are substantially the same. These separate listings for Martin Kellogg,Jr., after 1808, <u>may</u> indicate that Martin Kellogg,Jr., had a new house. On the other hand, however, the changes in total number of fireplaces and number in each class over the years make certainty impossible.

General Kellogg, like the earlier Newington Martin Kelloggs, was a prominent (See continuation sheet.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

A True List of the Polls and Rateable Estates of the Inhabitants of the Society of Newington, 1803-1814. RG62, Records of Towns and Boroughs, Wethersfield Tax Abstracts, Box 148 (1800-1820)., Connecticut State Library. See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

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Chief of Registration

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Acreage of nominated property <u>5.7 acres</u> Quadrangle name <u>Hartford South</u>		Q	uadrangle scale $1" = 2000$)'
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Verbal boundary description and justification	n		-	
The General Martin Kellogg House part of a 20.9 acre tract of land own See continuation sheet				
List all states and counties for properties o	verlapping state or	county bou	ndaries	
state N/A code	county	-	code	
state code	county		code	
11. Form Prepared By	7			
Robert O. Christensen, Arc	hitectural Histo	rian		
name/title Elizabeth S. Baxter, Newing	gton Town Histor		ed by John Herzan,	
organization Newington Historical Socie	ty and		onal Register Coordina 987	ator
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street & number 679 Willard Avenue		telephone	666-4661	
city or town Newington	х	state	Connecticut	
12. State Historic Pre	servation	Offic	er Certificatio	n
The evaluated significance of this property within the	the state is:			
national state	<u>X</u> local			
As the designated State Historic Preservation Offic 665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion according to the criteria and procedures set forth I	in the National Regist	er and certify	vation Act of 1966 (Public Law that it has been evaluated	89
State Historic Preservation Officer signature	Sima		mant	
		19		
the Director, Connecticut Historical	l Commission	• . • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	date August 25, 1987	
For NPS use only				
I hereby certify that this property is included	atorod .		: 	
Allores Oyen	National Rests	9	date 10-1-87	
Keeper of the National Register		ito <u>r</u>		
Attest:			date	

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Newington, Connecticut Section number _8

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landowner and citizen in Newington parish. A major-general in the state militia, this Martin Kellogg was a gentleman farmer who raised for market cattle and sheep and crops such as potatoes, apples, rye, oats, hay, and cider on his extensive farmlands. He was one of 25 subscribers who in 1829 established the Newington Education Society to operate an academy to provide their own and other local children educational opportunities above those afforded by the district primary schools. Kellogg also was a partner, with Daniel Willard III and John M. Belden, in one of the parish's few industries, a satinet factory. Established in 1838, the factory was a success--proving very profitable during the Civil War when it produced cloth for military uniforms--until it burned in 1868.

General Martin Kellogg died in 1868, three years after his wife. His second son, Roger Welles Kellogg (1813-1881), continued to live in the house for his entire life, remaining a bachelor. Charles Kellogg (1825-1892), the youngest of the five sons and a stockbroker in New York City, then bought out the interests of the other Kellogg heirs. His widow, Ellen Prentice Kellogg, sold the property to her only surviving child, J. Prentice Kellogg, in 1906.

In 1913, Elford Welles Eddy, then a recent graduate of Yale, purchased the house and 150-acre farm from J.Prentice Kellogg. Eddy, a descendant of General Roger Welles, father of General Kellogg's wife, Mary Welles, was a third cousin, once removed, of J.Prentice Kellogg. E. Welles Eddy married Clara Whittlesey in 1915 and the couple resided in the house the rest of their lives. Mr. Eddy, a stockbroker and the owner of a prize dairy herd, was known over the years for his long service to the public as co-trustee of the Fanny A. Welles library bequest and longtime chairman of the library board, state representative (1948-1949), and Metropolitan District Commission member.

The Town of Newington purchased the house in 1975 from the estate of Mrs. Clara Eddy (who had died in August, 1974) and has leased it to the Newington Historical Society and Trust, Inc. for use as a local museum and meeting place. The museum was opened to the public on July 4,1976, in observance of the Bicentennial.

In architectural terms, the house is Newington's most fully developed representation of the Georgian/Federal idiom. Its Palladian window, cushion frieze caps, dentil and modillion trimmed cornices, columned entry porch, and handsomely detailed mantelpieces are unique among Newington's historic buildings. The Palladian window and door porch trim, as well as certain elements of decoration in the parlors have the appearance of being crafted by artisans unaccustomed to the fine work required for the details involved. There are irregularities which suggest that the house's craftsmen did little work this elaborate, though they were copying significant architectural fashions.

In addition to the architectural significance the property possesses as Newington's outstanding example of Georgian/Federal architecture, it also possesses importance in a local context for its overlay of sophisticated Colonial Revival detailing, the result of the 1927-28 remodeling directed by Hartford architect Roy D. Bassett of the firm of Smith and Bassett. Bassett's work included modernizing the upstairs front bedrooms to include closets and lavatories; remodeling the first-floor, back of the main floor into a single large room with colonial paneling and cupboards, using a combination of modern and (See continuation sheet)

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old materials; and adding new west and north wings and, separated by a small courtyard, a three-bay garage (See accompanying floor plans.)--all matching the general style of the house's front section. (Photograph 8). Bassett's work was highly sympathetic to the house's original character-- by the standards of both that era and the present.

Pleased by Bassett's artistic sensitivity and taste, E. Welles Eddy used his influence to secure additional Newington commissions for him. Eddy was one of the trustees appointed under the terms of the will of Fanny W. Welles to build a public library for the Town of Newington and was instrumental in the selection of Bassett as architect for the Lucy Robbins Welles Library. Completed in 1939, the library is a particularly fine example of the Colonial Revival, its broad gambrel-roof form and broken pediment entrance patterned after the long-ago demolished Charles Churchill mansion, a Newington landmark of the Colonial period. E. Welles Eddy also secured for Bassett the commission for the new (now "old" parish house, 1948-1949) of the Church of Christ Congregational in Newington Center.

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

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Wethersfield Land Records, vol. 22, p.331; vol.24, pp. 228-229; vol. 34, p. 251. Located at Wethersfield Public Library.

Hopkins, Timothy. <u>The Kelloggs in the Old World and the New</u>. San Francisco: Sunset Press and Photo Engraving Co., 1903. Vol. 1 of 2.

Adams, Sherman W., and Stiles, Henry R., <u>The History of Ancient Wetherfield</u>, <u>Connecticut</u>. N.Y.: The Grafton Press, 1904. 2 vols.

Baxter, Elizabeth Sweetser, Compiler and Editor, <u>The Centennial History of</u> <u>Newington, Connecticut</u>. Newington: Lucy Robbins Welles Library and Centennial Celebration Commission, 1971.

Baxter, Elizabeth Sweetser, letters to R.O.Christensen dated May 2, 1984 and June 5,1984.

Lienhard, Robert H., letter to R.O.Christensen dated April 3,1985.

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of Newington leases the General Martin Kellogg House and adjunct garage and 5.7 acres to the Newington Historical Society and Trust , Inc. Between the property line and a driveway there is frontage on Willard Avenue of 326.1 feet. The depth of the lawn is 215.5 feet. The additional acreage is open space and a generous parking lot.

The remainder of the 20.9 acre tract contains former barns and outbuildings now used by the Town of Newington Department of Parks and Recreation, open space for summer garden plots for local residents, a senior housing development, and a town cemetery.

The deed to the property owned by the Town of Newington is recorded in Newington Land Records 271, pp. 108 and 109. The forty-year lease to the Newington Historical Society and Trust, Inc. is recorded in Newington Land Records 292, p.90. The plot plan is on file at the Engineering Department, Town Hall, 131 Cedar Street, Newington.







KELLOCC-EDDY HISTORIC HOUSE & MUSEUM-NEWINGTON, CT. SECOND FLOOR & BASEMENT PLANS - SCALE: I INCH= 12%FT.