

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received APR 24 1987

date entered
AUG 25 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic N/A

and or common PALISADO AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

2. Location

street & number See Continuation Sheet

N/A not for publication

city, town Windsor X vicinity of Palisado

state Connecticut code 09 county Hartford code 003

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Residential

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Windsor Town Clerk

street & number 275 Broad Street

city, town Windsor state CT

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title State Register of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1987 federal state county local

depository for survey records Connecticut Historical Commission
59 South Prospect Street

city, town Hartford state Connecticut

AUG 13 1987

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" 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

Palisado Avenue Historic District extends north from the Farmington River in the town of Windsor, starting several hundred yards upstream from where the Farmington joins the Connecticut River. Palisado Avenue runs along the top of a ledge outcrop, Palisado Ridge, which is the first high ground above the meadows that mark the western bank of the Connecticut. The district consists of buildings arrayed in a generally linear pattern along Palisado Avenue. Near its southern end, the district extends west along Pierson Lane to include one house, and east along North Meadow Road to take in seven houses. The area has been primarily residential in use since Anglo-European people settled in Windsor, and continues in this use. There has always been some institutional use too, evident today in the religious buildings and schools included in the district. The buildings are widely spaced apart and stand on deep lots. Abundant foliage and trees appear along the streets throughout the district, so that from any single point no more than four or five buildings are visible.

There are 79 properties in the district: 65 houses, four barns or carriagehouses, three buildings of religious use, two schools, one small office building, one cemetery, one site (Palisado Green), one monument, and one bridge. Fifty-seven of the properties, or 72 percent, contribute to the significance of the district: 48 houses, three barns or carriagehouses, one church, one school, the Green, the cemetery, the monument, and the bridge. Twenty-two of the properties (17 houses, one barn, one parish house, one synagogue, one office, and one school) were deemed non-contributing because of alterations or age less than 50 years. The buildings are all of one or two stories (many with attics), and wooden construction predominates, both timber-framing and balloon-framing. There is a significant minority of brick houses, with at least one example for most of the styles represented, including Georgian (Photographs 7,19), Greek Revival (Photograph 9), Italianate, Second Empire (Photograph 17), and Colonial Revival (Photograph 12).

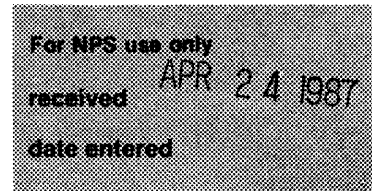
The largest group of contributing buildings dates from the 18th century, and is evenly divided between simple structures designated as "vernacular" in the inventory, and buildings with some architectural elaboration, such as a pedimented entry or a mutulary cornice, which are designated as Georgian; many examples from each type feature early 20th-century Colonial Revival alterations, usually congruent with the original building. The Federal-style (3) and Greek Revival (3) buildings are distinguished from the Georgian by age (19th- versus 18th-century origin) and by a more formal Classicism than is evident in the Georgian buildings. The variety of Victorian styles includes Italianate (4), Victorian Vernacular (3), and one each of Eastlake, Queen Anne, and Second Empire. Colonial Revival (9) is the most numerous 20th-century style, and there are single examples of the Bungalow, the Tudor Revival, and the Foursquare.

(continued)

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Location (continued):

NORTH MEADOW STREET

5

7

9

10 (Also known as 70 Palisado Avenue)

14

36

44

PALISADO AVENUE

East side: 76-78 through 412

West side: 75 Through 407

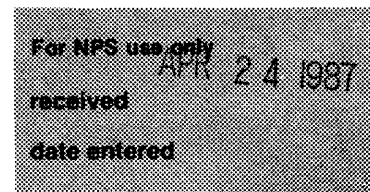
Also: Steel bridge carrying Palisado Avenue over the Farmington River at the south end of the district

PIERSON LANE:

25

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Representation in Existing Surveys (continued):

Except for the Palisado Avenue Bridge, the entire National Register District is included in the Palisado Local Historic District:

State/local, 1963, records deposited with Connecticut Historical Commission, 59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT.

Palisado Bridge is included in the Historic American Engineering Record inventory:

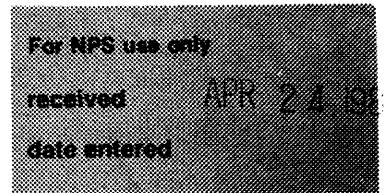
Connecticut: An Inventory of Historic Engineering and Industrial Sites, Federal/state, 1981, records deposited with Connecticut Historical Commission.

The Hezekiah Chaffee House, 108 Palisado Avenue, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places:

Federal/state, 1976, records deposited with Connecticut Historical Commission

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Page 1

Description (continued):

Despite the preponderance of pre-1800 buildings, the character of the district is as much Colonial Revival as colonial. Besides the large sample of Colonial Revival houses, this influence is evident in early-20th-century remodeling of most of the colonial buildings. The most common alteration was the installation of a new entry treatment. Some of these changes are evident from structural details, such as a newer portico obscuring an earlier treatment (Photograph 8), or a squarely plumb portico applied over an unevenly settled facade (Photograph 15). Others can be discerned from incongruous stylistic details, such as the lack of a vaulted ceiling behind an open pediment (Photograph 3), or a broken pediment on a Greek Revival house (Photograph 9). These Colonial Revival alterations do not detract from the architectural integrity of the district: a principal theme is domestic and institutional architecture from the early 18th century to the 1930s, including the Colonial Revival.

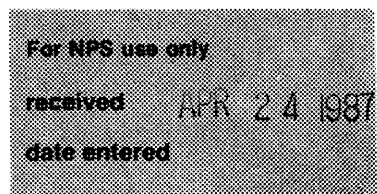
Thus the district retains a high degree of integrity in its architecture and its streetscapes. Only two houses and one barn were deemed non-contributing because of alterations. The other non-contributors were all built in the last 50 years. These later buildings have continued the earlier settlement pattern of the area: linear distribution along Palisado Avenue, generous spacing between houses, and minimal setback from the street. They are built on a scale similar to the earlier buildings: one-family houses of one or two stories. The materials of the new houses are also generally consistent with those of the earlier ones. Several houses have been moved, either from another nearby location or from another place on the same lot; these instances are noted in the appropriate inventory entries.

On the following pages is the inventory of properties in the district, grouped in categories of building, site, object, and structure, and by contributing or non-contributing status.

(continued)

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Description (continued):

Inventory of Buildings, Sites, Objects, and Structures

The entries are grouped in order by address on the respective streets. Each entry has the following format: street number or location, HISTORIC NAME (if any), style, date, roof type, wall material. Remarks on features or alterations. (Note: Detached garages and other minor outbuildings, such as sheds, do not appear in the inventory or the building count.)

Contributing Buildings

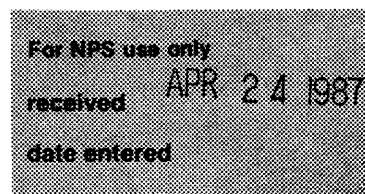
NORTH MEADOW ROAD

- 5 THOMAS HAYDEN HOUSE, Georgian, 1769, 2 stories, hip, clapboard.
Portico added in the early 20th century. (Photograph 3)
- 8 Eastlake, c.1890, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard with
patterned shingles in gable end. (Photograph 4)
- 9 WILLIAM A. LOVELL HOUSE, Georgian, c.1780, 2 and 1/2 stories, gambrel,
clapboard. Original entry remains, but shed dormer is an alteration;
house was moved to this site c.1807.
- 10 ELISHA STRONG HOUSE, 1780, 2 1/2 stories, hip, clapboard. Altered
to present Italianate appearance c. 1860; also known as 70 Palisado
Avenue. One of the two barns (timber-framed, gable roof, vertical-
board siding) contributes to the significance of the district; the
other is listed in the non-contributing inventory.
- 14 RETURN STRONG HOUSE, Vernacular, c.1726, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable,
clapboard.
- 36 JONATHAN ALVORD HOUSE, Vernacular, 1786, 1 and 1/2 stories, gambrel,
clapboard with high brick basement to east featuring a central
grade-level entry.
- 44 SAMUEL CROSS HOUSE, Vernacular, c.1730, 1 story, gable, clapboard with
high brick basement to east featuring a grade-level entry. New
wings added to rear. (Photograph 5)

(continued)

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Description (continued):

PALISADO AVENUE

- 75 FIRST CHURCH IN WINDSOR, Federal, 1794, with major Greek Revival alterations in 1844, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard with flush-boarded facade. Federal details (quoins, keyblocks over windows) remain on side elevations; portico and tower date from 1844 alteration. (Photograph 1)

- 76-78 FENTON STORE, Early Victorian, c.1850, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard. The south side of this symmetrical duplex held the store, and originally featured large open bays in front, where windows which match those on the north side are now found.

- 96 WALTER FYLER HOUSE, Vernacular, 17th century, 1 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard. Late 18th century wing (gambrel roof, clapboard) to east; 1962 museum building (gambrel roof, brick) to south, housing exhibits of the Windsor Historical Society. Interior details, such as plastered walls and sheathed summer beam, indicate substantial, if not complete, alteration of the earliest portion of the house during the 18th century.

- 101 REV. WILLIAM RUSSELL HOUSE, Georgian, 1755, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, aluminum siding. Scored entry surround, flush-paneled doors, and carved rosettes in the necking of the pilasters raise the likelihood that the entry is original to the house. (Photograph 2)

- 108 HEZEKIAH CHAFFEE HOUSE, Georgian, 1765, 2 and 1/2 stories, gambrel, brick with splayed brownstone lintels scored to resemble brick. Georgian Revival portico, which cuts across original splayed lintel, was installed c.1910. (Photographs 6,7,8)

- 115 DR. WILLIAM SEWARD PIERSON HOUSE, Federal, 1805, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard with flush-boarded gable-end. Ornate entry portico with pulvinated frieze appears to date from the 1930s.

- 118 JAMES HOOKER HOUSE, Vernacular/Greek Revival, 1765, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard. The original structure dates from the mid-18th century, but the formal architectural styling, such as the corner pilasters, flush-boarded gable ends, and gabled portico, is a product of an 1840 remodeling based on the Greek Revival.

(continued)

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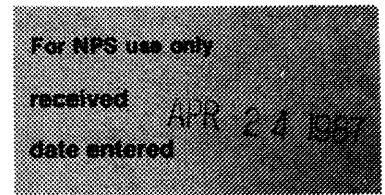
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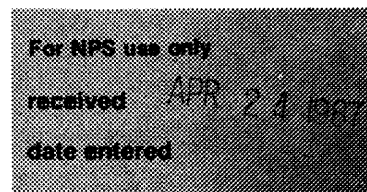
Description (continued):

- 126-124 Colonial Revival, c.1930, 2 and 1/2 stories, hip, clapboard and shingle.
- 130 Colonial Revival, c.1930, 2 and 1/2 stories, gambrel, shingle.
- 136 Colonial Revival, c.1930, 2 and 1/2 stories, gambrel, aluminum siding.
- 143 FIRST CHURCH PARSONAGE, Queen Anne, 1903, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, wood shingle.
- 144 Colonial Revival, c.1930, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard.
- 151 Colonial Revival, 1922, 2 and 1/2 stories, gambrel, brick.
- 160 FIRST CHURCH PARSONAGE, Greek Revival, 1852, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard. Colonial Revival entry surround (broken pediment with urn), installed in 1910. (Photograph 9)
- 161 JONATHAN ELLSWORTH HOUSE, Vernacular/Greek Revival, 1771/c.1845, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard. House originally stood several hundred yards to the south, adjacent to the Palisado Green. It was moved to this site c.1845, and turned to face its gable-end to the street; the gable-end pediment was also added at that time. The entry represents a subsequent remodeling episode in the early 20th century.
- 166 Colonial Revival, 1930, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, brick.
- 169 Colonial Revival, 1925, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, wood shingle.
- 180 Tudor Revival, 1930, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, brick and cut stone.
- 194 Late Greek Revival, c.1865, 1 and 1/2 stories, gable, aluminum siding. Side-entry plan, partial cornice return.
- 204 HORACE HOOKER HOUSE, Vernacular, 1790, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard. The heavily proportioned pilaster-and-lintel entry treatment appears more appropriate to a Greek Revival house of the 1830s, raising the suspicion that this entry may have been salvaged from another house and re-installed on this one, a practice that was not uncommon during Windsor's Colonial Revival fervor of the early 20th century.

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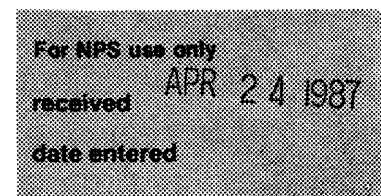
Description (continued):

- 209 DR. ELISHA N. SILL HOUSE, Vernacular, c.1800, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard. Pedimented portico added in the early 20th century. The brick carriage house to the rear, built c.1875, contributes to the significance of the district.
- 225 DORSON DRAKE HOUSE, Vernacular, 1790, 1 and 1/2 stories, gambrel, clapboard. House was recently moved back from the street to its present location toward the rear of its lot.
- 235 FIFTH DISTRICT SCHOOL, Italianate, 1871, 1 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard with flush-boarded portico. Also known as BELL SCHOOL. (Photograph 14)
- 248 ELIJAH MATHER, JR. HOUSE, Georgian, 1790, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard. Very plain splayed-board entry lintel does not match the simple (and probably original) mutulary cornice, indicating that the entry treatment is relatively recent, perhaps resulting from removal of an earlier-added portico. The gable-roofed, vertical-boarded barn to the rear contributes to the significance of the district.
- 256 ELIJAH MATHER, SR. HOUSE, Georgian, 1767, 2 and 1/2 stories, hip, clapboard. The entry, probably original, features fluted pilasters with carved rosettes in their necking, a pulvinated frieze, and finely molded cornice; similar entablatures appear above the front windows. (Photographs 10,11)
- 257 Bungalow, 1919, 1 and 1/2 stories, gable, asbestos shingle.
- 273 ALEXANDER ELLSWORTH HOUSE, Vernacular, c.1790, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard. Colonial Revival portico. (Photograph 15)
- 276 Colonial Revival, 1924, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, brick. (Photograph 12)
- 289 Victorian Vernacular, c.1900, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, wood shingle.
- 290 Colonial Revival, 1926, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, aluminum siding.
- 299 JOEL THRALL HOUSE, Greek Revival, c.1840, 2 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard.
- 316 HORACE H. ELLSWORTH HOUSE, Italianate, 1850, 2 stories, flat, brick with brownstone lintels.

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Description (continued):

- 335 EPHRAIM BARKER HOUSE, Vernacular/Greek Revival, 1790, 2 stories, gable, clapboard. Erected as a vernacular dwelling with center-hall plan, the house was altered in the mid-19th century, when the Greek Revival, pilaster-and-lintel entry was added.
- 336 JONATHAN ELLSWORTH HOUSE, Georgian, 1784, 2 stories, hip, clapboard. The present appearance reflects several extensive remodeling episodes. The entry is a Colonial Revival feature.
- 339 Victorian Vernacular, c.1890, 1 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard with wood-shingled gable-end.
- 345 PATRICK MURPHY HOUSE, Italianate, c.1871, 2 stories, hip, brick.
- 363 Colonial Revival, c.1925, 2 and 1/2 stories, gambrel, clapboard and wood shingle.
- 368 ELIAKRIN OLCOTT HOUSE, Federal, c.1817, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard with flush-boarded gable-end. (Photograph 16)
- 375 MOSES MITCHELL HOUSE, Vernacular, 1791, 2 and 1/2 stories, gambrel, clapboard. Recent entry; added front dormers. House was moved to this site in the mid-19th century.
- 390 HENRY MAGILL HOUSE, Second Empire, c.1870, 1 and 1/2 stories, mansard, brick with brownstone lintels and sills. (Photograph 17)
- 407 TAYLOR CHAPMAN HOUSE, Georgian, 1764, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, brick. (Photograph 19, 20)
- 412 Foursquare, 1900, 2 and 1/2 stories, hip, wood shingle.

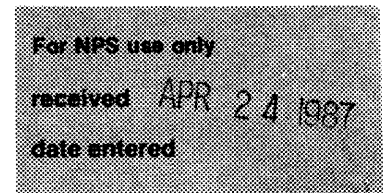
PIERSON LANE

- 25 DANIEL PORTER HOUSE, Georgian, 1787, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, clapboard.

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Description (continued):

Contributing Sites

PALISADO CEMETERY, 1633-present. Located west and north of the First Church, the cemetery was the first burying place in Windsor, and it continues in use. In the southwest corner are 17th- and 18th-century graves marked by brownstone and marble slabs of several types. Among the more notable stones is that of the Rev. Ephraim Huit, who died in 1644; it is a rare example of the table-form stone, with inscriptions on either side.

PALISADO GREEN, 1633-present. Located between Palisado Avenue and North Meadow Road, near the south end of the district, the Green is oblong-shaped--wider at its southern end, where institutional buildings stand (or stood) around its perimeter, and tapering at its northern end, where it gives way to a linear pattern of houselots. The earliest building of the First Church stood on the Green. Its site is now marked by a granite monument to the town's first settlers, erected in 1930 by the Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims, Connecticut Branch. (Photograph 6)

Contributing Object

GRANT FAMILY MONUMENT, 1931. A granite monument standing on a small town-owned parcel in front of 160 Palisado Avenue, it was erected in 1931 by the descendants of two early settlers. Along with the monument on Palisado Green, this site illustrates the nativist, geneological emphasis of Yankee society in the early 20th century, a trend which contributed to the popularity of the Colonial Revival architecture that characterizes the district, both in its 20th-century houses and the 20th-century alterations to earlier houses.

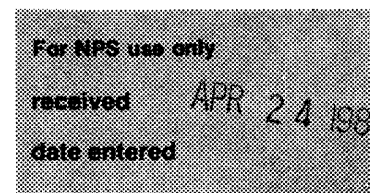
Contributing Structure

Pratt through truss bridge, 1916. Carrying Palisado Avenue over the Farmington River at the south end of the district. Rivet-connected, two-span superstructure of built-up steel members, concrete abutments and piers. Fabricated and erected by Berlin Construction Co., East Berlin, CT. (Photograph 1)

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Description (continued):

Non-contributing Buildings

NORTH MEADOW STREET

- 10 (rear) One of two barns behind this house (which is also known as 70 Palisado Avenue) is non-contributing because of substantial alteration, including new, large vehicle openings. The other barn contributes to the district, and is noted above in the entry for the house.

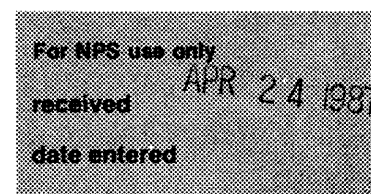
PALISADO AVENUE

- 114 SELLERS HALL, CHAFFEE SCHOOL, Colonial Revival, 1949, 1 and 1/2 stories, gable, brick with brownstone trim. Non-contributing because it is less than 50 years old.
- 107 FIRST CHURCH IN WINDSOR PARISH HOUSE, Colonial Revival, 1955, 1 story, hip, brick. Non-contributing because it is less than 50 years old.
- 139 Cape, 1940, 1 and 1/2 stories, gable, wood shingle.
- 179 Colonial Revival, 1938, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, brick. Non-contributing because it is less than 50 years old.
- 189 Colonial Revival, 1949, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable, wood shingle. Non-contributing because it is less than 50 years old.
- 224 Cape, c.1955, 1 and 1/2 stories, clapboard.
- 236 Cape, c.1955, gable, shingle. Small office to rear, also non-contributing. Also on this lot are three large, gambrel-roofed barns erected in 1956 to house King Stables; the district boundary was drawn so as to exclude the barns, the riding ring, and the acreage that extends to the bank of the Connecticut River. (Photograph 13)
- 241 Victorian Vernacular, c.1890, 2 and 1/2 stories, asbestos shingle. Non-contributing because of alterations to the porch and windows, as well as the siding.
- 249 Ranch, 1960, 1 story, gable, wood shingle.

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Description (continued):

- 256 Recent reproduction of an 18th-century vernacular house, made from an
(rear) older barn that was formerly associated with the house at 256
Palisado Avenue.
- 281 Ranch, c.1960, 1 story, gable, brick and aluminum siding.
- 298 Cape, 1964, 1 1/2 stories, gable, wood shingle.
- 309 Raised Ranch, 1962, 2 stories, gable, aluminum siding.
- 324 Cape, c.1960, 1 and 1/2 stories, gable, wood shingle.
- 325 Raised Ranch, c.1965, 2 stories, gable, brick and aluminum siding.
- 344 Cape, c.1960, 1 and 1/2 stories, gable, asbestos shingle.
- 355 Ranch, c.1960, 1 story, gable, wood shingle and fieldstone.
- 362 CONGREGATION BETH AHM, utilitarian, 1 story, gable, aluminum siding.
- 370 Cape, c.1955, and 1 1/2 stories, gable, wood shingle.
- 398 Italianate, 2 story, hip, aluminum siding. Non-contributing because
of extensive alterations: new porch, new window openings, added wing
to south, along with the aluminum siding. (Photograph 18)

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received
date entered

Description (continued):

Addendum to Inventory:

In the category of Contributing Objects, add the 1930 monument on Palisado Green, which is discussed above in the inventory entry for the Green.

Adding this entry for the monument raises the total number of resources in the district from 79 to 80; raises the number of contributing resources from 57 to 58; and raises the percentage of contributing resources from 72 to 72.5 percent of the total resources.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)		

Criteria A, C

Specific dates See inventory--Item 7 **Builder/Architect** various

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Summary

Palisado Avenue Historic District is significant because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of architectural styles from the early 18th century through the early 20th century (Criterion C). The buildings include distinguished and for the most part well-preserved examples of several architectural styles: 18th-century vernacular, Georgian, Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, Victorian vernacular, Queen Anne, Tudor Revival, and Colonial Revival. The architecture is distinctive for the high concentration (for Connecticut) of brick construction from the 18th and 19th centuries. The district also has significance in the history of Windsor (Criterion A). The first English settlers in Windsor (and in the Connecticut Valley) lived on either side of the Farmington River along Palisado Avenue, and Palisado Green remained the center of the town's civic and ecclesiastic affairs until the church was relocated south of the Farmington River in the 1750s. After that, Palisado served a series of diverse and sometimes overlapping roles in the larger community of Windsor, all of which illuminate the town's unique history.

History

In the early 1630s three separate groups of English people settled on the banks of the Farmington River near its confluence with the Connecticut. The area atop the ridge just north of the Farmington (today's Palisado Green) was the center of the community, largely because it was protected from flooding. Its role as the focus of community life was reinforced in 1637 during the Pequot War, when all the settlers set up quarters near Palisado Green, and erected a stockade, or palisado, for protection against hostile natives. During this crisis the residents named their settlement Windsor. After the Pequots were defeated, the Windsor people erected their first meetinghouse on the present site of Palisado Green. Militia drills and the limited exchange of goods that occurred took place on the land around the meetinghouse. Palisado Green remained the center of civic and religious life, until in 1757 the growing population south of the Farmington River succeeded in their demand to relocate the church nearer their homes, on what is today Broad Street Green; the Palisado people obtained permission to form a separate society. Thus began the concentration of Windsor's religious and institutional life in the Broad Street area, away from the Palisado neighborhood. The Palisado area then entered a period of local commercial prominence. Merchants like James Hooker, who ran his business in his house at 118 Palisado Avenue, exported agricultural and forest products to the Caribbean, and imported sugar and molasses. The volume of trade, and the anchorage in the mouth of the Farmington, made Palisado an important port of entry in the late 18th century. Palisado also served more purely local commerce in the 18th century, when the

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 63

Quadrangle name Hartford North

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References See Continuation Sheet

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries N/A

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

edited by John Herzan,

name/title Matthew Roth, Bruce Clouette and Robert Griffith, National Register Coordinator

organization Historic Resource Consultants

date 17 October 1986

street & number 55 Van Dyke Avenue

telephone (203) 547-0268

city or town Hartford

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 April 13, 1987

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for Patricia Andrews
Keeper of the National Register

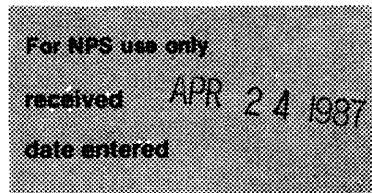
date 8/25/87

Attest:
Chief of Registration

date

**United States Department of the Interior
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Palisado Avenue Historic District
Continuation sheet Windsor, CT Item number 8 Page 1

Significance (continued):

common was frequently stacked high with produce and other goods brought to market. The post office and the service businesses of the agricultural economy, such as blacksmithing, also were located around Palisado Green.

After the Revolution, the religious societies to the north and south of the Farmington decided to reunify, placing the new school south of the river and the new church to the north (the present First Church). The townspeople also agreed to pay for a bridge across the Farmington, the earliest predecessor of the present bridge; the bridge thus symbolizes the ongoing commitment of the separate areas to stand together as a town. The Broad Street area gained commercial pre-eminence in 1844, when the Hartford, New Haven and Springfield Railroad located its depot on Central Street. At that same time, the Palisado church was being rebuilt, and it was rededicated as "First Church in Windsor," to distinguish it from other churches in the town that could not trace their origins to the 1630s. This episode marked the beginning of Palisado's commemorative function, one that it continues to serve.

Convenient to the commercial center of Broad Street, yet comfortably removed from its bustle, Palisado began to fulfill another role in the second half of the 19th century: select residential neighborhood. The town's population tripled between 1850 and 1900, the increase composed largely of working people employed in Windsor's brickyards and mills. The factory neighborhoods included numerous immigrants from Ireland, and later from other European countries. Palisado retained an exclusive aspect, based more strictly on money than on ethnicity: at least one Irishman, Patrick Murphy, lived on Palisado Avenue, in the spacious Italianate house at # 345. New construction continued to follow the colonial pattern of large houselots, which complemented the neighborhood's social position. The commemorative role of the Palisado neighborhood also began to assume greater importance. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, one expression of antipathy toward the new European immigrants was the heightened interest of Yankees in their colonial forebears. Genealogical societies flourished, and tracing one's antecedents to Yankee stock was required for admission to certain organizations. The descendants of two early settlers placed the Grant Family Monument on the site of their ancestors' house, near what is today 160 Palisado Avenue. And the Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims built the monument on Palisado Green: once the location of their ancestors' church, the Green became a shrine to their ancestors.

Architecture

The district's buildings reflect the Palisado area's changing role in Windsor, and embody the distinctive characteristics of several periods and styles of architecture. The Fyler House, so extensively altered that it has scant

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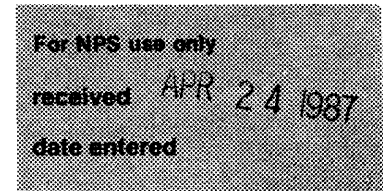
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Significance (continued):

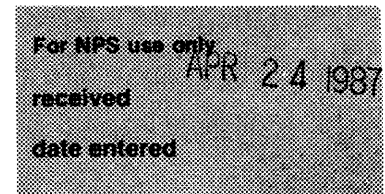
original 17th-century fabric, nonetheless retains the scale of that period. Its small rooms and low ceilings suggest the economy of scarcity that characterized the first two generations of English settlement. The center-chimney houses of the 18th century also feature locally available materials (timber framing, fieldstone or brick foundations and chimneys, clapboards), but their size, typically 5-bay and 2-and-1/2 stories, indicates a less marginal existence. Windsor's extensive clay beds suitable for brick-making began to influence local architecture, evident in the brick-walled ground floors of two 18th-century houses on North Meadow Road, and the all-brick, 1764 house (Photograph 19). Extra-regional trade and Windsor's good agricultural land brought prosperity to some residents, and contact with more cosmopolitan port cities brought growing sophistication in the houses of the well-to-do. The Georgian dwellings of the 18th century are less tradition-bound than their predecessors, displaying conscious Classicism beyond the late-medieval Jacobean influence carried across the Atlantic by the early English settlers. The Elijah Mather, Sr. House (Photographs 10,11) uses Classical forms such as the pilaster-and-lintel entry with entablature. Yet it also features folk motifs, such as the carved rosettes and the bell-arched lights and panels, which represent the persistence of traditional designs in the mid-18th century, and identify the Mather House and comparable examples as the products of mid-18th-century Connecticut.

By the early 19th century, the formal architecture of the Palisado area (and Connecticut as a whole) had turned fully to the Classical inspiration. The Federal-style house of Eliakrin Olcott (Photograph 16) evoked Classical form in its gable-front siting; adopted Classical motifs in its arched entry and attic light; and imitated Classical materials in its flush-boarding, which was thought to make a wooden wall resemble masonry. The Classical influence was still filtered through English practice: the delicately scaled mutulary cornice reflects the architecture of England's Robert Adam. Following the Federal style closely in time, the Greek Revival utilized many of the same precepts while hewing more closely to the heavier scale of ornament evident in the masonry buildings of ancient Greece. Thus the cornice of the 1852 parsonage (Photograph 9) is of plain boards rather than finely scaled moldings, and the pilasters and portico added to the James Hooker House in the 1840s are more massive than similar features on the Olcott House. The historical, romantic impulse that helped popularize the Greek Revival style found more exuberant expression in Italianate architecture. The Patrick Murphy House (c.1871, 345 Palisado Avenue) is an example of the flat-roofed, boxy-massed Italian Villa style; its brick construction makes it particularly distinctive of Windsor. The district's most vivid Italianate building is the Fifth District School (1871, 235 Palisado Avenue), with its round-arched shapes, deep cornice with paired brackets, and small square tower rising from a shallow entry pavilion. The district also features good examples of other

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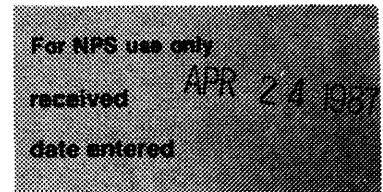
Significance (continued):

Victorian styles: Second Empire (390 Palisado Avenue), with its characteristic mansard roof; Eastlake (8 North Meadow Road), with its profusion of turned and carved ornament in the peaks and porch; and Queen Anne (143 Palisado Avenue) with the key features of asymmetrical plan, massing and roof, and varied wall textures.

Among the various revival styles that achieved high popularity in the early 20th century, the Colonial Revival was the most favored in this neighborhood. Like the other revival styles of the day, the Colonial Revival gained favor in part because it offered an appearance of order and solidity relative to the exuberant eclecticism of Victorian architecture. Its scale and materials were also in keeping with the prior buildings around Palisado Green and along Palisado Avenue. The Colonial Revival also meshed with the the nativist tenor of Yankee society, as people looked to their ancestors for inspiration. Gambrel roofs, symmetrical facades, and small-pane sash were applied to balloon-framed dwellings, and ornamentation took the form of re-interpreted Georgian-Classical motifs. The Colonial Revival era also included the remodeling of dwellings that were truly colonial, most often resulting in a fancier appearance than the original. The colonial forebears were rightly honored for their hard work and flinty rationality, but it is ironic that the 20th-century attempt to memorialize in architecture the values of earlier generations imparted a rather precious appearance to the stark elegance of the older buildings. While such alterations can be seen as detracting from the integrity of the older buildings, they also have significance in their own right because they help to illustrate how an evolving community interpreted its own past.

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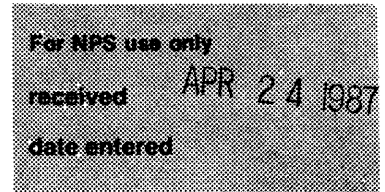
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Geographic Data (continued):

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Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

Several criteria were applied to delineate the district boundary. At the north end of the district, the boundary was drawn to include the highest possible concentration of historic buildings while stopping south of the area where historic buildings are merely scattered among more numerous recent structures.

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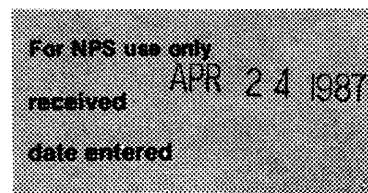
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Geographic Data (continued):

As it turned out, the National Register boundary extends precisely as far north as the boundary of the existing local historic district: Bissell Ferry Road. Near the southern end, the National Register boundary (again in similar fashion to the local historic district) extends east on North Meadow Road to the last houselot. The National Register district also includes the bridge over the Farmington River, for three reasons: the date of the bridge falls within the time period of the district's significance; this crossing was an important element in the relationship between Palisado and the rest of Windsor, an historical theme in the district's significance; and the bridge serves as a visual gateway to the district from the south, framing the approach to Palisado Green. The entire cemetery was included because of its historical importance throughout the period of the district's significance; and because the earliest and most significant stones are located at the rear (west) of the cemetery property, requiring the entire property to be included if these stones are to be part of the district. Wherever possible the boundary follows curb lines and lot lines, although divergences do occur, primarily on the east side of Palisado Avenue where the lots extend several hundred yards in depth to the bank of the Connecticut River. These rear lots are mostly open (the few buildings there are recent barns that would be non-contributing), and historically were used for crops or pastures. Since the significance of the district does not include agriculture as a theme, this open land is excluded. The deep lots to the west of Palisado Avenue are included in their entirety because they are, and were, primarily houselots as opposed to agricultural property.