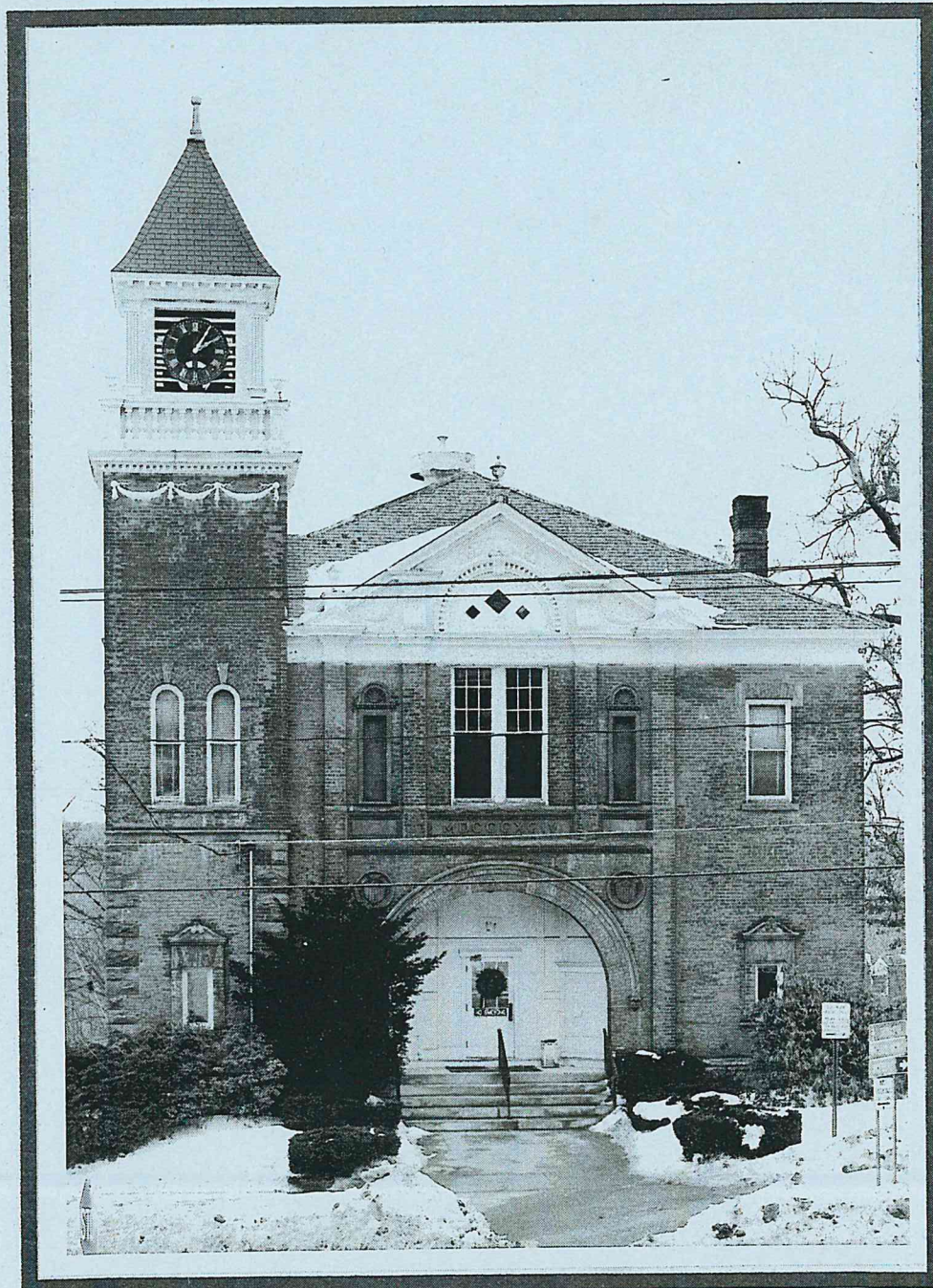


# WATERTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT



**REPORT OF  
HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE  
WATERTOWN, CONNECTICUT  
1996**

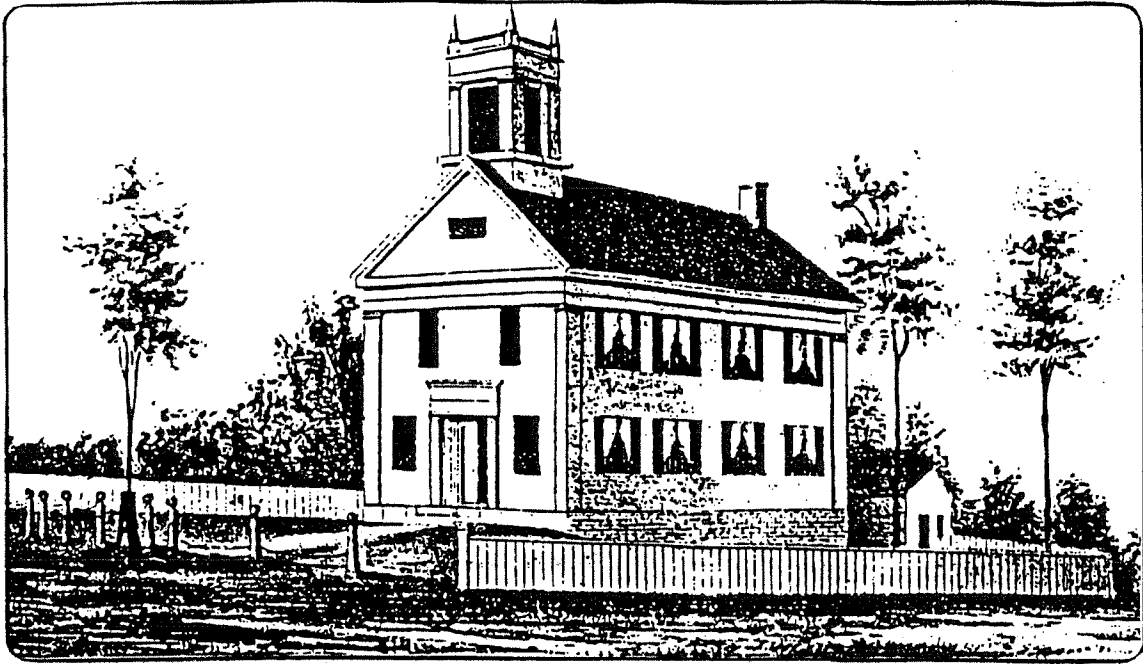
**The Watertown Historic District Study Committee  
wishes to dedicate this report to the memory of**

**JOAN B. ATWOOD,**

**our fellow committee member, friend and neighbor,  
who died on January 20, 1996.**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgments.....	1
What is an Historic District?.....	2
1867 Historic Map of Watertown.....	4
Watertown: Its History .....	5
Watertown: Its Historic Buildings.....	7
Map of Proposed Historic District.....	35
Proposed Ordinance Establishing District.....	37
Inventory of Buildings.....	41
Academy Hill.....	43
DeForest Street.....	55
Dickerman Street.....	75
Hamilton Avenue.....	79
Main Street.....	95
North Street.....	109
The Green.....	131
Warren Way.....	139
Woodbury Road.....	149
Woodruff Avenue.....	175



**ACADEMY BUILDING**

**1846**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Watertown Historic District Study Committee is grateful to the many Town residents and friends whose support has made this report possible.

The impetus for an historic district in Watertown had its beginnings in the effort to save the Academy Building on The Green in 1992-3 from demolition. The first meeting of an ad hoc committee was called by Hobart D. & Nancy Van Deusen at their home on September 22, 1991 and eventually the "Friends Of The Academy" was formed. At the successful conclusion of the campaign to save the Academy in May, 1993, it was decided that with the funds raised and with an interested citizenry, the time had come for Watertown to implement an historic district to join the 100+ districts already established in Connecticut. Another ad hoc committee was formed and the proposal for an Historic District Study Committee was brought to the Town Council and approved by them on June 21, 1993. Our first historic district proposal was approved by in-district balloting on December 13, 1994; however, the Town Council failed to pass the enabling ordinance, by a 5-3-1 vote on April 3, 1995. The present HDSC was appointed by a new Town Council on Dec. 11, 1996.

The Historic District Study Committees received assistance from many quarters. First, were the many donors to the Academy Fund who, when contacted, repledged their contributions to the Historic District Study Committee. These funds allowed the Committee to hire a professional architectural-historian: Steven Bedford of Watertown to guide us and write the "Watertown: Its Historic Buildings" section of this report. Additionally, Kurt A. Dolnier, a professional architectural photographer, donated the bulk of his services to photograph, develop and print all the pictures in the "Inventory of Buildings" section. The Committee would like to thank Ruth K. Getsinger who wrote the "Watertown: Its History" page. Town Clerks, Mary B. Cauty and Dolores LaRosa and Tax Assessor, John F. Petuch and their staffs, gave us invaluable research help over many months and we would like to heartily thank them all.

Following are LIAISONS to our Committee that represent constituencies that are important to the birth of this Historic District:

Ruth K. Getsinger--Watertown Historical Society  
John F. A. Herzan--Connecticut Historical Commission  
Jean C. King--Town Council  
Patricia A. Kropp--Town Council  
Rosalie Loughran--Chairman, Town Council  
Stanley Maysada--Planning & Zoning Commission  
Gennaro Romano--The Taft School  
Russell E. Ryan--Watertown Fire District  
John L. Salomone--Watertown Town Manager

Additionally, the individuals below are members of our ADVISORY PANEL who each lent their individual expertise at crucial times:

John M. Robb      E. Edward Thompson      Debare Saunders      Nancy Van Deusen

Finally, we would like to thank our many friends and neighbors in the proposed Watertown Historic District. We appreciate very much the insights and suggestions received from you during the preparation of this report.

Hobart D. Van Deusen, Chairman  
Ronald D. Mayne, Vice-Chairman  
Genie M. Rigopulos, Treasurer  
Steven V. Sawicki, Secretary

Florence T. Crowell  
Stephen C. Whitaker  
Kurt A. Dolnier  
Elaine H. Adams

# WHAT IS AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?

By state statute, a town in Connecticut may protect an area of outstanding historic value and architectural beauty by creating a special district in which any demolition or architectural alteration, that would be **VISIBLE FROM A PUBLIC STREET**, must be approved by a Town Commission.

## **Formation of an Historic District**

The property owners of the proposed district and the townspeople create an historic district as follows:

1. Town Council authorizes a Study Committee.
2. The Study Committee makes a survey of the historic architecture of the town. It then maps out boundaries of a proposed district, researches the properties and meets with property owners to discuss the proposed district. The Committee drafts a proposed ordinance and report.
3. The report is submitted to the Connecticut Historical Commission, the local planning and zoning authorities and the Town Council.
4. A public hearing is held.
5. The Historic District proposal is submitted to the property owners in the district. Ballots are mailed by the Town Clerk. A 2/3rds majority of those voting is required for approval.
6. If approved by the property owners in the proposed district, the proposal and ordinance are then brought to the Town Council for enactment.

## **Function**

The Town Council appoints an Historic District Commission consisting of five (5) members and three (3) alternate members. Four(4) of the members and two (2) of the alternate members of the Commission must be property owners or residents within the district. Thereafter any **EXTERIOR** changes or deletions to buildings in the district must be submitted to the Commission. The Commission must examine the proposed change according to the terms of the ordinance and decide whether the proposed change is "appropriate" to the character of the district.

## **Appropriateness**

The state statute purposely uses this unspecific word, recognizing that all towns are different and giving the greatest possible weight to the judgment of local people. What the law does NOT mean is that the neighborhood has to stay frozen exactly the way it is now. It does NOT mean that the buildings must be all of one period, and it does NOT mean that any future additions have to imitate any existing, dominant style.

Most neighborhoods are already mixtures of many styles. These mixed styles have been able to live together gracefully and courteously for many years and, instead of detracting from the charm of the neighborhood, in most cases the mixture adds to the historic richness. It is this instinctive harmony of buildings whose designers respected one another and their common environment that the law is trying to preserve, rather than any particular period or periods.

Consequently, the Commission is more concerned with general questions of scale, of quality of design, of the relationship of one building to another, and to the streetscape than it is with particular periods.

## **What Specifically Concerns the Commission?**

Any proposed EXTERIOR changes to property which are VISIBLE FROM THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY, are legally subject to review by the Historic District Commission.

## **Color**

The law has no control over paint color.

## **Zoning**

Historic District matters should not be confused with zoning issues. The USE of a property is a zoning issue. All zoning matters within the District, and within the Town, are controlled by the Planning and Zoning Commission and/or the Zoning board of Appeals and the Fire District. Parking areas are subject to review of both the Historic District Commission and the zoning bodies.

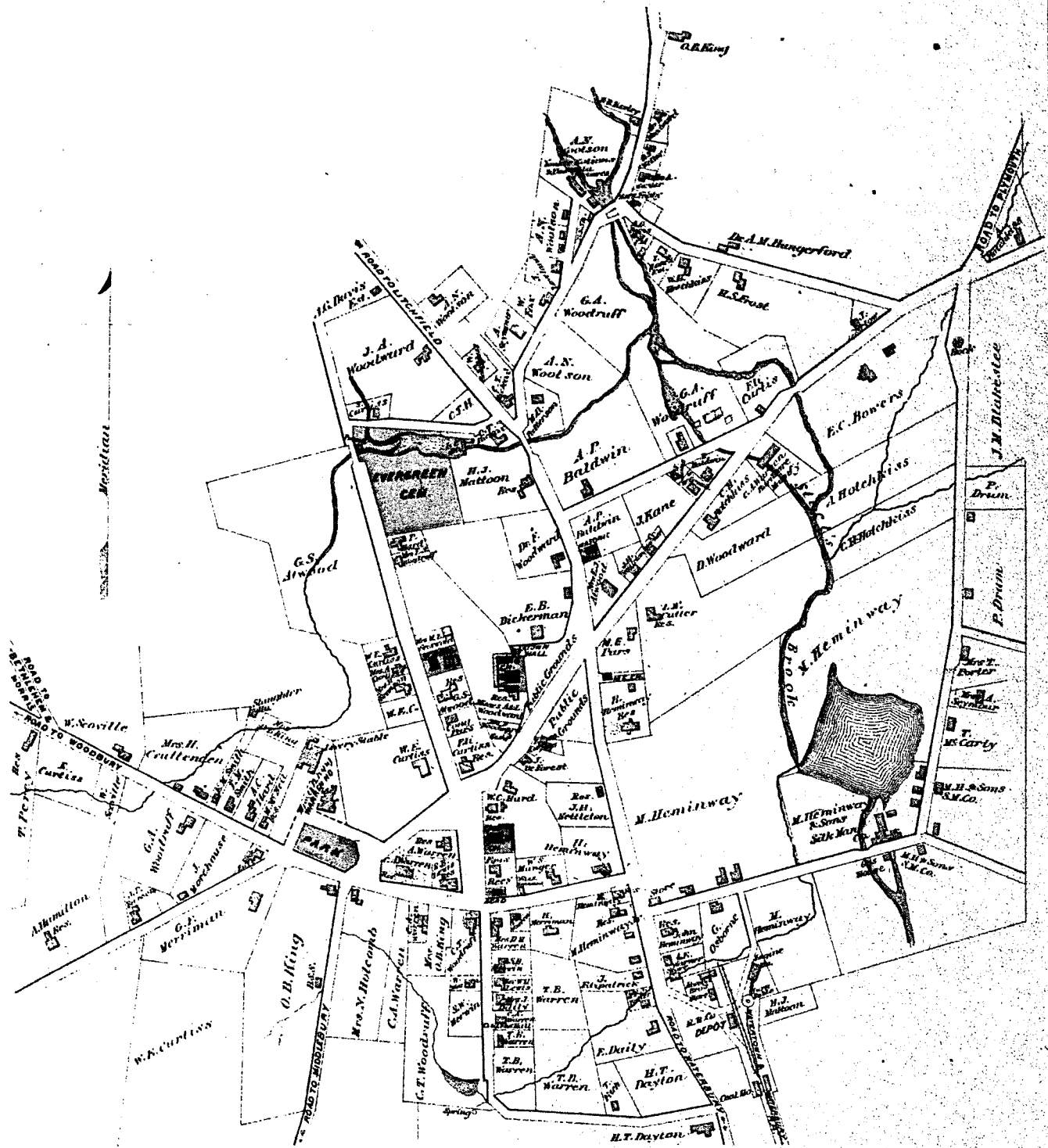
1867

# WATERTOWN

TOWN OF WATERTOWN

Scale 30 Rods to the inch.

59



## WATERTOWN: ITS HISTORY

"We beg our kind readers to remember the difficulties to be encountered in writing a correct and authentic history of this kind. However, it is a work that has had its pleasures. It has opened up a richer and more detailed knowledge of this dear town. To the blessed memory of those who, in the past, labored among these hills and valleys, with strong hearts and willing hands, to make homes for those dear to them, afterward by precept and example to build strong character and to those in the present who are in any way trying to make this town a lasting tribute, to their labors, this book is dedicated."

The above paragraph is taken from the "History of Ancient Westbury and Present Watertown from its Settlement to 1907." Before the area was called Westbury it was part of a grant recorded in Farmington Land Records of 1667 conveying to William Lewis and Samuel Steele of that town, mining rights, eight miles on either side of the Naugatuck River, starting in Harwinton. The mining scheme was soon abandoned but the land was good for farming so, in 1673, twenty-six men petitioned to settle in the area defined on the east by the Farmington bounds, south by a former land grant, west on Quassapaug Pond and north on Nonnewaug and Guernseytown.

Although no permanent settlement was begun until around 1700, the fertile land and many brooks and streams suitable for water power caused the new town to prosper. The first mills were for sawing lumber and grinding grain, followed by fulling and carding mills. Pewter buttons were being made by the early 1800s. Adding to local prosperity was the manufacture of equipment needed for making and shipping cheese, building wagons, shoes, clocks and, in fact, the town must have been to a large extent self-sufficient. The inhabitants had their share of the famed New England attribute: Yankee Ingenuity.

Around the middle of the 19th Century, Watertown's manufacturing goals were aimed at a wider market. The Wheeler and Wilson sewing machine was made in Watertown. When land for expansion was not available, the company moved to Bridgeport and eventually sold its patents to the Singer Sewing Machine Company. What probably brought the greatest prosperity to Watertown was the founding of the Heminway and Bartlett Company, the first to put silk thread on spools. During World War II, the company switched from silk to nylon thread, supplying parachute cord to the war effort. Watertown has maintained a balance between industrial, commercial and residential land use. It represents a wholesome evolution because of this balance. It can claim few famous people (Jonathan Trumbull, Poet of the American Revolution, was born here), but neither is it a cultural wasteland--it is the home of The Taft School. It has industrial and commercial areas, still has open farmland and includes part of the Black Rock State Forest.

A few colonial homes are left, but perhaps architecturally, its greatest gems are the houses built during its prosperous years around the middle of the nineteenth century, Victorian adaptations of the Italian villa style. The variety of styles, reflecting the quality of life in town, is a heritage to be treasured and preserved for future generations.



**WATERTOWN:  
ITS HISTORIC BUILDINGS**



## **Introduction**

Located on a ridge above the commercial area of Main Street and the manufacturing section to the east along Steele Brook, the Watertown Historic District is comprised of approximately 113 buildings. Although the district is primarily residential, it does include three churches, a school and several buildings that currently house most of the offices of the town government.

The age and type of buildings in the district is a reflection of the changing economic basis of the town during the first two-thirds of the 19th century. Up to about 1840, the area was mostly occupied by small farms, two churches and a few fledgling merchant's enterprises. In the 1840s, when several of these farmers and small businessmen, such as Eli Curtiss, George Woodruff, Alanson Warren, Nathaniel Wheeler, Merrit Heminway and Benjamin DeForest began to engage in manufacturing endeavors such as the production of Panama hats(Curtiss), sewing machines(Warren and Wheeler), buckles (Woodruff) and silk(Heminway), this area of Watertown became the location for their grand homes, including 5 The Green, designed by Henry Austin. This period of prosperity, which extended through the turn of the century, was the era of the district's greatest growth, while relatively little building has occurred in the area since then.

As a result of this building pattern, the area has excellent examples of Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne and Colonial Revival style buildings. There is even a castellated Gothic Revival style dwelling, a rarity in the state. Italianate and Greek Revival houses do predominate however. As a complete assemblage of buildings, the district forms a cohesive image that has remained virtually unchanged for the past 80 years.

## **Religious Structures in Watertown**

Due to the theocratic nature of the founding of the state, religious institutions played an important role in the early history of Watertown. By 1736 enough people had settled in this part of Westbury, then a part of Waterbury, that the local citizens petitioned the General Court for permission to obtain their own minister and be exempt from Waterbury's ministerial taxes. However, it was not until 1738 that this petition(in its third embodiment) was granted and the First Ecclesiastical Society of Westbury was incorporated. The first church services were held in the home of George Lewis and were led by the Reverend John Trumbull. By 1741 a structure was built at one corner of the old burial ground, with all 300 of the area's residents as members. In 1772 this meeting house was replaced by a new structure located on the site of the present Town Hall. By the late 1830s, the church decided to rebuild once again, this time on land to the north and west of the existing church. In December 1838, the church contracted with the builder Steven Baldwin of New Hartford to erect a new church. The contract of December twelfth dictated that the building should follow the general form of the Plymouth meeting house. It was to be 74 feet long and 46 feet wide with 28 foot high columns. Baldwin's payment was to be \$4,475.00 and all the timber he could salvage from the old meeting house. By 1840 the church was dedicated.

The church is now one of the most prominent buildings on the small park at the center of town. The Greek Revival facade is more than equal to any of the other buildings on this small greensward. Its tetrastyle Ionic order is topped by a plain entablature and pediment. Rising from the narthex is a two-tiered tower. The base of the tower is appropriately Doric, in antis. This short tower is crowned by panels in the shape of classical

sarcophagi decorated with antefixes. Greek Revival style antepagments flank the three entries. The flush-board exterior cladding completes the image of a temple front topped by a spire. Appended to the rear of the building are modern additions housing a large assembly hall and a classroom building.



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, Watertown, Conn.

Postcard circa 1920, Congregational Church, Trumbull House left.

This building conforms to the then popular Greek Revival style and is an excellent example of its type. In fact it appears to be a composite of the churches illustrated in Asher Benjamin's *Practice of Architecture* (1833) and the *Builder's Guide* (1837), two extremely popular pattern books of the mid-19th century.

Adjacent to the Congregational Church is Trumbull House, where the church presently has its offices. It was built in 1772 by the Rev. John Trumbull who had been the Congregational pastor in town since at least 1741. In 1794, the house was purchased by Colonel Edmund Lockwood who added a large ballroom, and converted the house to a well-known tavern and stage coach stop. In 1812, it was then obtained by Captain David Woodward and was continued in use as a tavern, perhaps until the mid-19th century. The building then reverted to use as a private residence and remained in the Woodward family until 1905. That year it was purchased by Charles & Agnes Buckingham, who added the large Doric porches and restored the interior. In 1957, the house again became the Congregational parsonage. On the exterior, it has retained its essential 18th century saltbox form, while the entry and porches are all early 20th century alterations. Nevertheless, it is one of the few 18th century houses in the district.

The Episcopalian congregation in Watertown has also occupied several buildings since its inception in 1760. By 1765 the first Episcopal church, known as Christ Church, was located southeast of the old burial grounds, and in 1794,



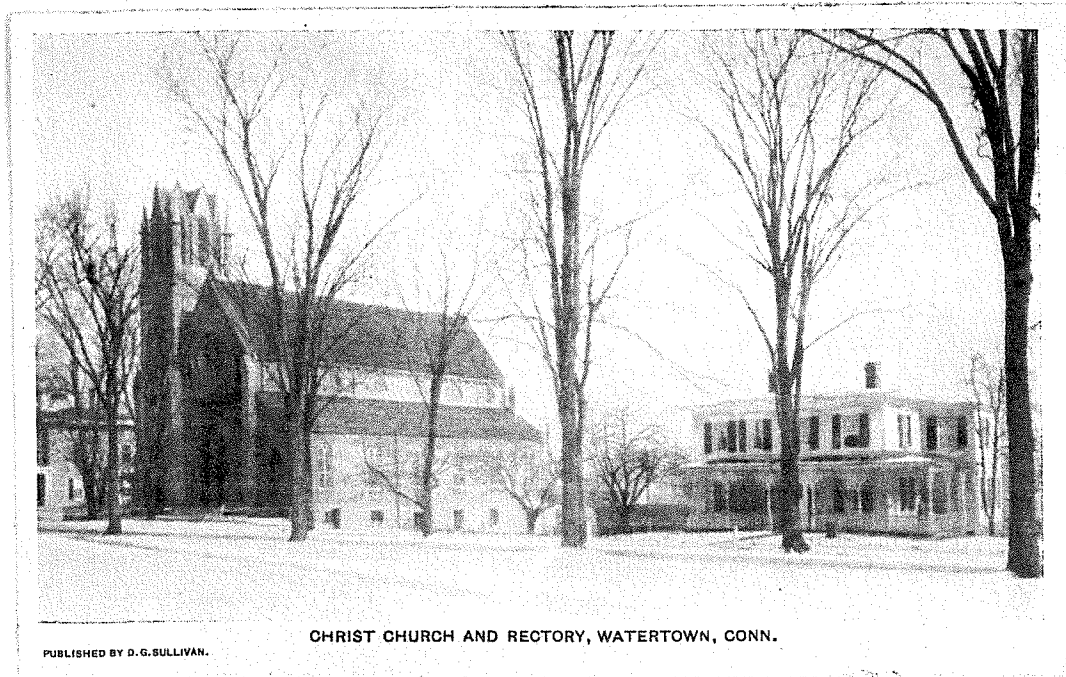
**Postcard circa 1910, Trumbull House**

following the reconstituting of the church after the Revolution, a new Christ Church was built on the Green. A third church was built on the present site in 1854-55 following the Gothic Revival designs of architect J. Wood Johns.

The rectory was built adjacent to the church on the south side, next to the Watertown Academy. Its original appearance was very similar to 153 DeForest. This distinctive Italianate dwelling was remodeled to a Colonial Revival mode about 1912, while the Academy was taken over as the Church's parish house and remodeled in 1912 as well.

In the late 19th century Christ Church's steeple was struck by lightning and the spire was replaced. Finally, in 1920, the congregation elected to replace its church once more. They initially solicited the well known neo-gothic architect Bertram Goodhue, but his proposed design proved too costly. Instead, the Boston firm of Allen and Collens, architects of New York's Riverside church and the Cloisters museum, provided a subdued rendition of a medieval rural parish church and its building was completed in 1924. As it stands today, the church, with its attached parish hall, built in 1960, maintains a quaint and sedate image of an English country parish church. Its appearance is vital to the streetscape of the district.

The Academy Building, owned by Christ Church since it was built by parishioners in 1846, has had a long and distinguished place in the community. Built as a private academy, it has had many church and public uses; first as Watertown Academy, then as the first Watertown High School, first town library, and then as the church's parish hall. Over the years the building has been used by the Red Cross, the school system, church and community groups, sewing groups, scouts and for plays and recitals. The Academy is a quintessential example of a Greek Revival school house. Its exterior has the basic



**Postcard circa 1900, Christ Church and Rectory**

longitudinal form and spare decoration of a school building of the period. Although its interior has been gutted, it still retains its Greek Revival entry, window details, its bell tower and corner pilasters. Around 1912 it was enlarged and converted to a parish house for the Episcopal Congregation. It occupies a key location on the green.

**Public Buildings**

As was typical in Connecticut towns in the 18th century, the first public building in town was the old Congregational meeting house. After the revolution, the town clerk's office appears to have been in a variety of private homes. It was not until 1864 that the town purchased Amos Gridley's store and converted it to a town hall. Gridley, a local merchant of great success and failure, built the brick store in 1846, replacing the wooden store of Gerrit Smith. The post office was also located here in 1853. The central location of the building, adjacent to the Congregational church made it an ideal site for a public building, but by 1894 it was clearly too small and was abandoned for a larger building. In 1896 the fire department took over the first floor until 1951, and, since 1953 the lower floor has served as the offices of the Watertown Fire District. The second floor, now the Watertown Historical Society Museum, was also used as the Masonic Hall(1853-1872), a kindergarten(1897-1902) and as a barber shop.

The two-bay building was, and still is, adorned with an Ionic porch. The stark white of the porch contrasts with the salmon pink of the soft burned brick with tight mortar joints, as well as the granite sills and window headers. It is further distinguished by a dentillated cornice and pediment. In the tympanum is a horizontal Greek Revival style window.

As early as 1892 the town had realized that their hall was inadequate and held a series of town meetings to determine what to do. On March seventh, 1892,



**Postcard circa 1915, Watertown Fire District Bldg. and Munson House**

the town passed a resolution to appropriate \$10,000. to build a suitable town hall. On March twenty-eighth, 1892 the Committee on Sites and Plans was established and debate on the site of the building continued. Record of this debate disappears until 1894. At the town meeting on May fifth, it was voted to approve plans and specifications presented by the committee. Work began almost immediately, with a grand opening in February, 1895.

A vibrant, but naive design, the Town Hall appears to have been designed by a committee. Resting on a granite base, the massive brick structure rises two and a half stories, with the northwest corner designed as a clock tower. Its main entry is recessed behind a deep Syrian-arched entryway. This entry is flanked by renaissance-revival-style terra-cotta niches. The haunches of the arch are decorated with Union shields. Above, at the second floor level, in conjunction with the huge projecting gabled dormer, the central bay is articulated as a *serliana*. This arched opening is, in turn, flanked by terra-cotta volutes and urns, as is the rest of the tiled roof. On the northern and southern sides of the building, the ground floor fenestration is trabeated, while the upper floor openings are arched. The quoined clock tower is articulated in a Colonial Revival manner with classical swags, balustrades and a modillioned cornice.

The eclectic nature of this building can be attributed to the changing taste of a nation on the verge of adopting neoclassical form as its public architecture. The apparent clash of forms in the town hall creates a brash dynamism rarely found in public buildings in this area. The interior was designed to meet the needs of the town in 1894. The ground floor contained, and still does, public offices, while the upper floor, now unused, was devoted to a large room for holding the necessary town meetings. The basement was used as the police department and jail.

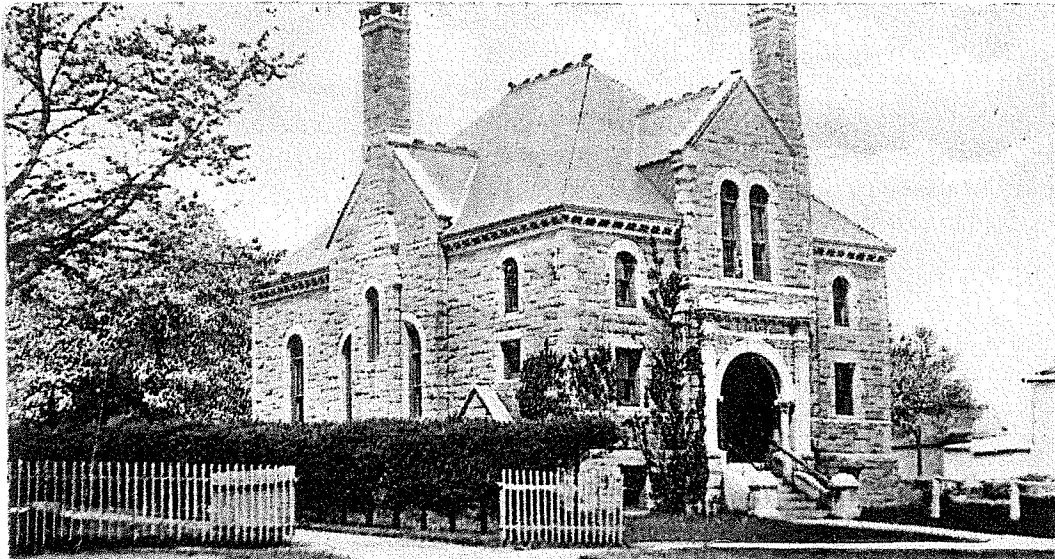
Almost directly across the street from Town Hall, slightly to the northwest, is



**Photograph 1894: Town Hall under construction**

the old Watertown library, now owned by the Lutheran church. The history of this building begins in 1876 when John DeForest donated a book endowment of \$5,000. to the Watertown library, which was then located over Barton's store at 31 Woodbury Road. Further impetus for the construction of a building was given by Benjamin DeForest, John's brother, with a gift of \$15,000. in 1883. By 1884, the building built to the designs of well-known Waterbury architect R. W. Hill, opened to the public. As completed, the gray Quincy granite of the building contributes to the distinctive eminence of the Richardsonian Romanesque style of the building. Of particular note is the entry with its deep Syrian arch supported on short Romanesque-Revival style colonettes. It is flanked by Ionic pilasters that support a scrolled pediment. Above the pedimented entry are paired windows and a cross-gable, decorated with granite blocks of different hues, forming a checkered pattern. Granite quoins and eave modillions further embellish the structure. Located between two earlier residences, the library building marks the beginning of the 'public' domain of the district. In 1958 the Library left the building for a larger, modern facility on Main Street.

Amos Gridley's residence at the northern end of the public park also became a public building. It now houses the Board of Education and is called Munson House. Gridley, a merchant, built the house in Watertown about 1840. His business practices were highly suspect and, although he may have had honorable intentions, he borrowed excessively and was unable to meet his obligations, creating a "spectacular failure." The house may have been the fruit of his ill-gotten gains, but he wisely placed it in his wife's name, preventing his creditors from gaining title to it. The house was a vast showplace with its upper floor housing a large ballroom. With the exception of a few later additions, the exterior is a florid expression of the Italianate style. A hipped monitor tops a low-sloped hipped roof with deep bracketed eaves. A blind frieze band is interrupted by several small windows. The clapboarded main



Library. Watertown, Conn.

Hard

*With love from Ruby*

**Postcard circa 1905, Our Savior Lutheran Church**

body of the house is punctuated by prominent window cornices and projecting bay windows.

After Gridley's death, the house became the property of another prominent Watertown industrialist, John Woodruff. It passed through the Dickerman and Warren families before being purchased in 1912 by James B. Woolson, son of Augustus Woolson. Woolson added the porches, and all additions that appear as appendages outside the basic plan of the house. After the Woolson family left Watertown, the house was owned by William J. Munson, who bequeathed it to the town, to be used for town purposes. It is now used as offices for the Board of Education. Its massing and well preserved exterior make it a vital element in the proposed historic district. The prominent location signals to the visitor the general quality and character of buildings in the area, as well as



**Photograph circa 1900, Munson House**

helping complete and enclose the streetscape around the park. The small public green is also graced by a gazebo and a marble Civil War monument.

The old Nova Scotia Schoolhouse was recently disassembled and moved from its original location at Thomaston and Fern Hill Roads and reconstructed on a site located behind Munson House. Watertown's Historical Society restored this circa 1853 one room schoolhouse, with the help of the Lions Club. The building should be noted for its Greek Revival pilastered entry.

### **Baldwin School**

With the loss of the Center School to a fire in 1906, the Board of Education immediately set about building a new one, laying the cornerstone in 1907. The now unknown architect created a distinguished brick structure. Its basement is emphasized by laying the brick courses to simulate rustication. A prominent stone water table mediates between the basement and the rest of the building. The arched entries are further emphasized by slight quoining projections that rise the full height of the building. It is topped by a large hipped roof supported by prominent brackets, completing the overall image of solid distinction.

### **The Green**

This tree-lined greensward is an essential open space within the district and must be preserved. The buildings facing the Green are owned by the Hartford Episcopal Archdiocese and are discussed in the religious buildings section.

Although buildings with addresses on DeForest Street, Woodruff Avenue and Woodbury Road face the Green, four residences actually have addresses on the Green. 5 The Green is one of the most distinguished houses in Watertown. It is a solid cut granite Italianate house. Its exterior details are extremely austere, with the exception of a cupola with an "eyebrow" arched roof and a wrap-



Postcard c. 1910, 5 The Green left, Christ Church middle.

around porch whose elaborate double posts terminate in foliate decoration. Built in 1851 for Truman A. Warren, an investor in the Wheeler and Wilson Sewing Machine Co. and the local resort hotel, Warren House, this large, stolid three-story Italianate style building has long been attributed to New Haven architect Henry Austin. A practitioner in a variety of eclectic styles, Austin is best known for his Gothic Revival Yale College Library, the Egyptian Revival entrance to New Haven's Grove Street Cemetery and the first New Haven railroad station. Since no complete list of Austin's work was ever compiled there can, as yet, be no definitive answer. Austin; however, did leave behind the manuscript for a book of exemplars--*Dwelling House, Stores, Banks, Churches and Monuments Designed by Henry Austin*(1851). The design of the Warren house shares the same verandah design with a project entitled 'design 1' while the illustrations of the J. D. Dana house and "design 2" also seem to possess common characteristics of massing and arched cupola. Austin was practicing in the area at the time, building houses and churches in nearby Bristol and Waterbury, making it quite plausible that this house was designed by this prominent architect.

15 The Green is the small carriage house to #5 and was converted to a Colonial Revival cottage. Built by William C. Hurd about 1876, its size provides a quaint foil to its neighbors.



RESIDENCE OF J. A. BUCKINGHAM—WATERTOWN.

Photograph circa 1900, 28 The Green

28 The Green is a large house that has undergone many transformations during its long lifetime. The basic form of the circa 1805 house has long been attributed to early Connecticut architect, David Hoadley, who is better known for his involvement in the design of houses and churches in Bethany and New Haven. It may have been built for Charles Merriman, but it was soon one of

the possessions of Alanson Warren Sr. and on his death it was occupied by his son, Alanson Jr. Alanson Warren, Sr. would acquire local fame as one of the founders of the local sewing machine business as well as Warren House(now demolished), Watertown's one 19th century resort hotel that later became Taft School. During the tenure of the Warren family at 28 The Green, the double pile Federal house was given wings and elaborate porches. It was purchased by the Buckingham family in 1879 and remained in the family until 1952. John A. Buckingham was a New York stock broker and his son S. McLean Buckingham was a farmer who became State Commissioner of Agriculture as well as a State Assemblyman and Senator. In 1936-7 the building was gutted and reconstructed to the designs of New York architect Cameron Clark. The entire interior was replaced, porches removed, wings reduced, leaving only the windows, some siding and structural elements and the entry with its fanlight, intact. Clark further embellished the entry with festoons and a semi-circular porch. More recently the current owner has placed a small addition on the southern side of the house. This elegant, now mostly Federal house occupies a prominent place at the center of the district, along the Green. It should be noted for its cross gable over the entry, its elegant proportions and its surviving Federal elements.

Facing the Green on the North at DeForest St. is the Eli Curtiss house. Located on the east side of North Street, it is now owned by Taft School and was once used as the headmaster's residence. This prominent Greek Revival house was built in the early 1840s by Eli Curtiss after his marriage to Alma DeForest and probably after Curtiss's successes in the Panama hat making business(see North Street for more on Curtiss). Benjamin DeForest had given the land to his daughter Alma in 1839 and presumably the house was built between then and its appearance on the 1853 map of Watertown. The facade is an extremely complex weaving of decorative elements. The corner pilasters and frieze band jut forward to enframe the main facade, while the hipped roof indicates that this is perhaps a transitionally styled structure, wavering between the standard temple-front type Greek Revival and the typically hipped roof Italianate style. Over the years a large gambrel-roofed addition had been placed at the rear of the building, but it still retains a high degree of integrity and occupies a key location on the Green.

## **DeForest**

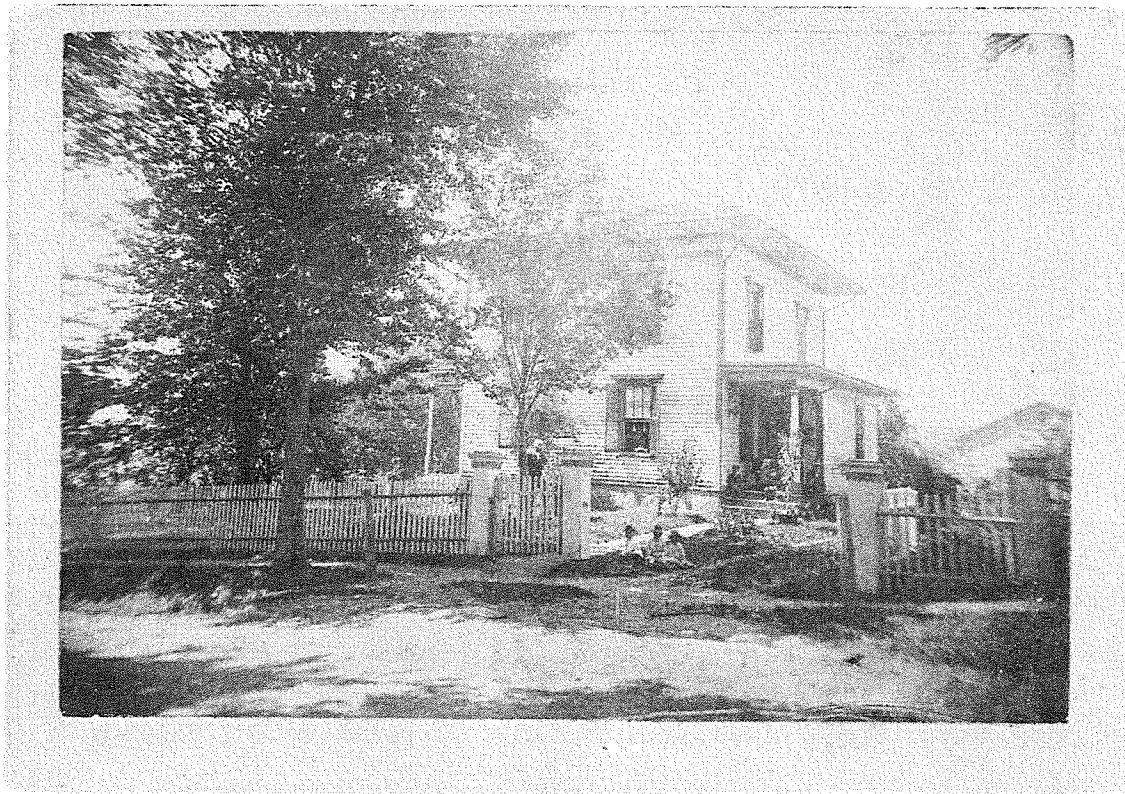
DeForest Street is named for a family of doctors, merchants and original investors in the huge Waterbury manufacturing company, Benedict and Burnham. The religious and governmental buildings on this street have been discussed elsewhere, as have the buildings fronting the Green. There are also several residences and a commercial building on this section of the street.

Adjacent to the Town Hall is a grouping of buildings(47 & 55 DeForest) that encompass one of Watertown's earliest stores, but subsequent alterations seem to have compromised the historic character of #55.

63 DeForest originally dates from the late 18th century when Younglove Cutler began building his house here(1783-1793). Cutler was a merchant and an early importer of Merino sheep. It was Cutler who built the first store, to the east on DeForest. This Federal house exterior has been altered, but it has retained its outline and much interior detail.



**Postcard circa 1910, 63 DeForest Street**



**Photograph circa 1890, 153 DeForest Street**

79 DeForest was originally built by goldsmith and Revolutionary War veteran Aner Bradley in 1778. In 1805 he sold the house to Benjamin DeForest who first opened a store in this house, but later moved it to 55 DeForest. The house has been altered several times in the 20th century, but still retains the general appearance of an 18th century dwelling.

85 DeForest is a relatively rare example of an Alexander Jackson Davis inspired Gothic Cottage, a style that was extremely popular in the 1840s and its design could have come from Downings *Architecture of Country Houses*, or more likely, his *Rural Residences*. The house may have been built here by Russell Beers, around that time or may have been built later by the Warren family.

153 DeForest was built about 1851 by Charles A. Warren, son of Alanson Warren. It was later used as a boarding house and faculty house for Taft. Originally, it matched two other houses in the district, 14 Woodbury and 37 The Green, and is the only one that was not altered at the turn of the century. It has retained its cupola, most of its frieze band windows, floor-to-ceiling ground floor windows and its porch. It occupies a prominent location in the district.



Postcard circa 1930, Post Office #47 left, Drug Store #55 right

### Academy Hill

Connecting the southern edge of the Green and the old Academy Building to Main Street, Academy Hill's steep slopes are flanked with many distinctive residences, varying in date from the early 19th to the late 20th century.

It is the north side of the street that appears to have the oldest structure on the hill--#38. This building began its existence as Alanson Warren's hat shop and dates to at least 1817 when Warren bought out his master Joel Richards. 38 Academy Hill should be noted for its distinctive 9/9 floor to ceiling windows, its foliate porch ornament, as well as the delicately treated gable returns at the eave corners. Following its use as a hat shop, it was the site of Russell Beer's

shirt factory, and may also have been used by George Woodruff as part of his early sewing machine manufacturing complex. The house also served as Dr. Walter S. Munger's office for 30 years and a tailor shop for Peter N. Lund for over 40 years.

To the east of #38 is a large Colonial Revival home. This house, 28 Academy Hill was built in 1928 by Gordon Hurlburt, who was president of Plume and Atwood, a major brass manufacturing company in Thomaston. The house faces east, with a minor side facing the street. Its distinctive entry is recessed, adorned by an open-bed pedimented entry porch that frames a recessed blind fanlight. It should also be noted for its decorative window heads, as well as the large window above the entry.

West of #38 are two prominent Colonial Revival houses. #52(built 1910) should be noted for its delicate dentil course below its eaves; its exaggerated door sidelights and Tuscan-columned porch. #60 Academy Hill is a pristine Dutch Colonial Revival style house with a gambrel roof, rubble stone foundation and picturesque corner bay window.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. MARY MERRIMAN, Water

**Postcard circa 1920, 47 Academy Hill**

Although less uniform in size and style, the southern side of the hill is also quite impressive architecturally, ranging in style from Gothic Revival to Colonial Revival, to modern Builder's Cape. #47 Academy Hill, is a large 3 story, cross-gabled High Victorian Gothic dwelling. Although portions have been aluminum sided, it should be noted for its trefoil and quatrefoil porch decoration; copper shingle roof and prominent, sloping window hoods. The eave and gable ends are further enlivened by scrolled rafter ends and board-and-batten faced tympanum. Built by General Merrit Heminway for his daughter Mary, this house and its outbuildings once dominated the streetscape. Heminway was founder of the silk and thread manufacturing business in Watertown, M. Heminway and Sons Silk Co., and his wealth is evident in the vast size of this house. #57 Academy Hill, at the rear of #47 is the former coachman's house which has been converted to a separate residence. Many of

the stylistic motifs found on the main house are found on this dwelling. #67 Academy Hill was also originally associated with the Merriman/Heminway estate as a tenant house. Built in 1914 to the designs of Wilfred Griggs, it was enlarged in 1927 by New Haven architect Charles Palmer. This three bay Colonial Revival style house should be noted for its bell-cast eaves, prominent open-bed pediment entry, as well as its two story Tuscan-columned porch.

### Woodruff Avenue

Laid out about 1857 by George Woodruff, Woodruff Avenue contains a collection of generally well maintained 19th century houses. No one style predominates, creating an eclectic streetscape that is unified by the general consistency of scale of the buildings. One post-war house is included in the district, #156 Woodruff(1956) is an excellent example of the composite Wrightian and International Style ranch homes that were popular in the 1950s.



**Postcard circa 1910, 166-8 Woodruff Avenue**

The western side of the street is dominated by large Four Square and Italianate homes. #191 was originally built by Frank Noble, Corporate Secretary of Chase Brass about 1905. Designed by Griggs and Hunt of Waterbury, it is an excellent example of its type. This three bay Four Square should be noted for its bell-cast eaves, corner pilasters and prominent Tuscan-columned porch that wraps around the house. A large Palladian window in the second floor, above the entry, completes the composition. There are many similarities between this house and 47 Woodbury Road, indicating perhaps a common architect. 175 Woodruff is a quintessential Italianate style house built about 1864 for Mary J. Daley. It has retained most of its original details, including a cupola, side entry, window heads decorated with imbrication and a Tuscan-columned porch. #165 Woodruff, built by Samuel Merwin about 1876, is an elaborate cross-gabled Italianate structure, that should be further noted for its Italianate entry and metal roof. #147 and #153 Woodruff appear to have been a pair of Queen Anne style houses built as a partially speculative venture by Daniel

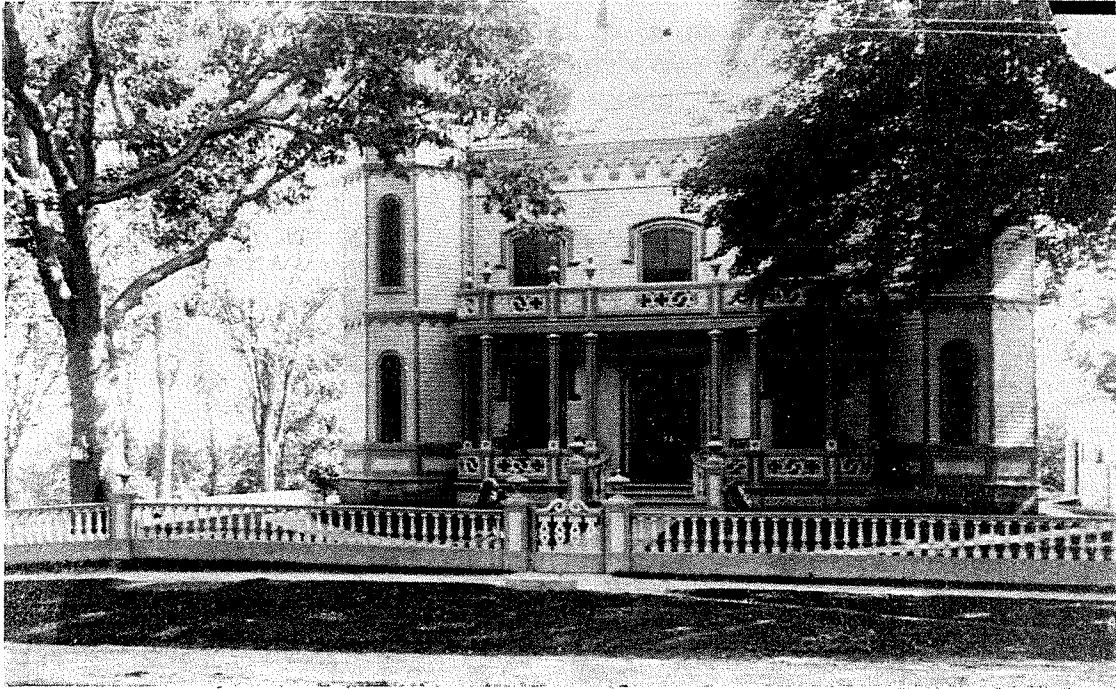
Hannon. This subdivision, to be known as "Woods Place", never seemed to come to fruition, leaving two virtually mirror image houses as its only legacy. Each has two story bows creating the cross-gable element of the building. #153 has been aluminum sided, leaving only its basic massing, but #147 has retained its slate roof and small, Tuscan-columned porch.

The houses on the eastern side of Woodruff seem to be of generally older vintage. #212 Woodruff, at the corner of the Green, dates to about 1812. Originally built by Huldah Porter, it was certainly subsequently altered by Orrin Starr in the 1850s. Although aluminum sided, the building still retains an Italianate porch and a Corinthian pilastered entry. #186 seems to have been built by Samuel Merwin in 1857 on land purchased from George Woodruff. This side hall plan, Greek Revival house has retained its tympanum window and frieze band window in the ell. #182 is a small Queen Anne style house. Adjacent to #186, it would seem to date from 1903. The house was built on land already owned and occupied by the Lewis family since 1871, making dating the house extremely difficult. #178 ostensibly dates from the first third of the 19th century and was occupied by Leman Cutler. Its general form is that of a vernacular farmhouse with later additions including a Greek Revival wing and brackets in the eaves, perhaps indicating the addition of a second story. #166-8 is a vast Queen Anne house that has been much altered, but it still should be noted for its turret, spooled valence porch and elaborate muntined design in the side gable end. It was known as Judson's Inn in the 1910s-1920s. Although covered in asbestos siding, 148 Woodruff still reveals what was once the farmhouse for T. B. Warren's farm, which extended easterly across Main Street to Steele Brook. Given its state of repair and the vast number of Warren family real estate transactions in the area, it is difficult to determine its age beyond 1867, but should be noted for its general age, massing and surviving entry.

### Woodbury Road

Woodbury Road begins at the top of Academy Hill and extends westerly to Middlebury Road where it becomes part of Route 6 and eventually reaches the Town of Woodbury. The houses at the eastern end of the street owe their existence primarily to the silk thread and sewing machine industries. #7 Woodbury is a grand Gothic Revival house whose facade visually anchors the Green. It was built by Charles T. Woodruff, who was an investor in both the sewing machine industry and Heminway and Bartlett. This is one of the most distinctive houses in town and such a castellated Gothic house is a rarity in the state. Originally the house had taller turrets and a Gothic porch, but these elements were altered in the early 20th century. Almost across the street to the north is 14 Woodbury, built in 1852, originally the home of Nathaniel B. Wheeler, the founder of Wheeler and Wilson, the sewing machine manufacturers. Originally the house was Italianate in style, but in 1914, when it was owned by Harry F. Heminway, it was changed to its current Colonial Revival appearance by Waterbury architect Wilfred Griggs. At the same time, the Episcopal rectory was renovated to almost the same design, making it almost certain that Griggs was the architect of that renovation as well. The house also has a distinctive brick carriage house, dated 1863. Next door is 34 Woodbury, built in 1895 by the Brewster family. Although aluminum sided, it has retained its essential Queen Anne form and is one of few on this street.

On the south side of Woodbury Road, the streetscape is a collection of houses



**Photograph circa 1900, 7 Woodbury Road**

of similar scale and sympathetic styles. For example, 31 Woodbury Road is a gracious Colonial Revival house built in 1927. For many years it was the home of Clark Judd, the CEO of American Brass. #47 is another Colonial Revival house built circa 1905 by Francis N. Barton, who owned a general store that was formerly located on the site of #31. It is a reserved and sedate expression of the style that contributes to the streetscape. This three bay Four Square style house should be further noted for its bell-cast eaves, terminating its hipped roof. The roof is pierced by prominent Colonial Revival style dormers with arched windows whose muntins are in Chippendale-Gothic style.



**RESIDENCE OF H. H. HEMINWAY, Watertown, Conn.**

**Postcard circa 1920, 14 Woodbury Road**

A deep blind frieze band runs below the eave. The second floor is distinguished by a Chippendale-Gothic style central window. The ground floor is further decorated by a three bay Doric porch. #53 is a small vernacular Queen Anne style house built in 1885 by the Bronson family when they also owned 75 Woodbury Road and should be noted for its imbricated shingles, stick valence and turned post porch. At the intersection of Middlebury Road is 75 Woodbury Road. A dwelling has existed on this site since the 1750s and the current house dates primarily to 1800 when Charles Merriman moved into this house with his bride Anna. The house was a showplace of the Federal style. It was subsequently altered by Charles Sherwood, a manufacturer, who added the large Ionic portico on the eastern side of the house circa 1912. Portions of the house have been rebuilt and aluminum sided. However, it still seems to retain its original entry.

Woodbury Road continues westward crossing Hamilton Avenue and a large number of distinctive residences are found opposite Taft School. 141 Woodbury is a vast Colonial Revival house while 151 Woodbury is one of the few Bungalow type houses found in the district. Along with the rest of the road up to Hamilton Lane, several 20th century Colonial and Georgian Revival styles are interspersed with a wide variety of 19th century houses. #181(1911) is a simple Colonial Revival style Four Square, while #211(1915) should be noted for its gambrel roof and Ionic pilastered entry. 271 Woodbury Road is a much more ambitious house built for Fletcher Judson, president of Watertown Bank and Trust, in 1925. The house has distinctive brickwork and a slate roof. 227 Woodbury Road is a fanciful half-timbered Tudor Revival style house built about 1936. Its architecture melds the image of a picturesque English cottage with that of a Tudor manor. The Lilley house at 325 Woodbury is probably the most distinctive of the 20th century houses on this westerly portion of Woodbury Road. The house was built in 1922 for Theodore Lilley, who owned and managed real estate in Waterbury. His grandfather, George L. Lilley, was Governor of Connecticut for three months before dying in office in 1909. The house is a huge Georgian Revival style building. Five bays wide, it should be noted for its picturesque brickwork, Corinthian-columned porch, denticulated eave and Chippendale-Gothic style muntined dormers. The 19th century houses interspersed along this section of Woodbury Road date primarily from the first two-thirds of that century. The one exception is 199 Woodbury Road, which is a 19th century house that was originally built in Waterbury and then moved to its current site. The building is a vernacular Italianate structure with prominent window heads. It also has a Queen Anne style shingled porch.

Two houses date from the mid-19th century. 241 Woodbury Road was built by John Curtis about 1868. It is another Italianate style house with prominent window cornices, floor to ceiling windows and an elaborate cut-work porch. 259 Woodbury has always been linked to the Atwood family, who purportedly built this house circa 1860. This date is consistent with the vernacular Greek Revival detailing of the front of the house. It received a Queen Anne addition to the rear in the 1890s.

The best known 19th century house in this section of Woodbury Road is #165. Built in 1812 by bootmaker Aner Bradley II on land deeded to him in 1807 by his father, Aner I, the three bay, side hall, vernacular Federal house has retained much of its original detail, including its delicately carved window heads and Dutch front door. This large house has 14 rooms and 4 fireplaces.

## Hamilton Avenue

Originally known as Middle Road Turnpike, Hamilton Avenue runs southwest from Woodbury Road, eventually connecting to Woodbury. The houses in this section of the proposed district are an eclectic mix of Colonial Revival, Italianate and Greek Revival style dwellings.

Since a large part of the easterly side of Hamilton was vacant during most of the 19th century, there are few early homes on that side of the street. There are; however, many later manifestations of the Colonial Revival style. Some of these later houses are much better than typical "Builders' Capes" and were designed by local architects of some repute. First, there are three Taft owned houses. Two are modern structures built in 1963 while the third dates from circa 1915. It is an Arts and Crafts influenced Bungalow with a jerkinhead roof, bird's mouth rafters and stone pillared porch. #101 Hamilton, designed by Westport based architect Walter Cutler in 1938, is a good example of a mid-20th century Georgian Revival house. #89 Hamilton was designed by Waterbury architects Alexander and Johnson, who based their plans on the designs of prominent Colonial Revival architect Royal Barry Wills. #53 Hamilton is a sympathetic rendition of a Dutch Colonial Revival house built about 1928 by Colin D. Barrett. #69 Hamilton, the only house on this side of the street that appears to be of any great age, was moved from across the street in 1876 when George Merriman sold all his land on the westerly side of the street, and a lot on the eastern side, to Joel Morehouse. The existing house, although altered, remains a good example of a vernacular Greek Revival modernization of a circa 1800 dwelling.

The western side of Hamilton is an equally eclectic mix of residential styles. At each end of the proposed district are 20th century Colonial Revival houses. #28(circa 1908) should be noted for its gambrel roof and bay window, while #104(1930) built for Edward Eisenwinter, an engineer at American Brass, has a distinctive porch(1988) supported by paired Tuscan columns. #62(1976) is a recent example of a typical popular style.

The remaining houses on this side of the street date from the mid-to-late 19th century. Establishing a definite date for 34 Hamilton is almost impossible because its underlying lot was created from adjacent properties all of which were described in the land records as having dwelling houses on them. Local tradition holds that #34 was moved from West Main Street in Waterbury circa 1890 and was lived in by Hiram Bishop. Whatever the case, it stands as an excellent example of the Italianate style, despite the later addition of a hipped roof and dormers.

#48 Hamilton is a distinguished High Victorian Gothic residence. Probably built by Joel Morehouse, circa 1880, it is an excellent example of its type. It replaces the earlier George Welton house that may have been moved across the street. #72 Hamilton has been traditionally dated at 1815, but current deed research seems to indicate that it was built in 1845 by Marquis Mitchell. Its current state of alteration makes any attempt at stylistic dating problematic. #86 Hamilton, an early Gothic Revival structure that seems to date from the late 1850s, was the house of Augustus Hamilton. It is a good example of the style and should be noted for its peak ornament, entry porch, window surrounds and its vertical proportions.

## North Street

North Street is an eclectic mix of structures that are dominated by the mass of the Baldwin School. Most of the older buildings, primarily dating from the 1840s and 1850s are located closer to the Green, while newer structures, dating from the 1880s are found nearer Evergreen Cemetery at the northern end of the district.

On the eastern side of the street, at #36, is the former Congregational parsonage. Built in the late 1830s on land the church bought from Aaron and Dorcas Dutton in 1836, this attractive house should be noted for its simple Greek Revival entry way, 12/12 windows and the Greek Revival window found in the gable end. #48 North Street is a contemporary to its neighbor to the south. Built in 1837, this Greek Revival house was the farmstead of Eli Curtiss. Curtiss ran a small Merino sheep ranch over much of what is now North Street. This particular breed of sheep was then highly prized for its dense springy wool and was relatively rare in the United States, making the sheep quite valuable. Curtiss was himself quite an entrepreneur. He also acted as an agent for his merchant father-in-law, Benjamin DeForest. On one of his many trips to New York harbor, Curtiss noticed that the leaves of the raffia plant, which were used to pack crates of certain merchandise, could be easily braided and coiled to make hats. He arranged for the importation of these leaves and went into the woven Panama hat business, teaching farm wives from the adjacent community how to weave them into long braids. He then arranged to have these braids sewn together to form hats. The success of his business permitted him to leave this house and build the large one at 90 DeForest Street.

#82 North Street, just north of Baldwin School was built by farmer Myron McNeill about 1853; however, its current Queen Anne style, decorations, including bay windows, board and batten gable end with sawtooth decoration at the eaves, is probably the result of a later remodeling, performed by Eliza Benedict after she bought the house in 1879. In 1905 her estate sold the house to the town, which used it as the residence of the Superintendent of Schools until the 1960s and as a rental thereafter. The house has recently been returned to private ownership. The adjacent house to the north, #92, is also a cross-gable Queen Anne style house. It should be noted for its imbricated shingles in the gable end and its bracketed porch with a stick valance and turned balusters. It was built by Elizabeth Hotchkiss circa 1885 on land she purchased from Eliza Benedict. 100 North Street, a saltbox vernacular Colonial Revival house, built in 1928, is quite compatible with the style and massing of its neighbors.

Just north of the tennis courts is a large cross-gable Queen Anne/Colonial Revival house, number 126 North Street. It appears to have been built by Mary Woodward about 1910. Although its decorative detail has been replaced by aluminum siding, its massing still contributes to the appearance of the historic streetscape.

#s130 and 138 North Street seem to have linked pasts. Both have been extensively remodeled. #138 still retains its 19th century massing while #130 has maintained some of its Greek Revival/Italianate details, notably the open-bed pedimented gable end, and its door moldings. The ell to the rear of #130 was originally built on another site and later attached to the main building. At an

even later date the ell was extended. Both houses were originally part of the property owned by Charles G. Edwards from 1833 to 1868. In 1858, Edwards mortgaged the land and buildings where #130 is located, perhaps indicating some building plans. However, the deed refers to "buildings thereon" meaning that Edwards was either remodeling or possibly building a house nearby. The later seems to be the case, for the 1871 map shows a building adjacent to #s130 & 138 as the home of Philo Hard, who, land records indicate, purchased the house and property in 1869 from C. G. Edwards. In other words, Edwards built #130 first, between 1833 and 1858, on land he purchased from Samuel Elton. After 1853, probably in 1858, he built #138 for use as his new home.

The western side of North is less complex because there are fewer old buildings. #17 and 27 North Street is a much altered house probably dating into the mid-18th century, as it was then described as an old house when Wait Smith sold it in 1804 to his son Hector Smith. In 1816, attorney Holbrook Curtiss bought this house and land. Curtiss and his family owned this property for most of the 19th century. As it stands today, it is a good example of a vernacular Greek Revival house. It is now owned by Taft School. 59 North Street is a hipped-roof Italianate style structure that was built in the 1870s by W. E. Curtiss who then owned 27 North Street. Although aluminum sided, it still retains its distinctive massing. 71 North Street is a cross gable Italianate style house that still retains its massing, floor-to-ceiling windows at the ground floor and its original style porch. It was built in 1842 by Henry Bronson. To the north, at 87 North Street, John Bronson built a much simpler Italianate house about 1860. The simple vernacular house at 93 North Street was built by Augusta Hotchkiss after she bought the land in 1837 from Chandler Judd. She sold the house and land in 1843 to Lyman Fields.

### **Warren Way and Dickerman Street**

The history of Warren Way and Dickerman Street is linked to James Woolson and Ernest K. Loveland who, in 1912, subdivided land they owned, all of this property being located north of Woolson's estate(now known as Munson House). The majority of these small lots were developed between 1912 and 1920, creating a stylistically uniform streetscape populated by buildings of consistently good architectural quality, with one or two architectural gems.

Of course, there are some exceptions and intrusions. 13 Warren Way is a ranch house converted from a garage in 1948. More interesting is 61 Warren Way, a small vernacular house with Queen Anne style porch details and rustic shingling in the gable end. It was built by Cornelia Benham circa 1898 and appears to have been the first dwelling on the street. It may also have been the home of Mrs. M. L. Griswold who had a house here in 1870. Its scale is somewhat smaller than the other buildings on the street, but it remains a significant structure in the district. The rest of the southern side of Warren consists of a remarkably consistent grouping of Gambrel-roofed, clapboarded Dutch Colonial Revival houses: 47 Warren Way was built in 1912 by Grace and Rachel Barker for their mother; 31 Warren Way is thought to have been built by Charles Smith and 190 Main Street, which is reached from Warren Way, was built on land that was formerly a part of the original Woolson/Munson estate. #190 Main was built for Irving C. Bean, Woolson's son-in-law and his daughter Edna, on land given to them by James B. Woolson.

The north side of Warren Way, including Dickerman Street, is not quite as

architecturally consistent as the southern side, but most of the individual structures are quite distinctive. The Watertown Tennis Club at 70 Warren Way (circa 1913) should be noted for its Tuscan-columned porches and fieldstone chimney. It is believed to have the second oldest clay courts in Connecticut. #s20 and 21 Dickerman Street (1927 and 1917 respectively) are good examples of early 20th century Colonial Revival dwellings. 40 Warren Way is a bold and sober Colonial Revival structure, while 18 Warren Way is a more unassuming vernacular Colonial Revival house. The most distinctive house on the block is 30 Warren Way. This elegant Colonial Revival residence was built for Arthur G. Evans, a purchasing agent for Chase Brass Co., in 1917. It was designed by one of the architects working for New York based Cass Gilbert while Gilbert's office was involved in the design and construction of the Chase building in Waterbury. It is quite well proportioned and particularly should be noted for its arched entry porch, 12/12 windows and arched window above the entry.

### **Main Street**

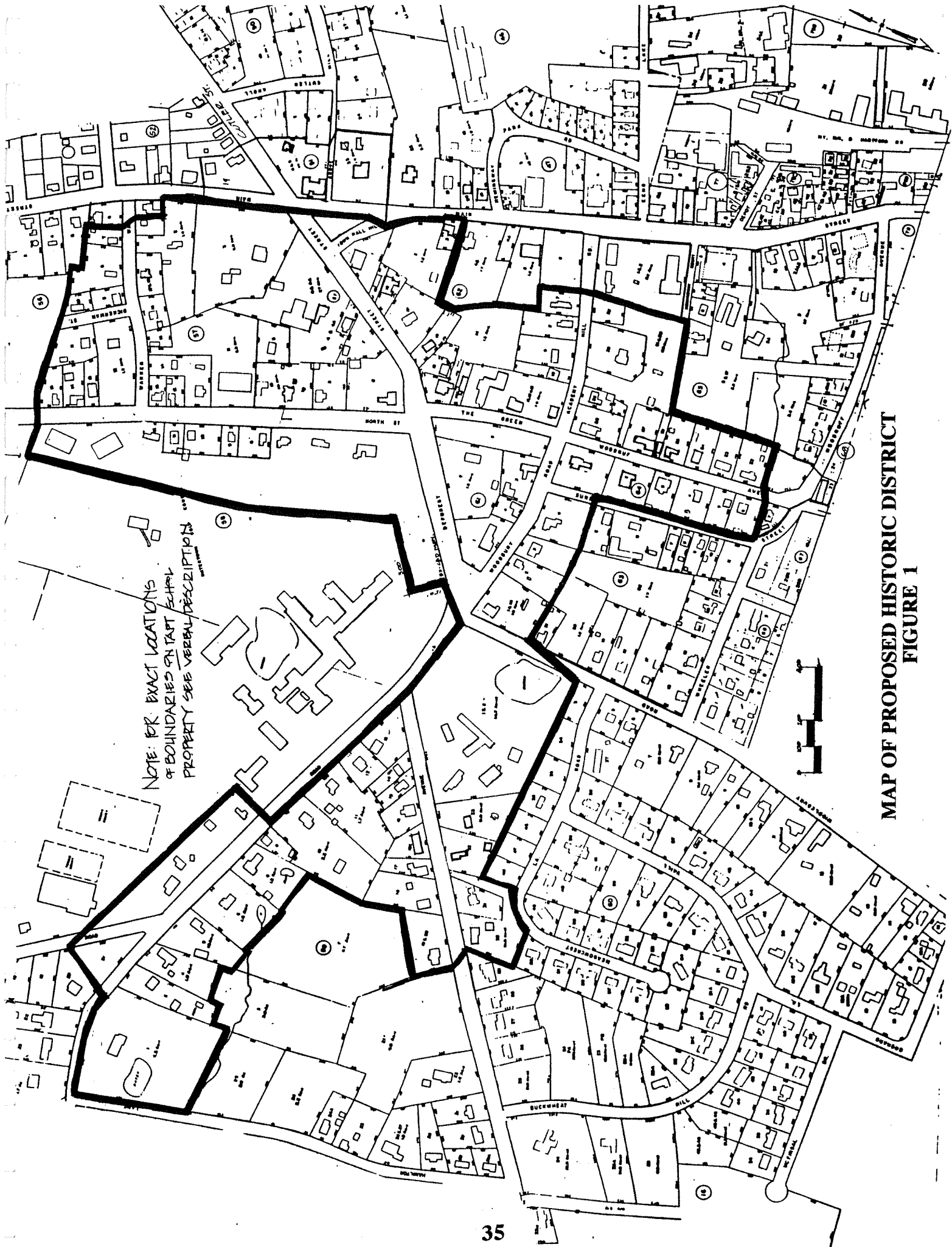
190 Main Street was discussed under Warren Way as it is accessed from that street.

404 Main Street, built by Robert and Anna White in 1894, is an excellent example of a Queen Anne house. It should be noted for its asymmetrical roof line, many balconies and irregular massing. It has been tastefully restored by its present owners who have carefully researched its color scheme.

### **Conclusion**

In reviewing the district, we see that it is a large collection of architecturally significant buildings with few recent intrusions. Many are associated with individuals who were prominent members of the community. Some of the buildings were designed by locally or nationally prominent architects, including David Hoadley, Henry Austin, Cameron Clark and Wilfred Griggs. The district also contains the religious and governmental buildings that are most prominent in town and are closely associated with its history as a 19th century manufacturing center.

**[Pages 31 through 34 have been removed from this revised report]**



NOTE: FOR EXACT LOCATIONS  
 OF BOUNDARIES ON THIS MAP,  
 PROPERTY SEE VERBAL DESCRIPTIONS



MAP OF PROPOSED HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 FIGURE 1



# **TOWN OF WATERTOWN**

## **Proposed Historic District Ordinance**

Be it ordained by the Town of Watertown to adopt the following historic district ordinance, pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 7-147(a) *et seq.* of the Connecticut General Statutes:

### **SECTION 1:**

To promote the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the public through the preservation and protection of the distinctive characteristics of buildings and places associated with the history of or indicative of a period or style of architecture of the Town of Watertown, State of Connecticut and United States of America and through the development of appropriate settings for such buildings and places, there is hereby established an historic district in the Town of Watertown to be known as the "Watertown Historic District."

### **SECTION II:**

The Watertown Historic District shall encompass the following:

Beginning at a point at the northwest corner of Lot 15, of Block 56, on Map 99 of the Watertown Tax Assessor's map; thence easterly along the northern boundaries of Lots 15, 11, the northerly end of Dickerman St., 10, 8, 7 to the northeast corner of Lot 7, Block 56, Map 99; thence southerly along the eastern boundary of said Lot 7 to its southeast corner at the intersection of Warren Way; thence crossing Warren Way to the northeast corner of Lot 1A, Block 57, Map 99; thence southerly along the eastern side of said Lot 1A to the southeast corner of said Lot 1A; thence easterly to the northeast corner of Lot 2 at its intersection with Main Street; thence southerly along the eastern boundaries of Lots 2 & 3 along Main Street; thence crossing DeForest Street and continuing along the eastern boundary of the Town Gazebo triangle; thence crossing Town Hall Hill Road to the northeast corner of Lot 2 and thence running in a southerly direction along the eastern boundaries of Lots 2 & 3 of Block 62, Map 99A on Main St. to the southeast corner of said Lot 3; thence westerly along the southerly boundaries of Lots 3 & 2 to Lot 17; thence southerly along the eastern boundaries of Lots 17, 16, 14, 8 to the northwest corner of Lot 7; thence easterly along the northern boundary of Lot 7 to its northeast corner; thence southerly along the eastern border of said Lot 7, Block 62, Map 99A to its intersection with Academy Hill Rd.; thence crossing Academy Hill Rd. to the northeast corner of Lot 32, Block 64, Map 99A; thence southerly along the eastern boundaries of Lots 32, 31 & 30 to the southeastern corner of said Lots 31 & 30 at Heminway Court; thence in a westerly direction along the southern boundary of said Lots 30 & 31 to their southwestern corner, thence southerly along Lots 26, 25, 24, 23, 22 of Block 65, Map 99A to the southeast corner of said Lot 22; thence westerly along said Lot 22's southerly boundary to its southwest corner; thence crossing Woodruff Ave. to the southeast corner of Lot 6, Block 64, Map 99A; thence westerly along the southerly boundary of said Lot 6 to its intersection with the east side of Sunset Ave.;

thence northerly along the westerly boundaries of Lots 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, & 1 of Block 64, Map 99A on the eastern side of Sunset Ave. to a point opposite the southeast corner of Lot 4, Block 63, Map 99A; thence crossing Sunset Ave. to said southeast corner of Lot 4; thence westerly along the southerly boundaries of Lots 4, 3, 2, 1 & 1A, Block 63, Map 99A to the southwestern corner of Lots 1 & 1A where they intersect the eastern side of Middlebury Rd.; thence crossing Middlebury Rd. to the southeast corner of Lots 1 & 2, Block 60, Map 108A on the westerly side of Middlebury Rd.; thence westerly along the southerly boundary of said Lots 1 & 2 and Lots 33 & 32, Block 60, Map 108A to the southwestern corner of said Lot 32; thence southerly along the easterly boundaries of Lots 31 and 30 to the southeast corner of Lot 30; thence westerly along the southerly boundary of Lot 30, to its southwest corner; thence northerly along the westerly boundary of said Lot 30, to its intersection with Hamilton Ave.; thence crossing Hamilton Ave. to the southwestern corner of Lots 19 & 20, Block 59, Map 98A; thence northerly along the westerly boundaries of said Lots 19 & 20 to their northwestern corner; thence northeasterly along said lots' northwesterly boundaries to their northeast corner; thence northerly along the westerly boundaries of Lots 18 & 10, Block 59, Map 98A, to the southeasterly corner of Lot 8, Block 59, Map 98A; thence northwesterly along the southerly boundaries of Lots 8, 6, 5, 4, 2 & 1 of Block 59, Map 98A, to the southwest corner of said Lot 1; thence northerly along the westerly boundary to said Lot 1's northwestern corner; thence easterly along said Lot 1's northerly boundary on the southern side of Woodbury Rd. to a point opposite the southwesterly corner of Lot 21, Block 10, Map 98; thence crossing Woodbury Rd. to the southwest corner of said Lot 21; thence northerly along Lot 21's westerly boundary to its northeast corner; thence crossing Guernseytown Rd. to the eastern end of a culvert pipe; thence following the centerline of the stream exiting said pipe through Taft School land in a southeasterly direction, approximately 700 feet, to a large catch basin and the westerly edge of a Taft exit road leading to a gate on Woodbury Rd.; thence following the western edge of said exit road in a southerly direction to its intersection with the northerly side of Woodbury Rd.; thence crossing Woodbury Rd. to the northeast corner of Lot 9, Block 59, Map 98A; thence southeasterly along the northeast boundaries of Lots 10, 11, 12, 13 of Block 59, Map 98A, on the southerly side of Woodbury Rd. to the southeast corner of said Lot 13 which is at the intersection of Hamilton Ave. and Woodbury Rd.; thence crossing Hamilton Ave. to the northerly corner of Lots 1 & 2, Block 60, Map 108A; thence southeasterly along said Lots 1 & 2's northerly boundaries to their intersection with Middlebury Rd. at said Lots 1 & 2's northeast corner; thence crossing Woodbury Rd. to an EX CHD monument on the northerly side of DeForest St.; thence northwesterly 150' on Taft School property to a point to form a line parallel to the boundary of the Taft School property on DeForest St. as shown on H. W. Hart map & survey for the Taft School Corp. dated 5/2/90, revised 5/10/93; thence northeasterly, approximately 300' to its intersection with Taft's survey line, per said Taft map, heading N 26 degrees, 48 minutes, 00 seconds W; thence northwesterly along said Taft survey line to a point where said line changes direction to N 17 degrees, 58 minutes, 49 seconds and continuing to its intersection with the southerly boundary of Lot 13, Block 58, Map 99(Evergreen Cemetery); thence easterly along the southerly boundary of said Lot 13(Evergreen Cemetery) to its intersection with North St.; thence crossing North St. to the northwest corner of Lot 15, Block 56, Map 99 to the place of beginning. The accompanying map, as depicted in Figure 1 on page 35, shall be incorporated in this description of the Watertown Historic District.

### **SECTION III:**

An Historic District Commission is hereby established, which shall consist of five(5) members and three(3) alternate members, all of whom shall be electors of the Town of Watertown holding no salaried town office. The members of said Commission shall be appointed by the Town Council. The regular members shall be appointed in such a manner that the term of at least one(1) member shall expire each year, with their successors to be appointed in like manner for terms of five(5) years. Alternate members shall be appointed for terms of three(3) years. The Town Council is further empowered to make appointments to fill vacancies, which appointments shall be for the duration of the vacated unexpired term. Four of the five members of the Commission shall be owners of record or residents within the Historic District as shall two of the three alternate members.

Within a period of thirty(30) days after the appointment of the original members of the Commission, the regular members shall meet and elect a Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk from among the membership. Alternate members shall not participate in any election of officers of the Commission. In all other matters, in case of an inability to act because of absence, sickness or self-interest on the part of any member of the Commission, that Commissioner's place shall be taken by an alternate member designated by the Chairman. All members shall serve without compensation. The Commission shall adopt rules of procedure not inconsistent with the provisions of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut and may, subject to appropriation, employ clerical or technical assistance or consultants and may accept money gifts and expend the same for such purposes.

### **SECTION IV:**

The Historic District Commission shall have powers and perform such functions and shall be subject to such limitations as shall, from time to time, be provided by the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, paragraph 7-147(a) *et seq.*

### **SECTION V:**

This ordinance shall take effect fifteen(15) days after its publication in a newspaper having a circulation in the Town of Watertown.



# **INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS**

Dates in parentheses after Present Owners names, indicates when the owners purchased the properties. If there is an "F", it indicates the property has been in the family since the indicated date.

# **ACADEMY HILL**

**8 Property Owners  
(8 Buildings)**

**[Pages 45 through 46 have been removed from this revised report]**



**Address: 28 Academy Hill**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: John Boak(1957)**

**Date Built: 1929**

**Architect: Fred Webster**

**Original Owners: Gordon B. Hurlburt**

**Builder: Robert L. Vaill**

**Style/Commentary: Colonial Revival. Built by Gordon B. Hurlburt, President of Plume & Atwood, this large house should be noted for its siting and entry details.**



**Address:** 33 Academy Hill

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Michael J. Zambero(1977)

**Date Built:** 1978

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Michael J. Zambero

**Builder:** Michael J. Zambero

**Style/Commentary:** Cape Cod Cottage Style. Although new, its scale conforms to that of the neighborhood.



**Address:** 38 Academy Hill

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Ruth E. Rose(F-1909)

**Date Built:** 1820

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Unknown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Vernacular Federal with particularly nice cornice details.

This small building may have begun as Alanson Warren's hatshop, became Russell Beer's shirt factory, Dr. Walter S. Munger's office and Peter N. Lund's tailor shop. It is now a residence and has been in the Lund/Rose family for 85 years.



**Address:** 47 Academy Hill

**Known As:** Mary A. Merriman House

**Present Owners:** Kurt A. & Alessandra M. Dolnier(1993)

**Date Built:** 1871

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Mary A. Merriman

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** High Victorian Gothic. The dominant house on Academy Hill, built for the heirs to the silk thread business in Watertown. Another notable resident was Dr. Merritt Heminway Merriman. Note the Gothic porch, window and eave details. The quatrefoil peak ornaments are rare survivors in this district and the board and batten eave facing is also a notable feature. This house remained in the same family for almost a century.



**Address: 52 Academy Hill**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: Norman K. & Sandra S. Jellinghaus(1977)**

**Date Built: 1910**

**Architect: Unknown**

**Original Owners: Mary Phelps Jacob**

**Builder: Unknown**

**Style/Commentary: Colonial Revival. Details include the dentil molding on eaves, bold Colonial Revival Style entry with huge side light, as well as a delightful side porch.**



**Address:** 57 Academy Hill

**Known As:**

184

**Present Owners:** M. Heminway & Linda L. Merriman(F-1890)

**Date Built:** 1890

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Mary A. Merriman

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** High Victorian Gothic. Originally the coachman's house for #47. Although added to at later dates, the original portion matches the details of #47, the main estate. This house has been in the family over a century.



**Address:** 60 Academy Hill

**Known As:**

067

**Present Owners:** Patricia, George M. & Jennifer Kropp(1991)

**Date Built:** 1905

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Catharine M. Callender

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. This is a simple, elegant version of a then popular style. It has a distinctive corner bay window and entry.



**Address:** 67 Academy Hill

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** John G. & Alyce I. Griffith(1975)

**Date Built:** 1914

**Architect:** Griggs & Hunt(Waterbury)

**Original Owners:** Mary A. Merriman

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. Initially a tenant house for the Merriman estate. An excellent example of its type by a local architect. Note the side porch and entryway. There is a large rear addition that was built in 1927.

# **DeFOREST STREET**

**10 Property Owners  
(18 Buildings)**





**Address:** DeForest Street

**Known As:** Nova Scotia School

**Present Owners:** Town of Watertown(1993)

**Date Built:** 1853

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Nova Scotia District School  
Committee

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Greek Revival. Note the corner and entry pilasters  
Originally located at the corner of Thomaston and Fern Hill Roads, classes commenced 1853 and ceased June, 1929. The children were then sent to Baldwin School. This was the second Nova Scotia school. Thereafter, the old school changed hands several times. In 1990, the Nova Scotia School Committee was formed. On September 4, 1990, the school was disassembled and stored on Northfield Road for 2 years until its new site was made ready and an opening ceremony was held May 30, 1993. This was a joint project of the Watertown Historical Society, the Lions Club-Old Fellows Project Club and the UNICO Club.



**Address:** 10 DeForest Street

**Known As:** Munson House/Board of Education

**Present Owners:** Town Of Watertown(1942)

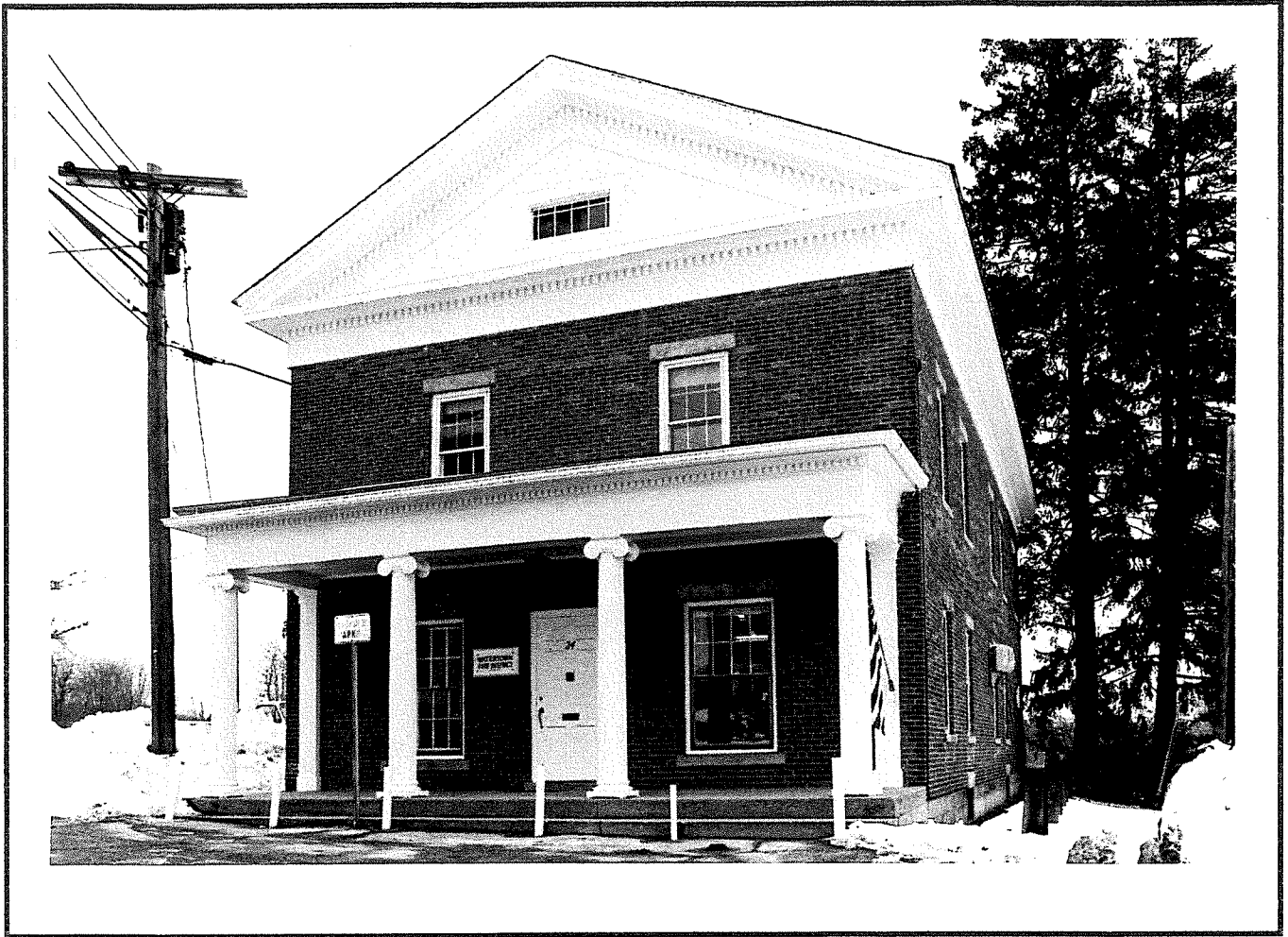
**Date Built:** 1849/1912 alteration

**Architect:** Wilfred Griggs?

**Original Owners:** Amos Gridley

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Italianate/Colonial Revival. Originally built as the house of Amos Gridley, a merchant of poor repute in the town. In 1912, it was remodeled by industrialist, James Woolson. Woolson was also a major benefactor of the nearby United Methodist Church. Note the deep eaves, elaborate corbels and prominent porch. In 1928-9, William J. Munson gave the property to the Town in memory of his wife, Marian.



**Address:** 22 DeForest Street

**Known As:** Amos Gridley Store; Old Town Hall;  
Fire Department

**Present Owners:** Watertown Fire District(1953)

**Date Built:** 1846

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Amos Gridley

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Greek Revival. Originally built as Amos Gridley's Store, replacing his previous wooden building. Note the Ionic porch colonnade and Greek revival pediment with tympanum, adorned with a Greek Revival window. Although the bricks are not hard-burned, the brick work is quite fine. The building also has granite window heads and sills. Now the home to the Watertown Fire District offices(since 1953) and the Watertown Historical Society museum(on the 2nd floor since 1968), its past versatility has been demonstrated by being the home of the Fire Department(1896-1951), post office(c.1853) and Town Hall(2nd one). The second floor has had the Masonic Hall(1853-72), a kindergarten(1897-1902), and a barber shop(1903-1913).



**Address:** 28 DeForest Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** First Congregational Church of Watertown(1970)

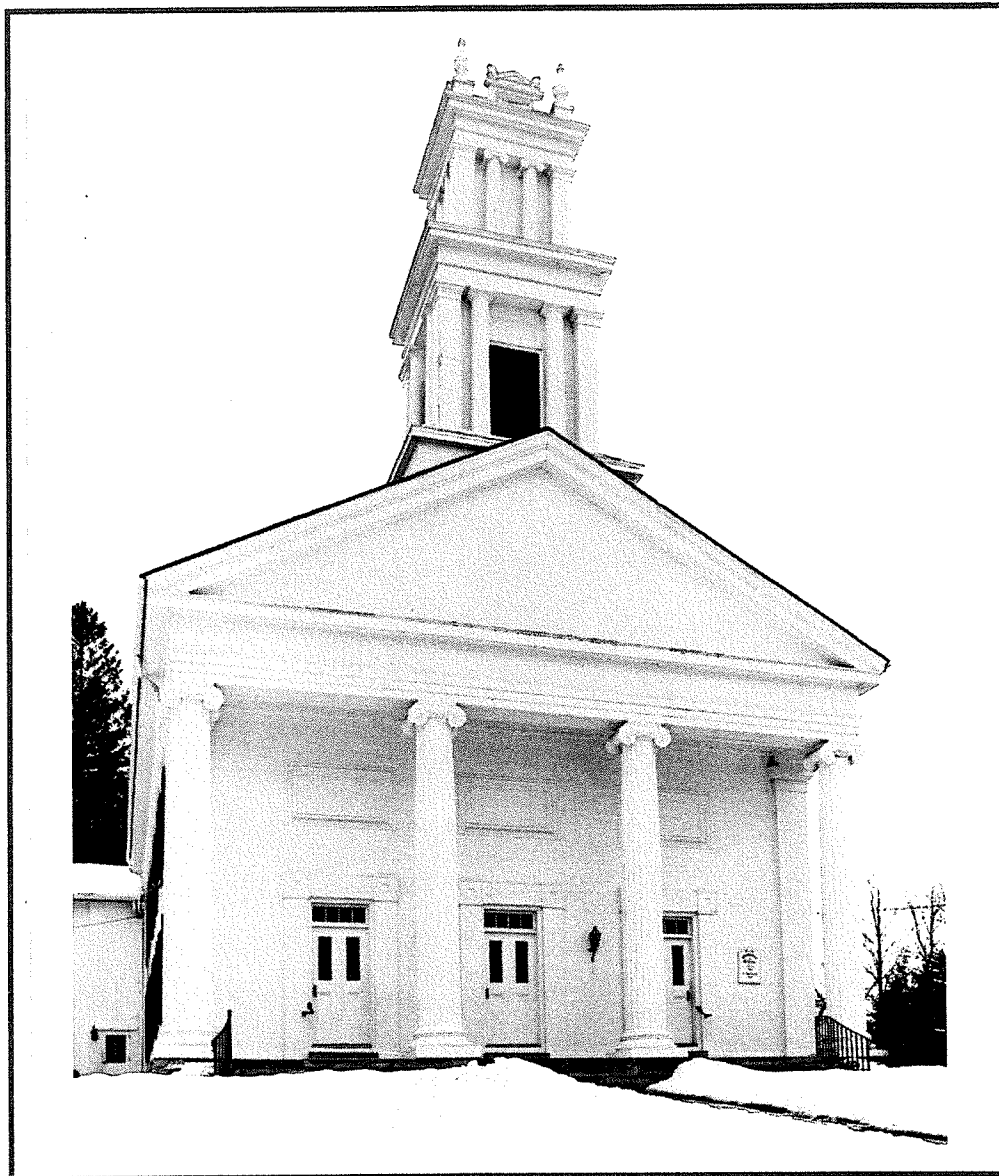
**Date Built:** 1920?

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Unknown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** This 3-bay vernacular Colonial Revival building has retained its massing and its scale which reinforces the uniform appearance of DeForest and North Streets. It is believed that this building was originally the carriage house to Trumbull House and has undergone substantial changes. It is now a residential rental property. It is located behind the Church.



**Address:** DeForest Street

**Known As:** First Congregational Church

**Present Owners:** First Congregational Church of Watertown(1839)

**Date Built:** 1839

**Architect:** Steven Baldwin(New Hartford)

**Original Owners:** First Congregational Church      **Builder:** Steven Baldwin

**Style/Commentary:** Greek Revival. Built to replace the 2nd church building, it was constructed and designed by Steven Baldwin, specifically to match the Congregational Church at Plymouth, CT. Of particular note are the spire and the massive Ionic portico. This building dominates the Green and is one of the most distinctive structures in town.



**Address:** 40 DeForest Street

**Known As:** Trumbull House; Woodward's Tavern;  
Congregational Church Offices

**Present Owners:** First Congregational Church of Watertown(1957)

**Date Built:** 1772

**Architect:** Not applicable

**Original Owners:** Rev. John Trumbull  
First Congregational Church

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial/with Colonial Revival additions. Originally the home of Rev. John Trumbull, the first pastor of the Congregational Church, it was the birthplace of his son, John Trumbull, the "poet of the American Revolution." The house subsequently became a tavern and a large ballroom was added. It remained in the Woodward family until 1905. Charles & Agnes Buckingham lived in the house over 50 years until 1957 and remodeled the house, adding dormers and 2 Greek Revival porches. One of a few residences facing the town green, next to the church, it dominates the ridge and is a good example of its type.



**Address:** 37 DeForest Street

**Known As:** Town Hall

**Present Owners:** Town Of Watertown(1894)

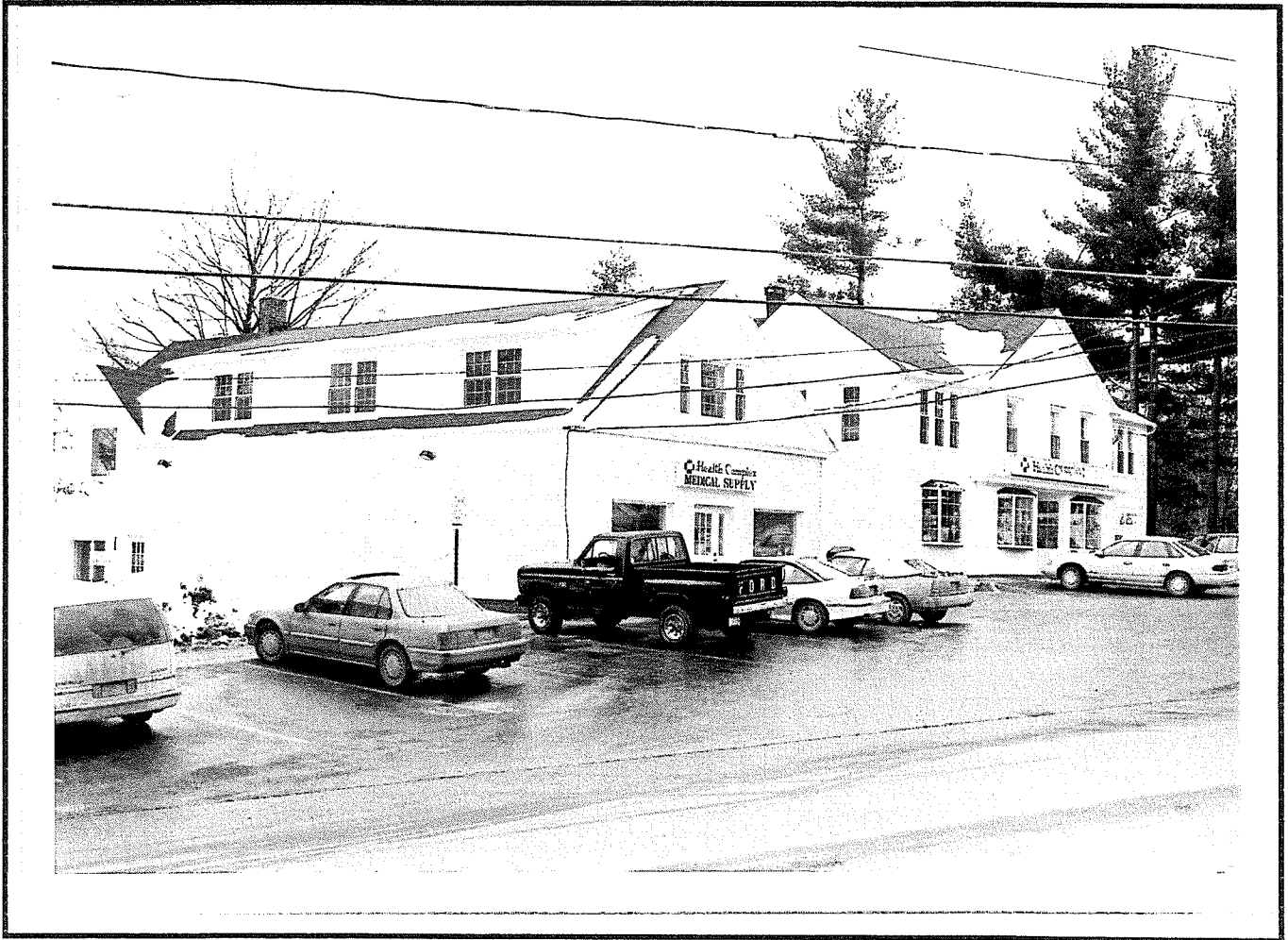
**Date Built:** 1894

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Town of Watertown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival/Richardsonian Romanesque. The second Congregational Church building was located on this site until 1839. Probably designed by committee, and costing \$18,500., this naive design is a pastiche of Colonial Revival elements united by a clock tower and arched entry. It is still used as the Town Hall, housing some of the town offices. It is the third location for Town Hall.



**Address:** 47 & 55 DeForest Street

**Known As:** P. O. Drug; Health Complex

**Present Owners:** Edward J. Sklanka-Health Complex Pharmacy & Medical Supply(1992)

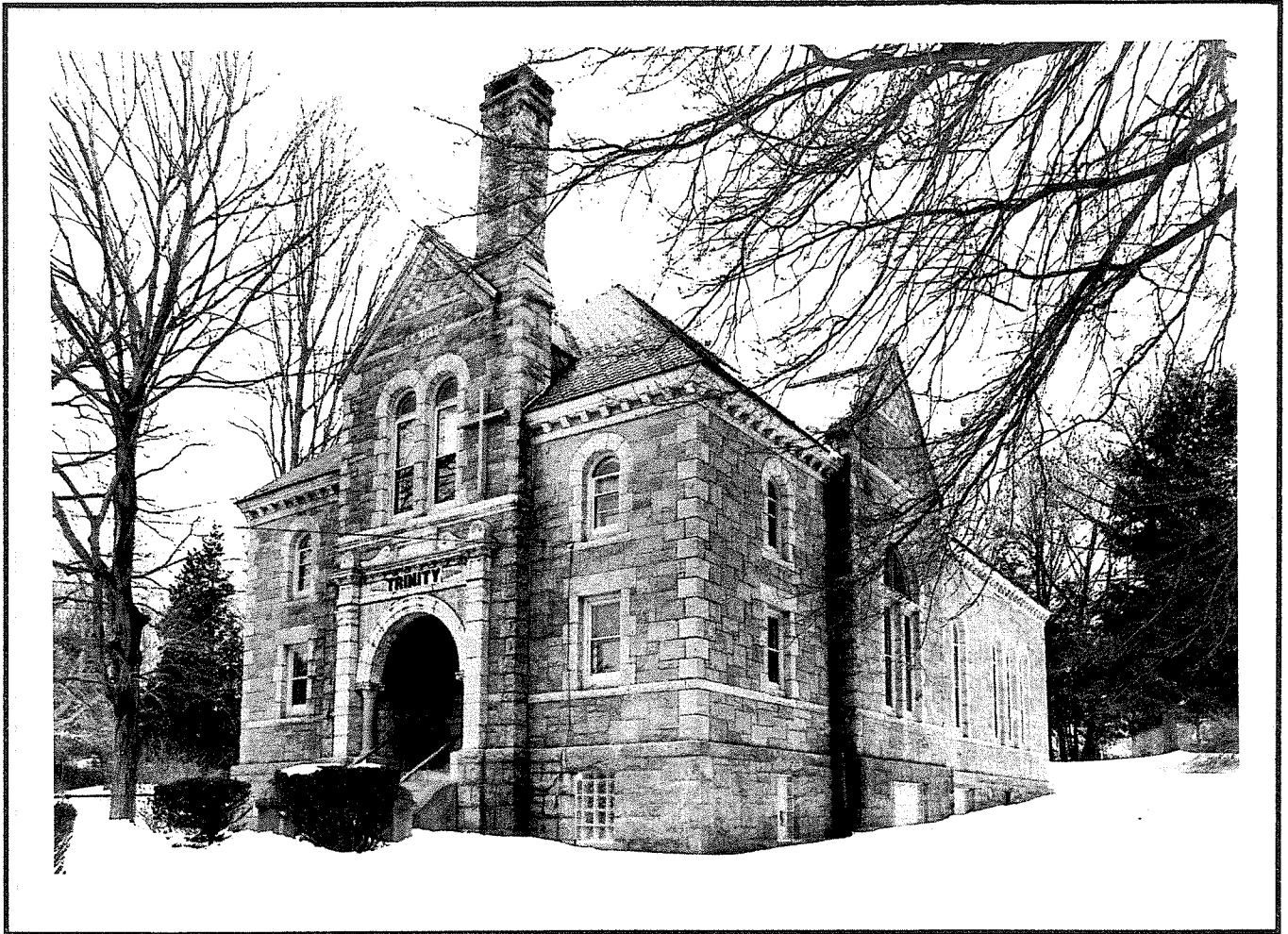
**Date Built:** 1799

**Architect:** Not applicable

**Original Owners:** Benjamin DeForest

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** #55: Colonial Revival. This store has an 18th century inception as Younglove Cutler's. About 1799, Benjamin DeForest replaced Cutler's wooden building with a brick structure which also served as a shoe shop and post office. Later it was owned by Eli Curtiss, who leased it to Orrin Starr for ten years, at an annual rent of \$225. After being in the Curtiss family for 60 years, Bennett C. Atwood bought it late in the 19th century and enlarged the property. It continues as our neighborhood pharmacy and medical supply business.



**Address:** 50 DeForest Street

**Known As:** Watertown Library; Trinity Lutheran Church

**Present Owners:** Our Savior Lutheran Church(1958)

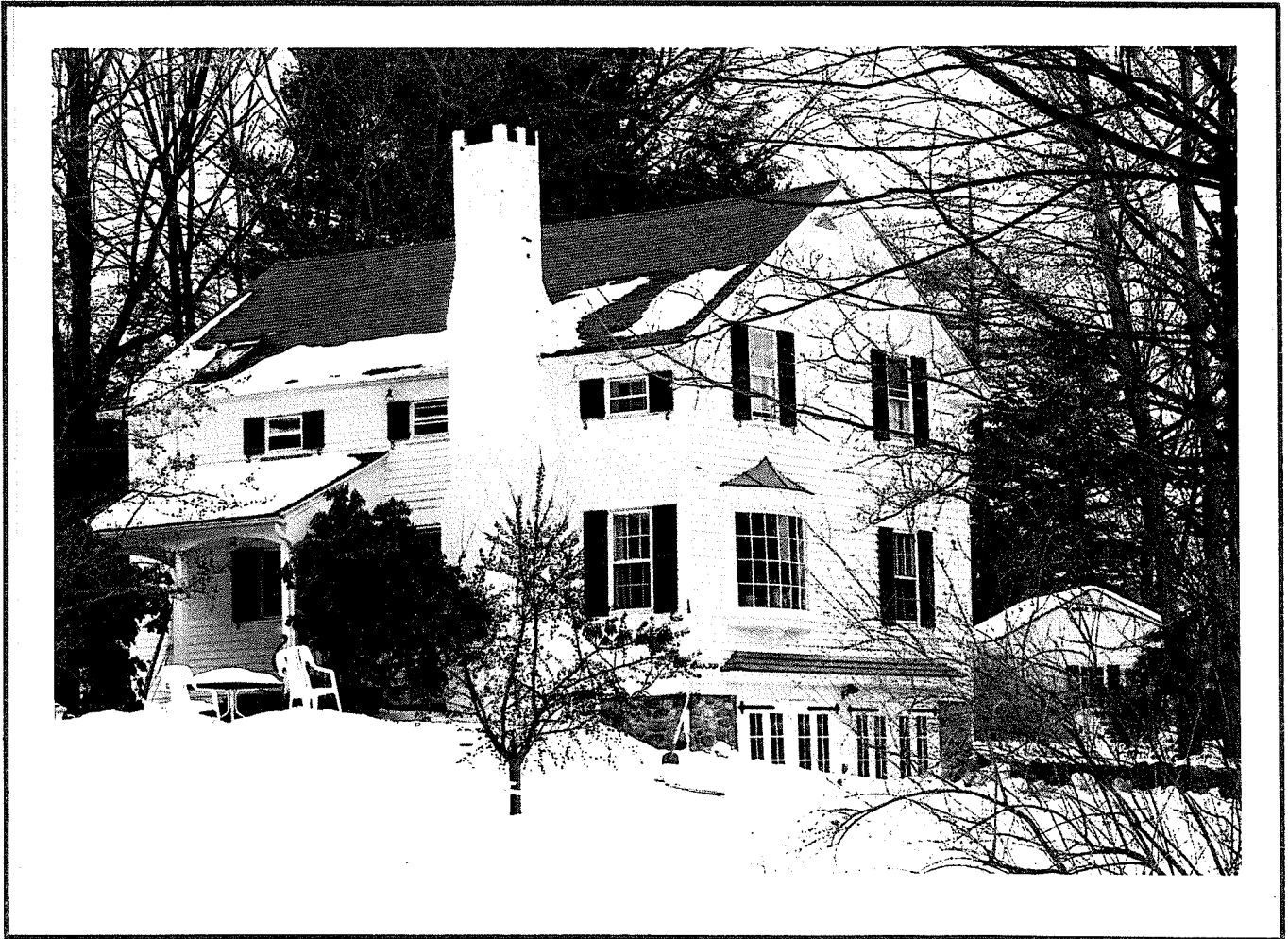
**Date Built:** 1883/4

**Architect:** R. W. Hill(Waterbury)

**Original Owners:** Watertown Library Association **Builder:** Flynt & Co.(Munson, MA)

**Style/Commentary:** Richardsonian Romanesque. The only building of this style to be built in the area. It is a good example of its type. Note the arched entry, gable and window details. R. W. Hill was a prominent local architect who also designed the Thomaston Opera House.

The library opened its doors in 1884 and served the town for almost 75 years until the Church bought the property in 1958.



**Address:** 54 DeForest Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1985)

**Date Built:** c. 1855

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** David Woodward

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Greek Revival/altered to Colonial Revival. Probably built by David Woodward, tavern keeper, shoemaker and tanner, this house gives away its Greek Revival origins by its frieze band windows in the eave. It has obviously received 20th century alterations to make it appear more Colonial. The house contributes to the appearance of the district in that its mass and fenestration are sympathetic with those of its neighbors. It now serves as Taft faculty housing.



**Address:** 63 DeForest Street

**Known As:** Cutler/DeForest House

**Present Owners:** Dr. Novello E. & Betty P. Ruggiero(1978)

**Date Built:** 1783

**Architect:** Not applicable

**Original Owners:** Younglove Cutler

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Federal. Originally built by Younglove Cutler, local merchant, the house initially was perpendicular to the street with the first portion of the house being what is now the ell. It was subsequently owned by the DeForest family until 1859. In 1889, Dr. Walter Munger bought the house and lived there until 1922. Some time after 1905, Dr. Munger turned the house so it faced the street. David Woodward & his wife Marian(later Ottley) purchased the house in 1927, restored the interior and altered the entry. Mrs. Ottley sold the house in 1969. It is a good example of its type in the district.



**Address:** 63 DeForest(398 Main St.)

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Dr. Novello E. & Betty P. Ruggiero(1978)

**Date Built:** c. 1920

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Dr. Walter Munger?

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** 3-car garage & apartment to 63 Deforest Street. An attractive Colonial Revival structure.



**Address:** 70 DeForest Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1964)

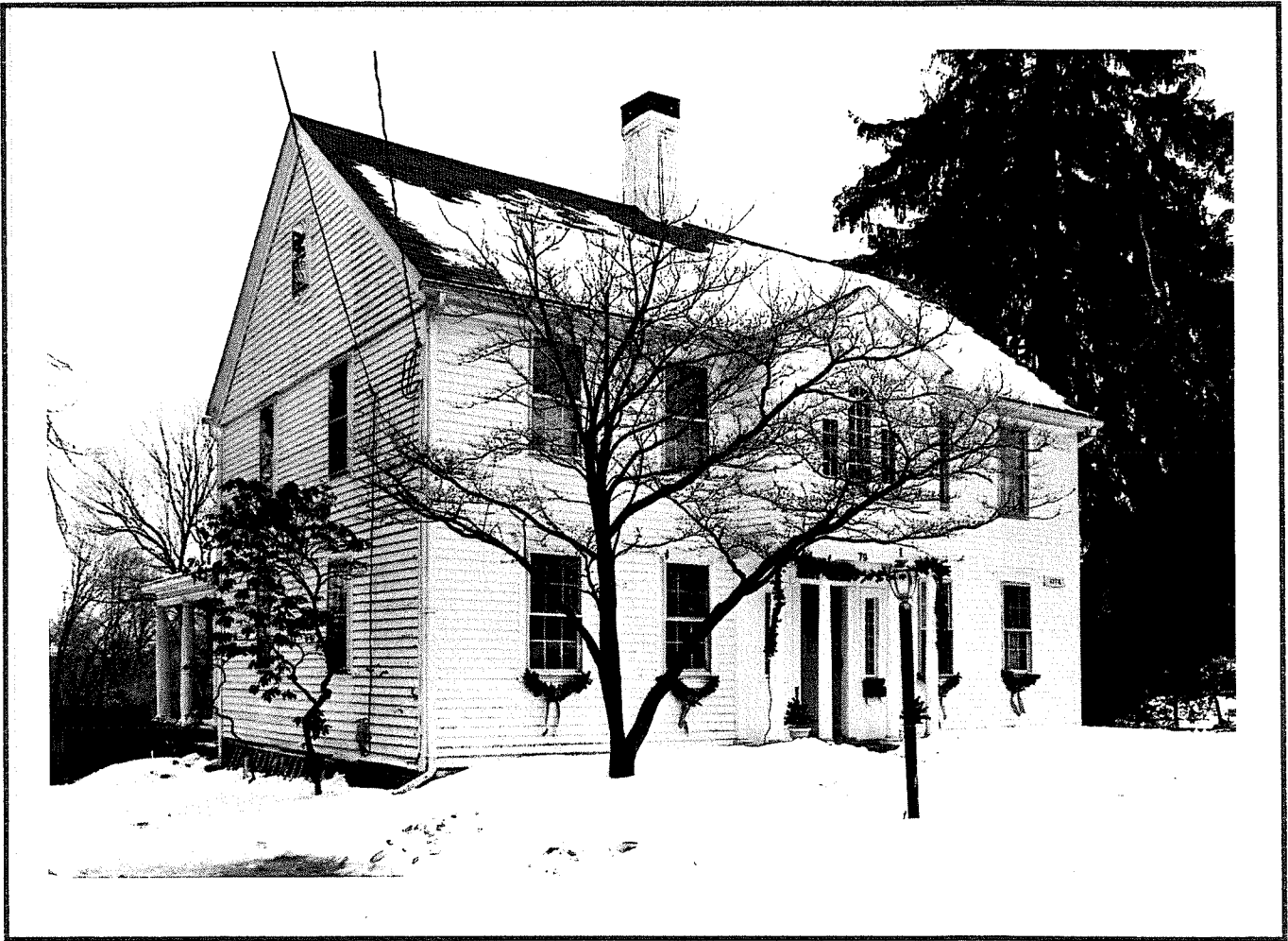
**Date Built:** 1850s

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Eli Curtiss

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival garage/house. Originally an outbuilding on the Curtiss House lot, it probably dates from the mid-19th century and was converted to faculty housing. This building was built in a style compatible with its neighbors.



**Address:** 79 DeForest Street

**Known As:** Aner Bradley I House

**Present Owners:** Kathleen L. Sierakowski(1977)

**Date Built:** 1778

**Architect:** Not Applicable

**Original Owners:** Col. Aner Bradley

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial with Colonial Revival additions. Originally built by Col. Aner Bradley, a goldsmith and Revolutionary War hero, it was owned in the early 19th century by Benjamin DeForest who opened a small store here. DeForest soon moved his business to Younglove Cutler's old store. The house was later owned by the Atwood family for over 65 years and they dramatically altered the exterior. Bennett C. Atwood was Postmaster and owner of the P. O. Drug Store. The building still retains its 18th century massing.



**Address:** 85 DeForest Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Peter & Ann Marie Krawchuk(1971)

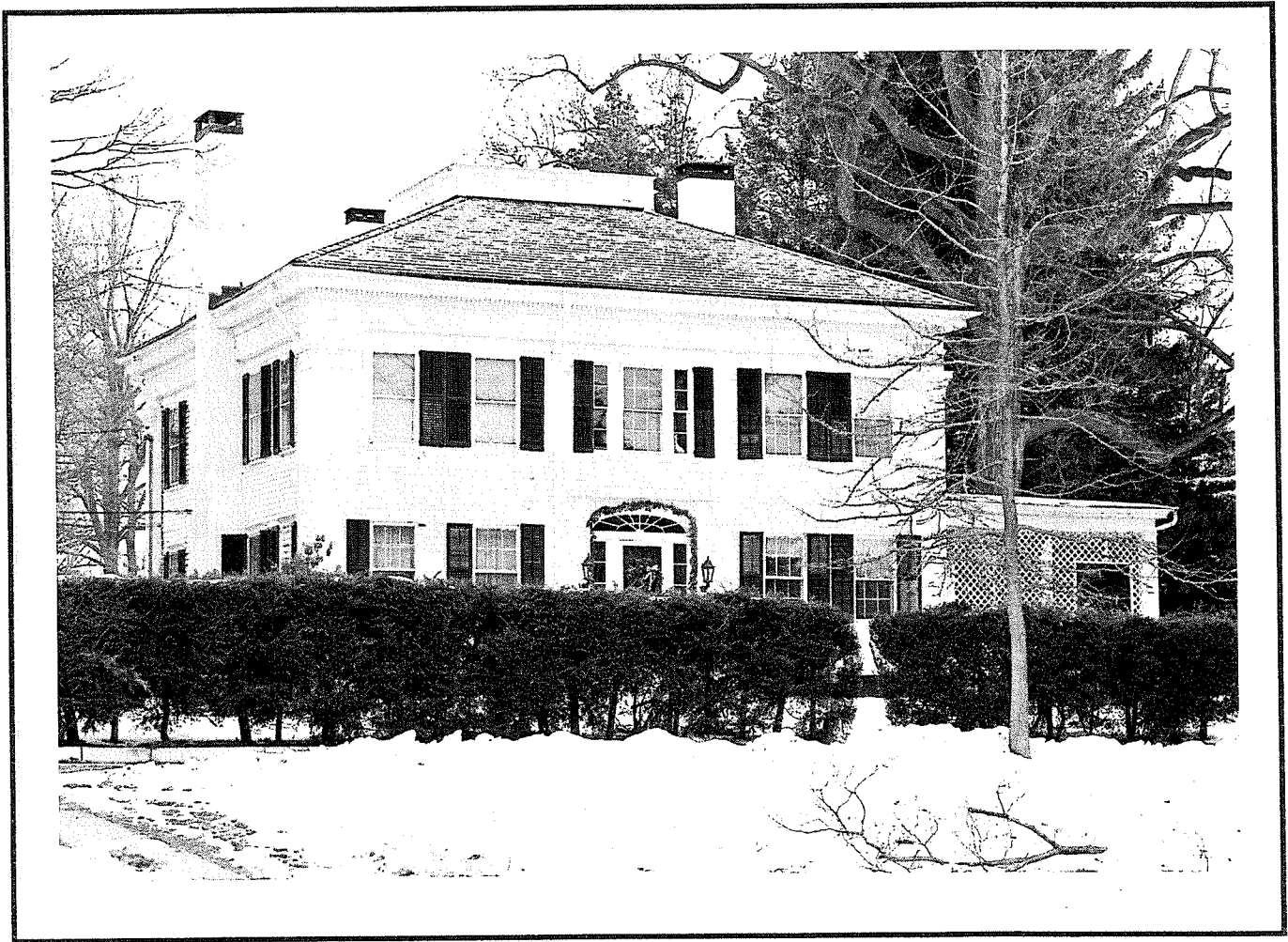
**Date Built:** 1860

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Russell S. Beers/Truman A.  
Warren

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Gothic Revival. Despite the 1952 one story addition, this house is a relatively rare example of an A. J. Davis inspired Gothic cottage. It may have been built by shirt maker, Russell Beers or built later by the Warren family. It has retained its gable-end oculus, board and batten siding, trefoil porch valance, diamond pattern barge boards, hooded window cornices and diamond polychromed and imbricated slate shingling.



**Address:** 90 DeForest Street

**Known As:** Curtiss House

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1964)

**Date Built:** c. 1840

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Eli Curtiss

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Greek Revival/Federal. This large elegant house was built by Merino sheep farmer and Panama hat entrepreneur, Eli Curtiss. Note the Federal doorway and large corner pilasters that enframe the mass of the building. The parapet atop the roof is the vestige of a large cupola. The Curtiss House served in the past as Taft's Headmaster's home and is now faculty housing.



**Address:** 153 DeForest Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** William H. & Joan Dowd(1965)

**Date Built:** c. 1851

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Charles A. Warren

**Builder:** Unknown

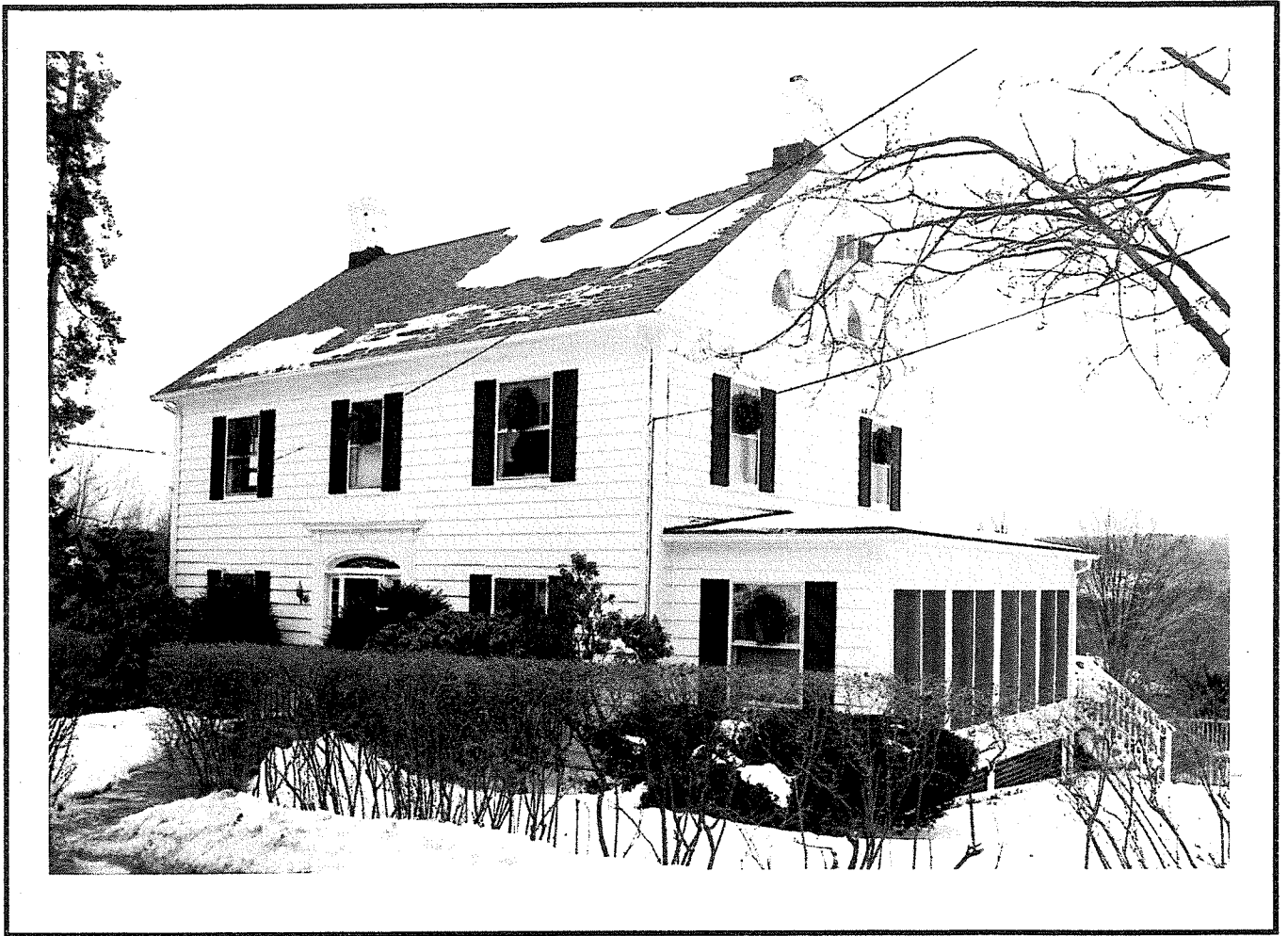
**Style/Commentary:** Italianate. A well preserved example of its type, particularly the porch and cupola. Originally the home of Charles A. Warren, son of Alanson Warren, who was a founder of the Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Co. It was later used as a boarding house(Taylor Boarding House), Taft faculty housing for 24 years and is now once again a private residence.



# **DICKERMAN STREET**

**2 Property Owners  
(2 Buildings)**





**Address:** 20 Dickerman Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Allan J. & Jane Capinera(1979)

**Date Built:** 1927

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Merritt W. Atwood

**Builder:** Robert L. Vaill?

**Style/Commentary:** Federal Revival. A good example of the style that forms a part of the cohesive streetscape with its neighbors. Note the entry, and the half lunette windows in the gable end.



**Address:** 21 Dickerman Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Andrew S. & Elizabeth N. Carlo(F-1963)

**Date Built:** 1917

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Alfred & Emma Rydin

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival/Bungalow. Note how the large gable roof subsumes the Tuscan-columned porch. This house was built on land subdivided in 1912 by James B. Woolson. This house was the home of Joyce Carlo who initiated the first Historic District Study Committee in the 1970s.

# **HAMILTON AVENUE**

**12 Property Owners  
(13 Buildings)**





**Address: 25 Hamilton Avenue**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: Taft School Corporation(1963)**

**Date Built: 1963**

**Architect: Unknown**

**Original Owners: Taft School Corporation**

**Builder: F. B. Mattson Co., Inc.(Waterbury)**

**Style/Commentary: Late 20th century Colonial Revival. Recently built as Taft faculty housing, the scale and massing of this house conforms with that of the rest of the neighborhood.**



**Address: 28 Hamilton Avenue**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: Robert W. & Nancy R. Lowell(1967)**

**Date Built: 1908**

**Architect: Unknown**

**Original Owners: Welton/Cruttenden**

**Builder: Unknown**

**Style/Commentary: Colonial Revival. Note the gambrel roof, prominent dormers and bay windows. This smaller house is a good example of its type.**



**Address:** 34 Hamilton Avenue

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** John T. Mullaney, Jr.(1984)

**Date Built:** c. 1860/moved 1890

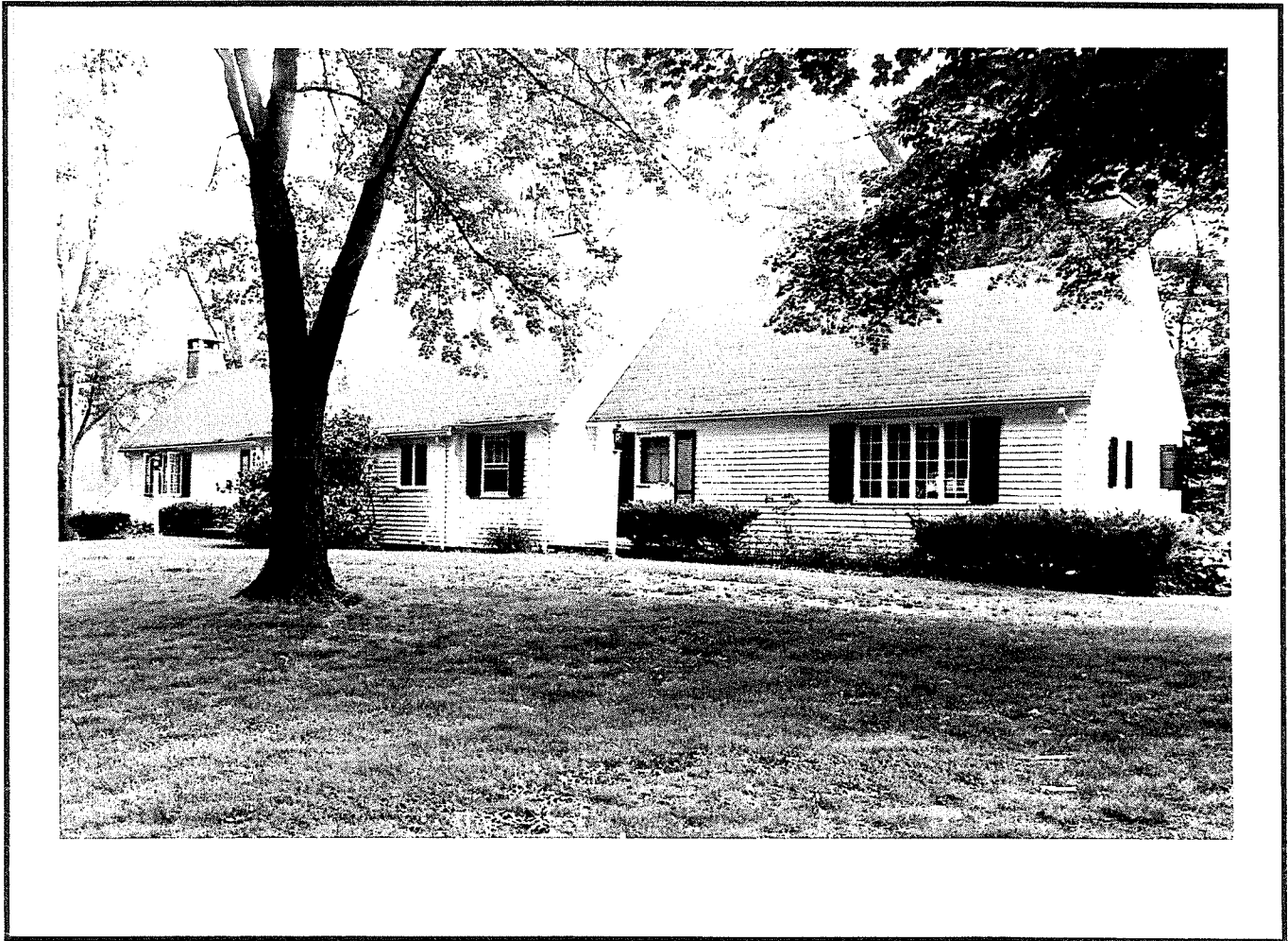
**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Hiram L. Bishop

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Italianate. This house was moved from Waterbury around 1890 and became the home of Hiram L. Bishop. An excellent example of the Italianate style, it has a beautiful, stylized Tuscan porch with cutwork balusters. The house has retained its bracketed eaves, large windows and over door decoration.

Once owned by Horace D. Taft in the 1930s, the house served as a dormitory and there was a soda fountain in the dining room for Taft students. It returned to private ownership in 1941.



**Address: 35 Hamilton Avenue**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: Taft School Corporation(1963)**

**Date Built: 1963**

**Architect: Unknown**

**Original Owners: Taft School Corporation**

**Builder: F. B. Mattson Co., Inc.(waterbury)**

**Style/Commentary: Late 20th century Cape Cod Style. Recently built as Taft faculty housing, the scale and massing of this house conforms with that of the rest of the neighborhood.**



**Address: 48 Hamilton Avenue**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: Robert F. McCarthy(F-1942)**

**Date Built: c.1880**

**Architect: Unknown**

**Original Owners: Joel Morehouse**

**Builder: Unknown**

**Style/Commentary: High Victorian Gothic. This prominent house dominates the streetscape. A cross-gable house, it should be noted for its deep eaves, deep window heads and foliate-style cutwork porch decoration. This house probably replaces the previous Greek Revival structure which is now located across the street at #69. The house has been in the McCarthy family for over 50 years.**



**Address: 53 Hamilton Avenue**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: Dr. Richard A. & Mary Anne Kiley(1974)**

**Date Built: 1928**

**Architect: Unknown**

**Original Owners: Colin D. Barrett**

**Builder: Unknown**

**Style/Commentary: Dutch Colonial. This house is a well designed version of a Dutch Colonial Revival house. Of particular interest is the entryway and its stylish porch.**



**Address: 62 Hamilton Avenue**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: Robert & Claire Lamontagne(1995)**

**Date Built: 1976**

**Architect: Unknown**

**Original Owners: Carl & Deborah Griffith**

**Builder: Griffith Custom Builders**

**Style/Commentary: 20th century Colonial Revival. This modern house was designed to keep in style with its neighbors and its scale matches that of the rest of the neighborhood.**



**Address:** 69 Hamilton Avenue

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Michael J. & Kathleen L. Chapman(1985)

**Date Built:** c.1800

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Joel Morehouse

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Period/Greek Revival. Probably moved from across the street by Joel Morehouse on land he purchased in 1876. The house should be noted for its doorway, small windows and early 19th century massing.



**Address: 72 Hamilton Avenue**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: David J. & Kelly A. Coelho(1994)**

**Date Built: 1845**

**Architect: Unknown**

**Original Owners: Marquis M. Mitchell**

**Builder: Unknown**

**Style/Commentary: This simple house has received many additions and alterations over the years, but its scale and style help solidify the 19th century image of the streetscape of this section of Hamilton Avenue.**

**It should be noted that the Roger K. & Virginia B. Tillson family lived here over 40 years(1950-1994).**



**Address:** 86 Hamilton Avenue

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Edwin M. & Sidni K. Undercuffler(1968)

**Date Built:** 1857

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Augustus Hamilton

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Victorian Gothic. Built as the home of Augustus Hamilton, it should be noted for its peak ornament, entry porch, window surrounds and vertical proportions. Is Hamilton Ave. named for Augustus?



**Address: 89 Hamilton Avenue**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: John S. & Carol B. Noyes(1980)**

**Date Built: 1941**

**Architect: Louis T. Alexander/Oakie C. Johnson  
(Waterbury)**

**Original Owners: W. Harold Dowd**

**Builder: Robert L. Vaill**

**Style/Commentary: Colonial Revival. Designed by the local architect firm of Johnson and Alexander, this house appears to be based on a plan by the well-known architect, Royal Barry Wills. Its scale and style blend well with the neighborhood. The Dowd family owned this property for over 40 years.**



**Address:** 101 Hamilton Avenue

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Dr. Nicholas & Marian B. Preston(1965)

**Date Built:** 1938

**Architect:** Charles E. Cutler(Westport)

**Original Owners:** Lawrence Walsh

**Builder:** Robert L. Vaill

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. This attractive brick house was designed by a Westport-based architect. Its style and scale conform with the neighborhood. Note the entry and its flanking bow windows.



**Address:** 104 Hamilton Avenue

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Richard L. Ranaudo(1980)

**Date Built:** 1930

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Edward E. Eisenwinter

**Builder:** Robert L. Vaill

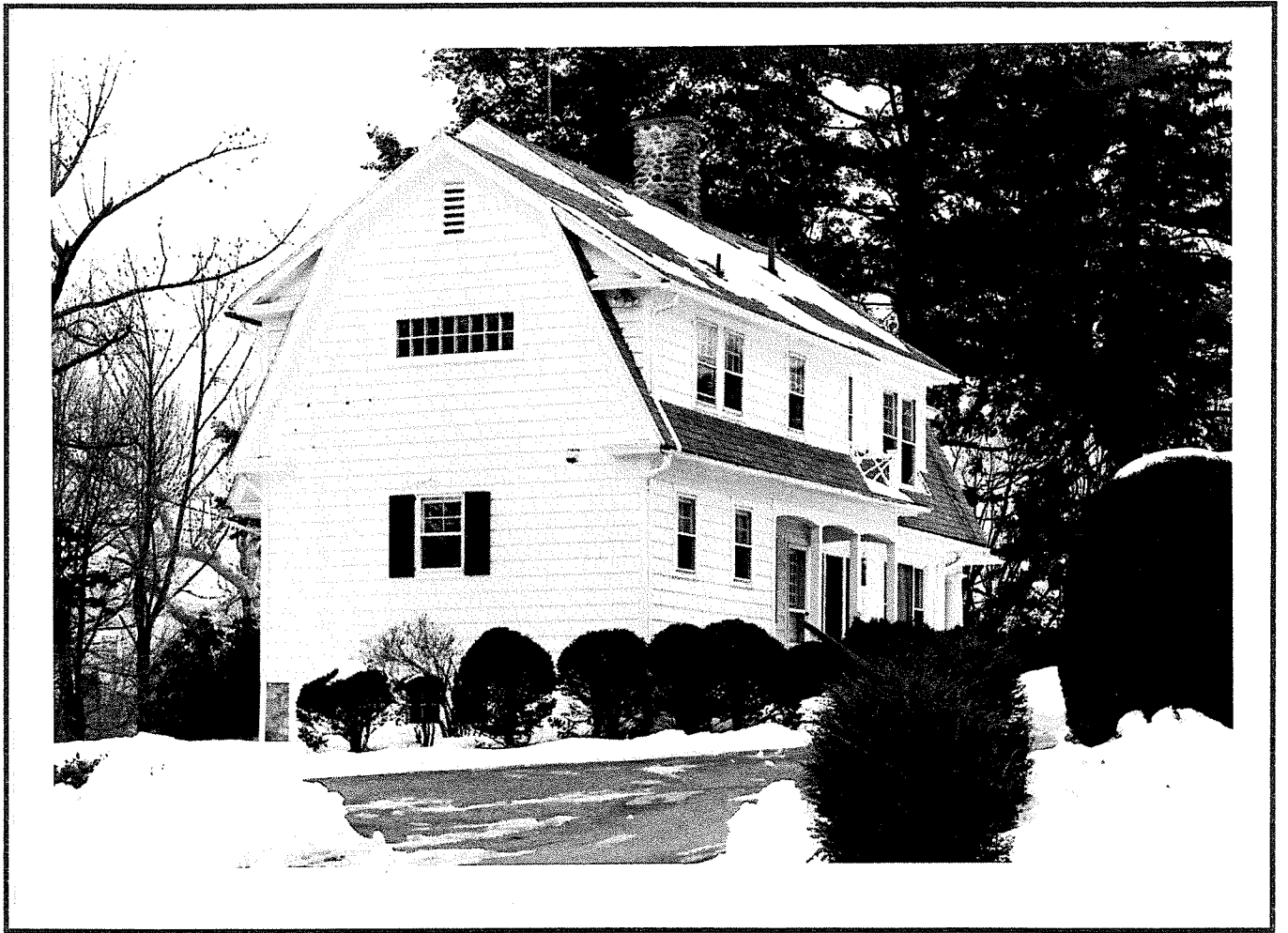
**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Saltbox Revival. Built for an engineer at American Brass on land purchased from the Jackson Sanatorium. The mass and scale of the house conform to the rest of the neighborhood. Its distinctive porch(1988) is a sensitive recent addition. An earlier 4-room addition to the south side, dates from the 1950s.



# **MAIN STREET**

**3 Property Owners  
(3 Buildings)**

**[Pages 97 through 104 have been removed from this revised report]**



**Address:** 190 Main Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Dr. Dwight F. & Carol Miller(1973)

**Date Built:** 1920

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** James B. Woolson

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Dutch Colonial Revival. This house forms a cohesive streetscape with many buildings on Warren Way. Note the steep gambrel roof, integral side porch, Tuscan end porch and long horizontal window in the gable end. The shed dormers appear to be later additions.



**Address:** 380 Main Street

**Known As:** Towne Center

**Present Owners:** Guhulan Jilani; Steven Mogul; Donn A. Innaimo; Kunjathon Thankappan

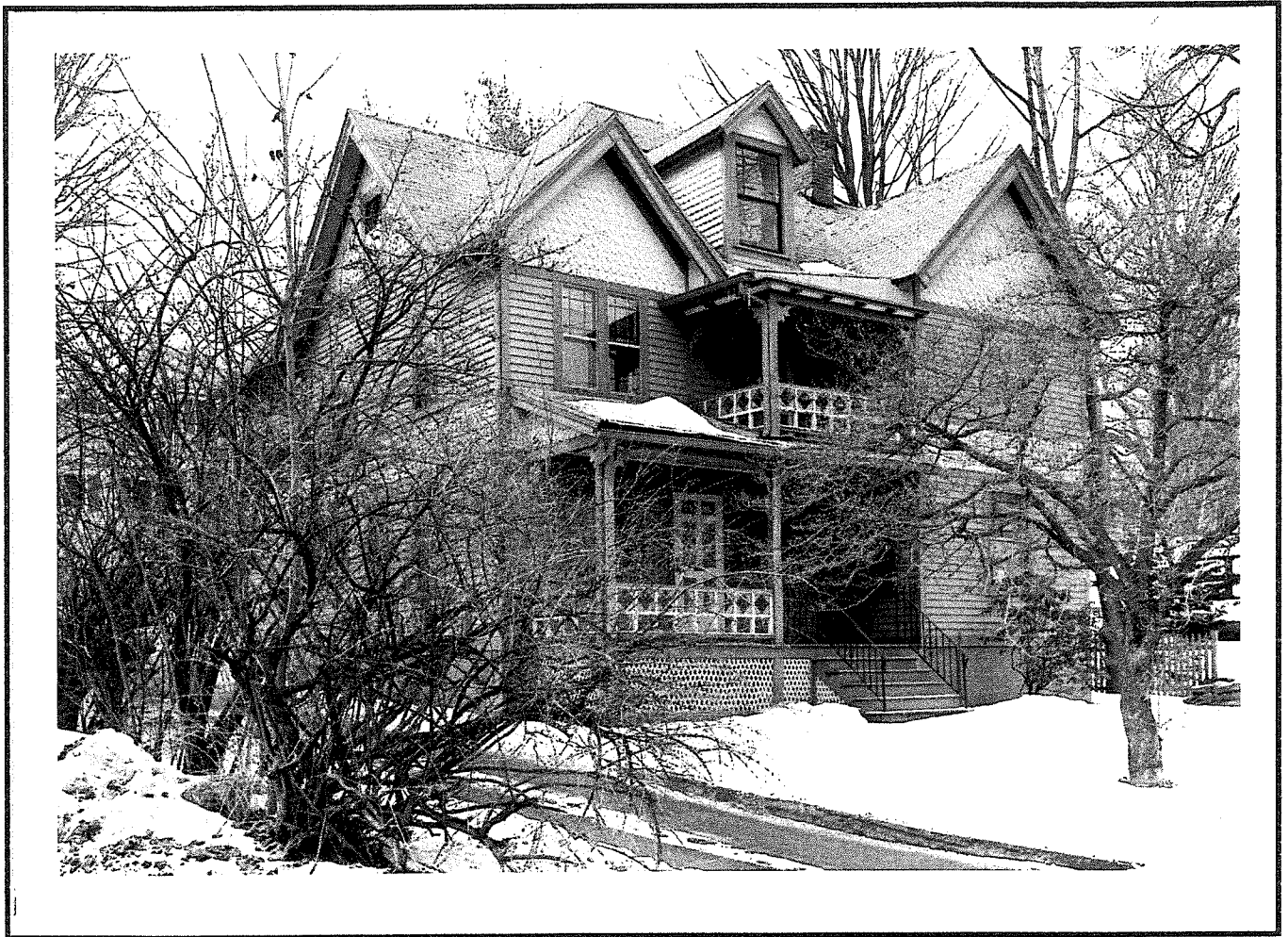
**Date Built:** 1985

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Watertown Medical Park  
Development Corporation

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Commercial doctors' condominiums. The scale helps blend into the district.



**Address:** 404 Main Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Dr. Diane L. Fountas & Dr. Peter J. Jacoby(1987)

**Date Built:** 1894

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Robert & Anna J. White

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Queen Anne. One of the finer examples in the district. Of interest are the shingled gable ends, cutwork quatrefoil porches and posts, as well as the asymmetrical massing of the building.



# **NORTH STREET**

**13 Property Owners  
(20 Buildings)**





**Address:** 17 & 27 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1947)

**Date Built:** 18th century

**Architect:** Not applicable

**Original Owners:** Unknown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Vernacular Greek Revival/Italianate. This much altered house began its life possibly as early as 1742. It owes its current appearance to the tenure of attorney Holbrook Curtiss, who bought the property in 1816. The house should be noted for its Greek Revival entry, Italianate bay window and window surrounds. It now serves as Taft faculty housing.



**Address:** 36 North Street

**Known As:** Congregational Church Parsonage

**Present Owners:** Anthony M. & Anne J. Fitzgerald(1977)

**Date Built:** c.1836

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Congregational Society of  
Watertown

**Builder:** Steven Baldwin?

**Style/Commentary:** Greek Revival. Built as the Congregational Parsonage, it should be noted for its simple Greek Revival entry, 12/12 windows and Greek Revival window found in gable end. The house served as a Parsonage for 107 years (1836-1953). This house forms a pair with #48 to the north, making a beautiful Greek Revival streetscape. The Church wished to return to its first Parsonage, Trumbull House, next to the Church and owned by Agnes DeF. Buckingham so, she exchanged houses and lived here: 1953-1977.



**Address:** 37 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1961)

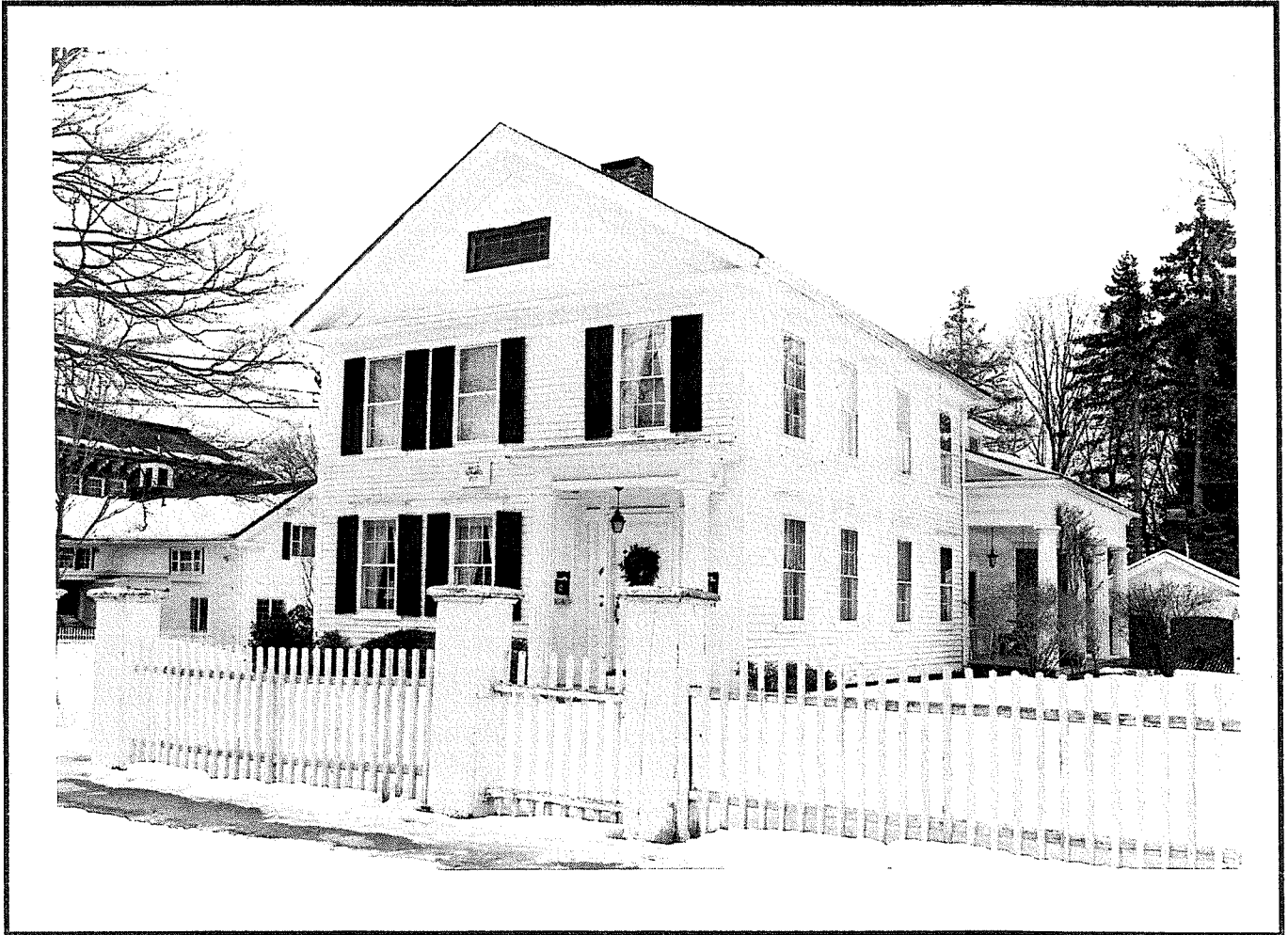
**Date Built:** 1961

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Taft School Corporation

**Builder:** F. B. Mattson Co., Inc.(Waterbury)

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. This modern residence blends in with the adjacent 19th century houses and contains Taft faculty.



**Address:** 48 North Street

**Known As:** Eli Curtiss House

**Present Owners:** Marcel & Mariett Veronneau(1979)

**Date Built:** 1837

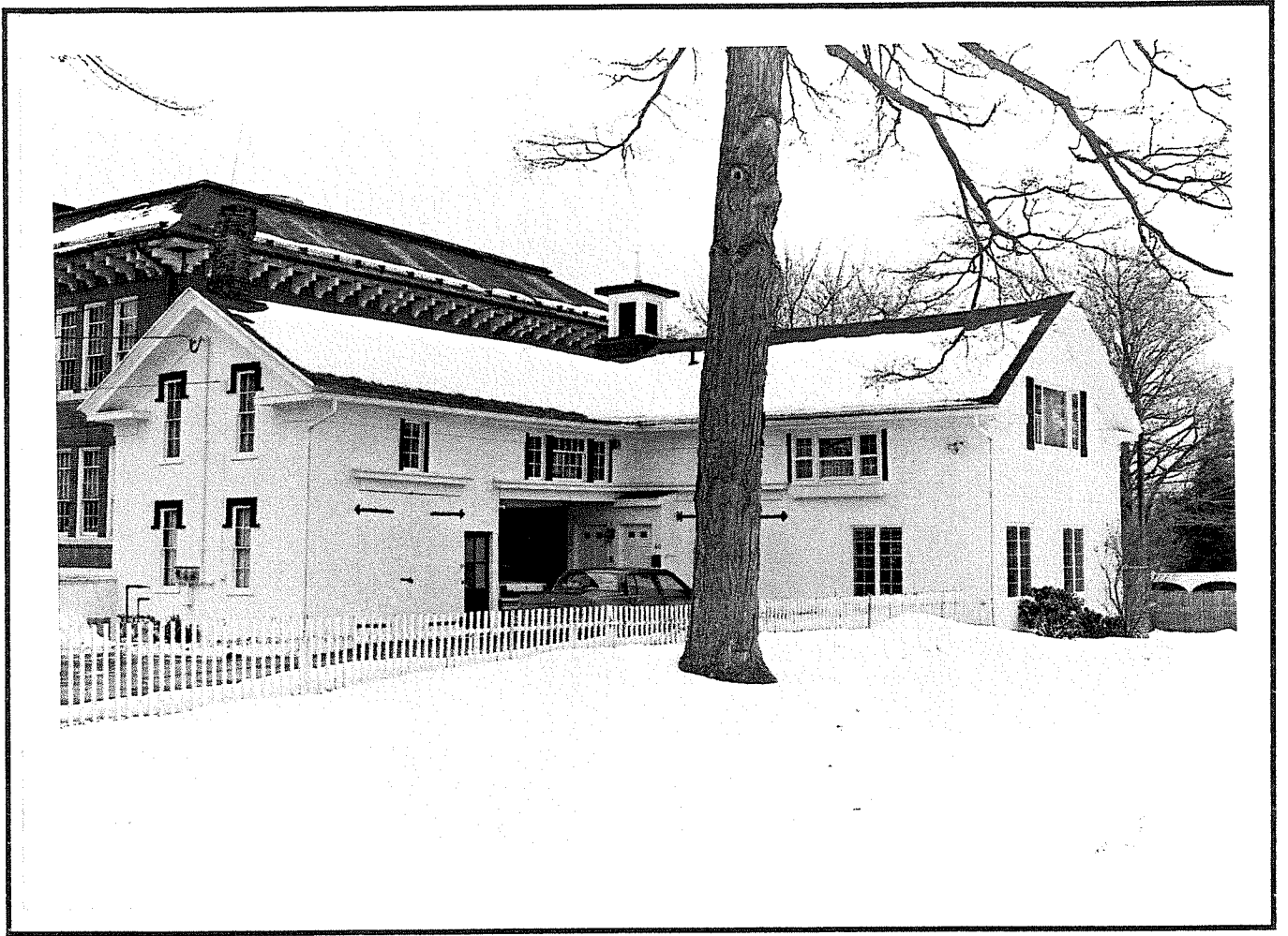
**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Eli & Alma Curtiss

**Builder:** Steven Baldwin?

**Style/Commentary:** Greek Revival. Built by Eli Curtiss in 1837 as the home for his Merino sheep ranch. The house is noted for its entry, tympanum window, side porch and outbuildings(see separate page for the house's converted barn/carriage house: #60). This house and its neighbor to the south are almost a pair and are among the finest Greek Revival buildings in Watertown.

Dr. Ernest K. & Katie R. Loveland and his son, E. Randall & wife, Marion lived in this house for 75 years(1904-79).



**Address: 60 North Street**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: Marcel & Mariett Veronneau(1979)**

**Date Built: 1837**

**Architect: Unknown**

**Original Owners: Eli & Alma Curtiss**

**Builder: Steven Baldwin?**

**Style/Commentary: This elegant Greek Revival barn/carriage house has been converted to residences. It should be noted for its hood moldings over the windows and deep eave returns.**



**Address:** 49 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(?)

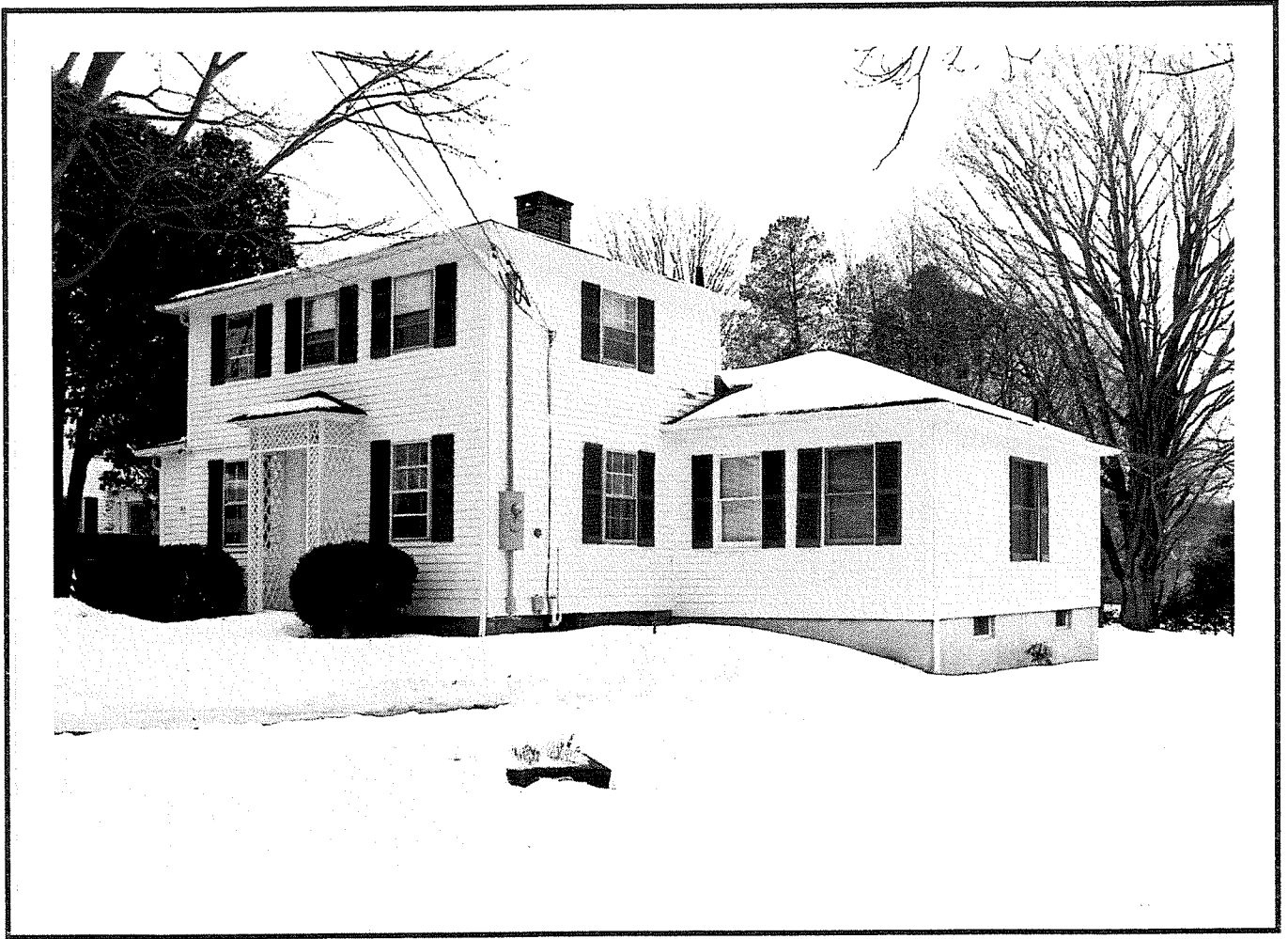
**Date Built:** c.1960

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Taft School Corporation

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. This modern house blends in with the adjacent 19th century house and is Taft faculty housing.



**Address: 59 North Street**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: Taft School Corporation(1971)**

**Date Built: c. 1875**

**Architect: Unknown**

**Original Owners: William E. Curtiss**

**Builder: Unknown**

**Style/Commentary: Italianate. This much altered house was built by William E. Curtiss who was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury under Cleveland(1893-97). The house should be noted as retaining its massing and hipped roof. Its scale matches that of the rest of the street. Taft faculty housing.**



**Address:** 68 North Street

**Known As:** Baldwin School

**Present Owners:** Town Of Watertown(1907)

**Date Built:** 1907

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Town of Watertown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Arts & Crafts. Named after school teacher and prominent member of the Board of School Visitors(1871-1907), Truman P. Baldwin, the building is noted for its prominent cornice, elaborate brick work and distinctive stone water table. It was built for \$50,000. to replace the Center School which burned in 1906.



**Address:** 71 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** William E. & Amelia M. Grover(1973)

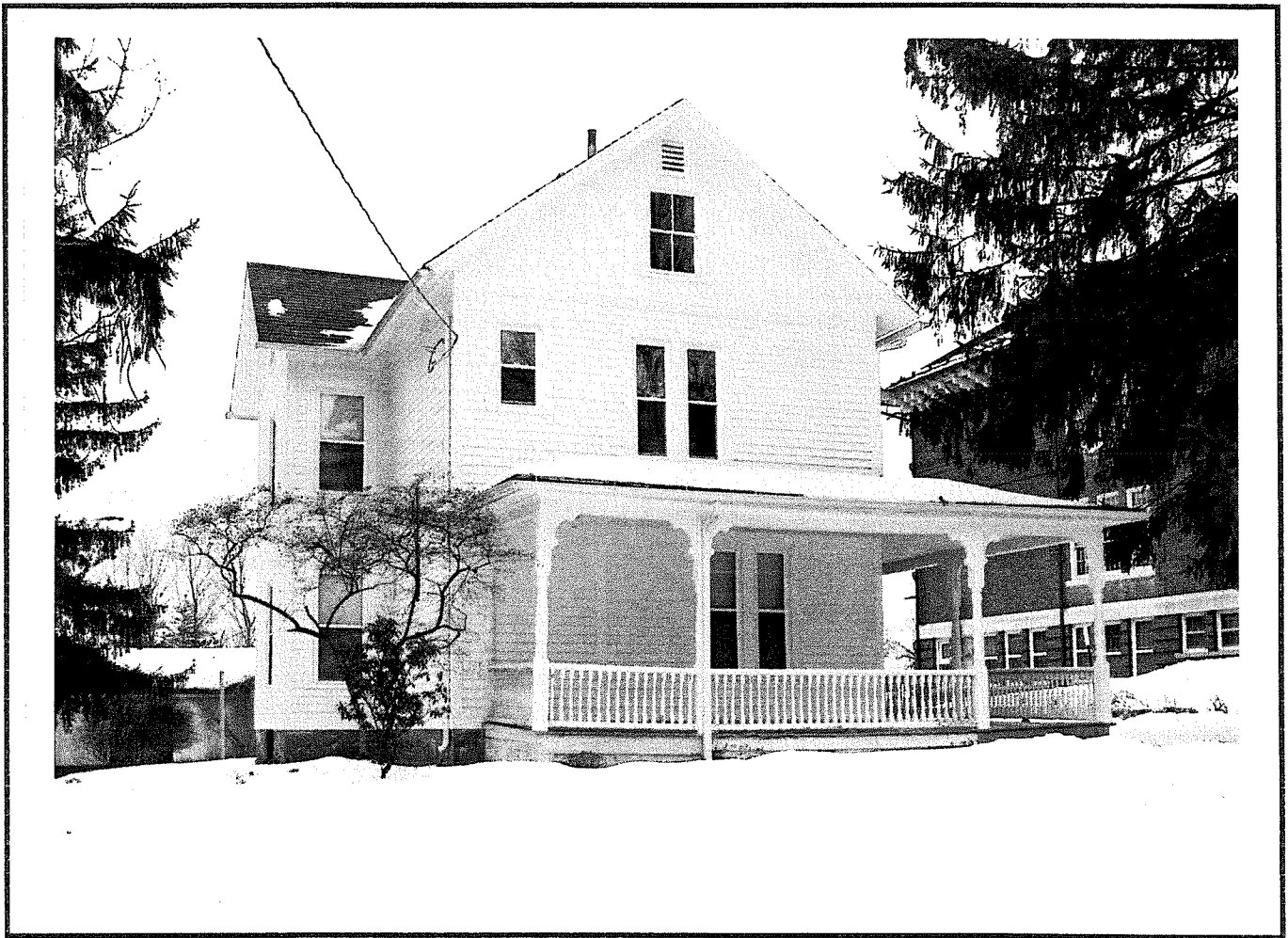
**Date Built:** 1842

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Henry Bronson

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Vernacular Italianate. This house should be noted for its surviving porch, door, floor to ceiling openings and general Italianate proportions.



**Address: 82 North Street**

**Known As:**

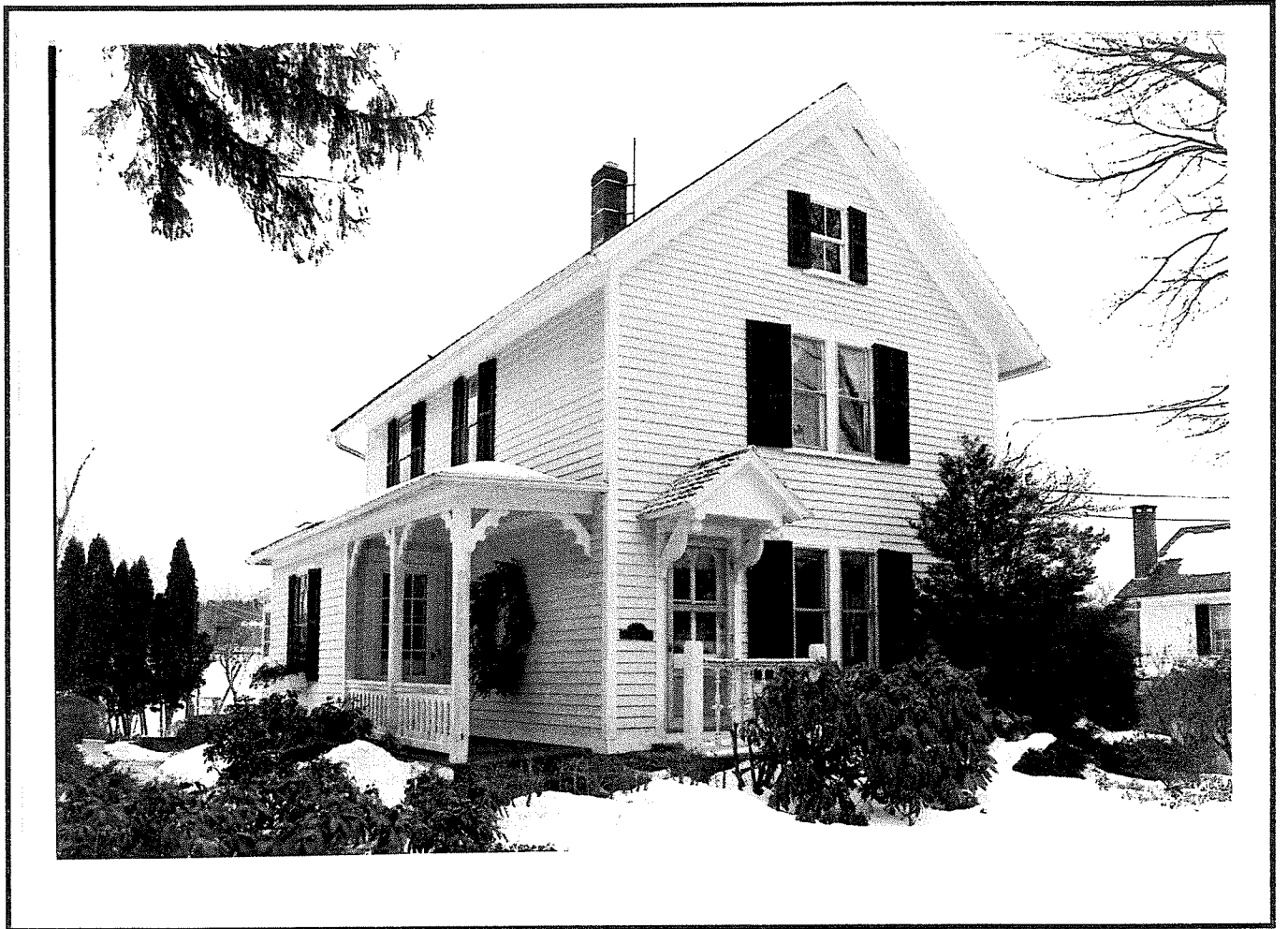
**Present Owners: Paul C. Acheson & William Pknosh(1993)**

**Date Built: c.1853/alterd c.1885                      Architect: Unknown**

**Original Owners: Myron McNeil                      Builder: Unknown**

**Style/Commentary: Queen Anne. This house was changed to its current style by Eliza Benedict after she bought the house in 1879. In 1905, the house became the home of the Superintendent of Schools until the 1960s, when it was rented out by the Town. It returned to private ownership in 1993.**

**It should be noted for its bay windows and board and batten gable ends with sawtooth decoration as well as its turned post-supported porch.**



**Address:** 87 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Peter M. & Barbara Elizabeth D. Hammer(1985)

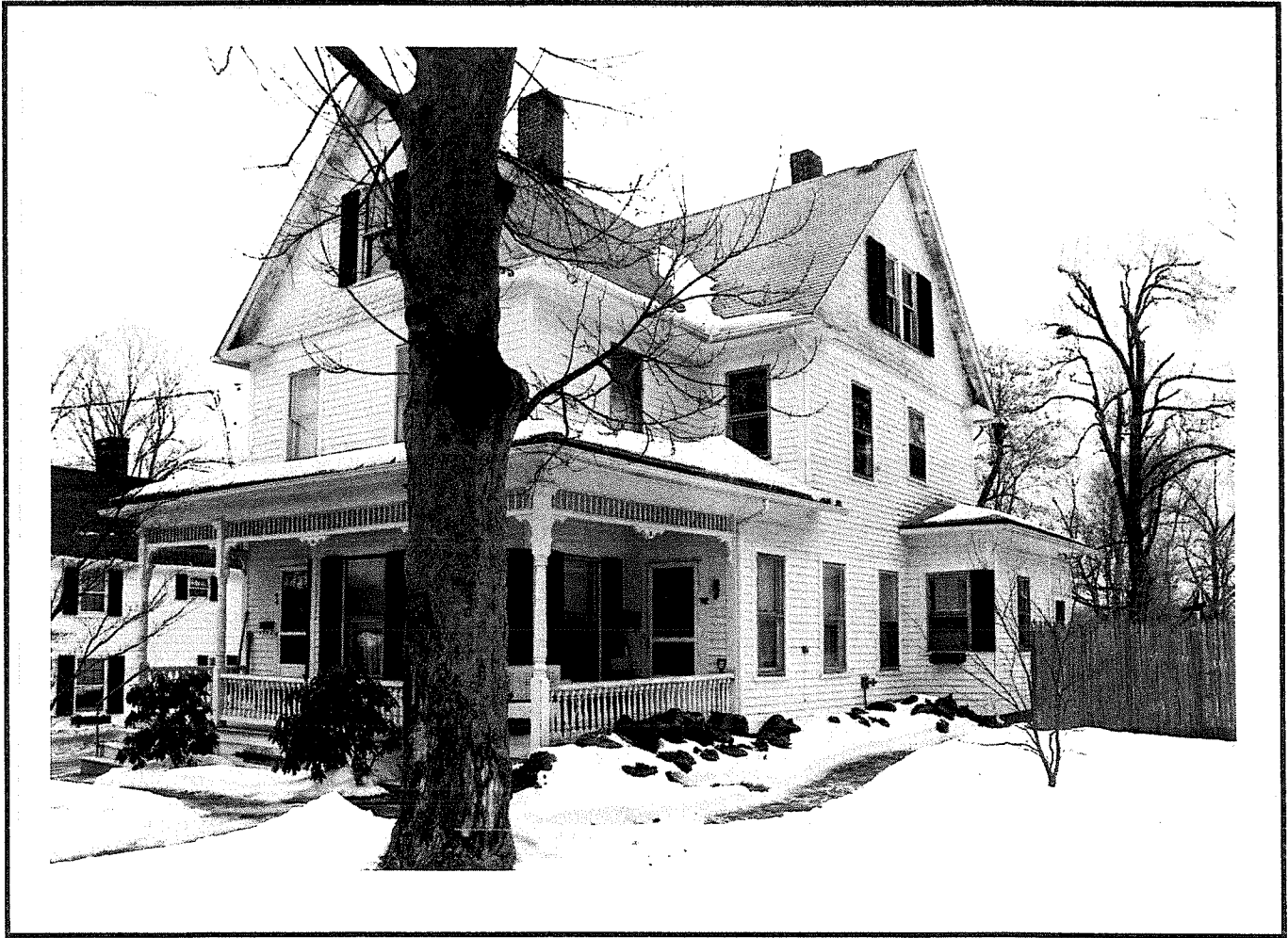
**Date Built:** 1860/altered c.1885

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** John Bronson

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Vernacular Italianate/Queen Anne details. Note the cutwork porch details, Italianate entry door and large windows. It forms a distinctive 19th century streetscape with its neighbors.



**Address:** 92 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Elizabeth W. Richmond(Mrs. Frederick J. Jr.)(1974)

**Date Built:** c.1885

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Elizabeth M. Hotchkiss

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Queen Anne. A large cross-gabled house. It has a notable porch with stick valence and turned balusters and imbricated gable shingles.

The Swansons lived here for 33 years(1941-74) and Mr. Swanson had a butcher shop at the foot of Warren Way.



**Address:** 93 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Hazel L. Judson(Mrs. Leman B.)(1943)

**Date Built:** c.1840/later additions

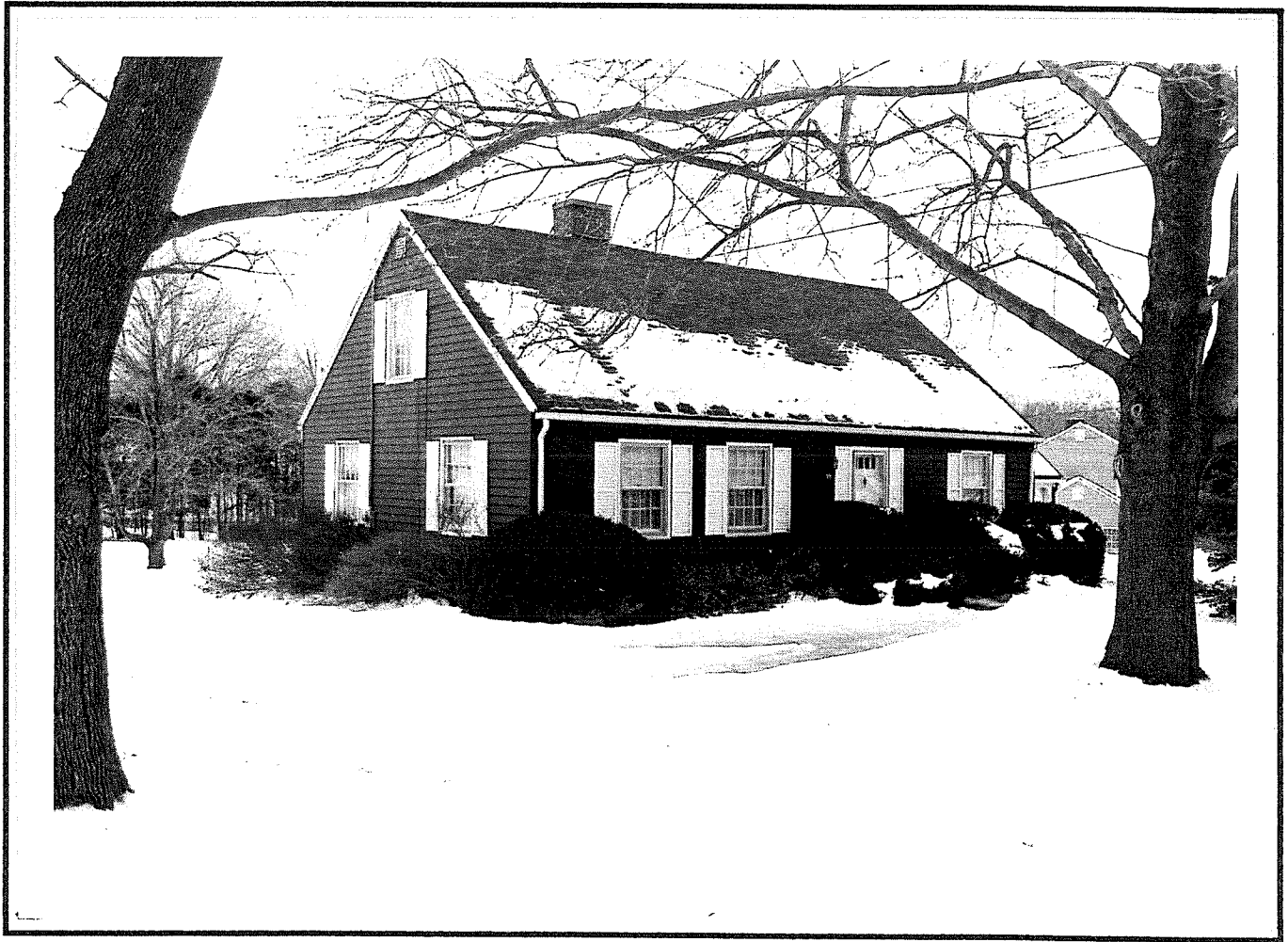
**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Augusta Hotchkiss

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Vernacular Italianate. This much altered Italianate house has retained its large window openings and massing. It forms a 19th century streetscape with its neighbors.

The Judsons have lived in this house for over 50 years (1943-present).



**Address: 99 North Street**

**Known As:**

**Present Owners: Taft School Corporation(1995)**

**Date Built: 1949**

**Architect: Unknown**

**Original Owners: Kenneth G. & Elizabeth A.  
Hamilton**

**Builder: Unknown**

**Style/Commentary: 20th Century Cape Cod Cottage. A simple structure that blends in with the other houses in the neighborhood. Edward G. & Virginia R. Hazen lived here for over 40 years, 1951-1995.**



**Address:** 100 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Dr. Catherine T. Flood(1989)

**Date Built:** 1928

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Charles Hamilton

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. This saltbox vernacular Colonial Revival home is quite compatible with the Queen Anne style and massing of its neighbors. Note the bell-cast eave.

The Cawley family lived here from 1928-1980, over 50 years.



**Address:** 107 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1976)

**Date Built:** 1976

**Architect:** This is a prefab from Fairfield Homes, Fairfield, CT

**Original Owners:** Taft School Corporation

**Builder:** F. B. Mattson Co., Inc.(Waterbury)

**Style/Commentary:** Late 20th century Colonial Revival. This large, late 20th century house matches the scale of the neighboring historic buildings. It is Taft faculty housing.



**Address:** 125 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1976)

**Date Built:** 1976

**Architect:** This is a prefab from Fairfield Homes,  
Fairfield, CT

**Original Owners:** Taft School Corporation

**Builder:** F. B. Mattson Co., Inc. (Waterbury)

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. This large, late 20th century Colonial Revival house matches the scale of the neighboring historic houses. It is Taft faculty housing.



**Address:** 126 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Jean C. King(1978)

**Date Built:** 1910

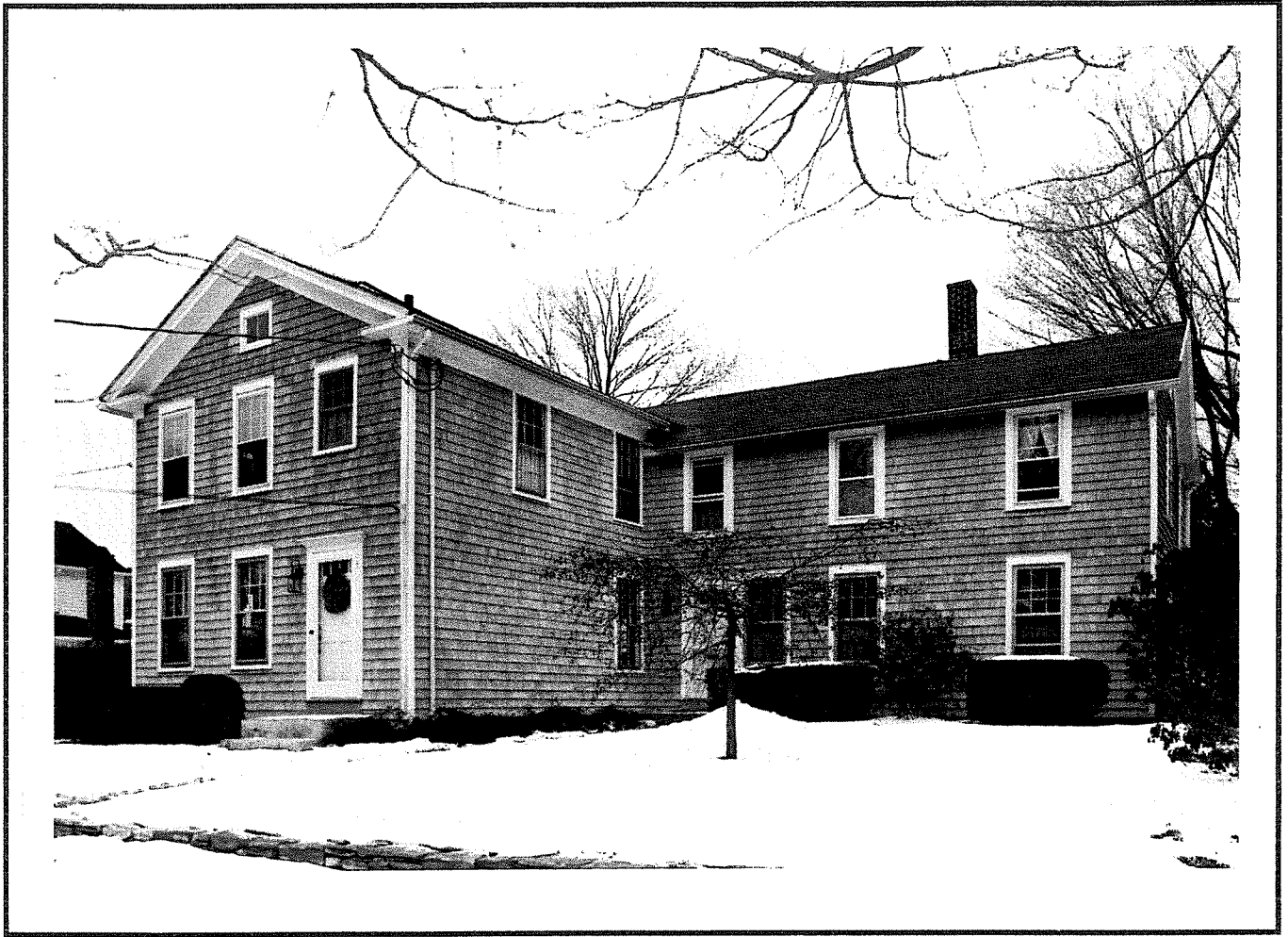
**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Mary E. Woodward

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Queen Anne/Colonial Revival. Although this large house was stripped when its siding was replaced, it still retains its essential massing and contributes to the appearance of the historic streetscape.

Mary E. Woodward owned this house for over 40 years(1899-1940).



**Address:** 130 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Deborah A. Weinberger & Thomas R. Candrick(1978)

**Date Built:** Between: 1833-1856      **Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Charles G. Edwards      **Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Greek Revival with Italianate details. This house appears to have been built by Charles G. Edwards on land purchased in 1833 and he apparently lived here for 33 years until 1866. The large ell is reputed to be an additional building that was moved(from an unknown location) and attached to the main structure. At some later date, the ell was extended even further. A barn on the property was torn down. A garage was built in 1928. In recent years, the home was shingled over its clapboards.

Nathaniel B. & Flora E. Miller lived here from 1886-1925, almost 40 years.



**Address:** 138 North Street

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** John E. & Pamela Hutchinson(1976)

**Date Built:** c.1855

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Charles G. Edwards

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** 19th century Vernacular. Although completely remodeled and with all decorative elements replaced, the house has retained its basic 19th century massing as a side-hall type dwelling.

The Alfred H. & Marion F. Scovill family lived in this house for over 40 years(1920s-1962).

# **THE GREEN**

**3 Property Owners  
(6 Buildings)**





**Address:** 5 The Green

**Known As:** Truman A. Warren House

**Present Owners:** Ronald D. Mayne & Debare Saunders(1988)

**Date Built:** 1851

**Architect:** Henry Austin(attributed to)-New Haven

**Original Owners:** Truman A. Warren

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Italianate. This is the finest Italianate house in Watertown. The arched form of the wood cupola is a rarity as is the house's stone construction. It has a prominent deep eave with dentil course. The curving porch with foliate decoration and cut-work columns is unique in town. It is surrounded by a 19th century iron fence imported from France. The house occupies a key location on the green.

Original owner, Truman A. Warren, was a son of Alanson Warren, Sr., a principal in the Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Co. A later owner, Charles B. Mattoon, a leading citizen, and his wife Alice were owners for almost 50 years(1898-1946).

229  
200



**Address:** 15 The Green

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Ronald D. Mayne & Debare Saunders(1988)

**Date Built:** 1859

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Truman A. Warren

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** This building is 5 The Green's coachman's house, converted to a cottage c.1910. Note the deep returns on the eaves and the Tuscan porch, which was added during its conversion.



**Address:** 28 The Green

**Known As:** Alanson Warren House  
Buckingham House

**Present Owners:** Hobart D. & Nancy Van Deusen(1990)

**Date Built:** 1805

**Architect:** 1) David Hoadley (1805) (Waterbury)  
2) Cameron Clark (1935-7)(New York)

**Original Owners:** Unknown

**Builder:** 1) ? (1805)  
2) Robert L. Vaill (1935-7)(Watertown)

**Style/Commentary:** Federal. The center 4 bays are the original early 19th century house designed by David Hoadley. Original details include the cross-dormer, windows, Palladian window and block modillioned cornice. Wings were later added and large porches attached in the 19th century, along with a large rear wing and 2 additional chimneys. In 1935-7, architect Cameron Clark, removed all the late 19th century additions including barn/stables and replaced them with smaller wings, a semi-circular porch and a 3-car garage. The interior was completely rebuilt and the house returned to having only two chimneys. This was home to both Alanson Warren Sr. & Jr. for many years and they were principals in the Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Co., the Warren Hotel, etc. Civic leaders, John A. & Annie McLean Buckingham and later their son, Scoville McLean Buckingham and his wife Margaret owned the house for over 70 years(1879-1952). Dentist and historic preservationist, Dr. Glenn E. Jackson, lived here almost 40 years(1952-90).



**Address:** 25 The Green

**Known As:** Christ Church

**Present Owners:** Christ Church Parish(1840s)

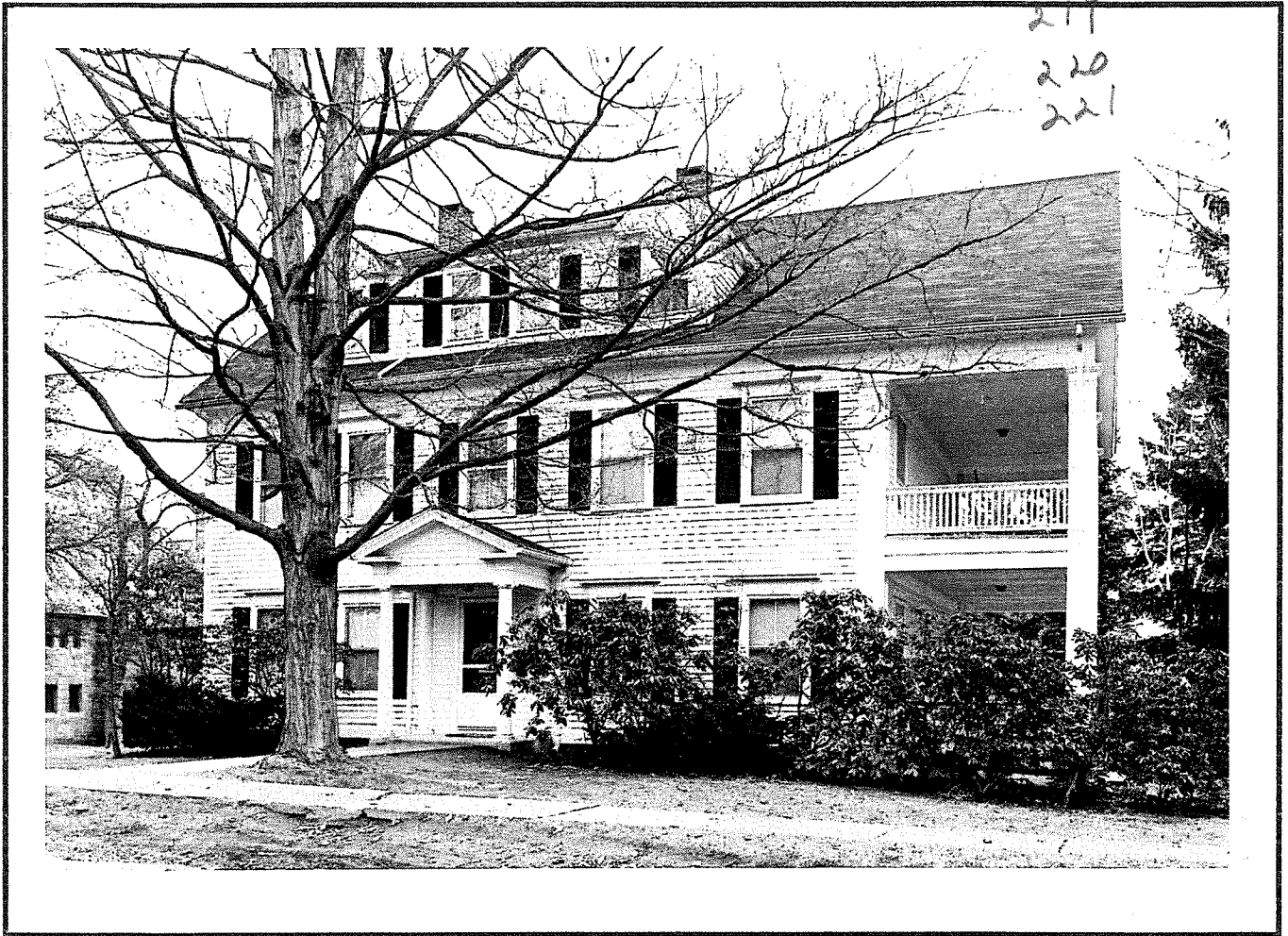
**Date Built:** 1924

**Architect:** Allen and Collens(Boston)

**Original Owners:** Christ Church Parish

**Builder:** H. Wales Lines Co.(Meriden)

**Style/Commentary:** English Parish Church. This is the fourth Episcopal church building in Watertown. It replaced one built in 1854 on the same site. The present building was constructed of Roxbury granite and cost \$100,000. The Church was built to the designs of Allen and Collens of Boston, prominent architects who also designed the Cloisters and Riverside Church in New York City. Note the crenelated tower, arched bell openings and entries. A matching Parish Hall addition was built in 1960. The Church occupies a key space facing the Green.



**Address:** 37 The Green

**Known As:** Christ Church Rectory

**Present Owners:** Christ Church Parish(1840s)

**Date Built:** 1846/1912 alterations

**Architect:** 1846--Unknown  
1912--Wilfred Griggs?

**Original Owners:** Christ Church Parish

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival/Italianate. Built as the Episcopal Rectory in 1846. Originally an Italianate house similar to #14 Woodbury Rd.(Atwood) & #153 DeForest St.(Dowd), this house was remodeled in 1912, probably by Wilfred Griggs, as a Colonial Revival with a third story, deep side porches and Tuscan entry porch. The Rectory still retains Italianate window heads. The house faces the Green and is a prominent building on the Green.



**Address:** The Green

**Known As:** Academy Building  
Christ Church Parish House

**Present Owners:** Christ Church Parish(1846)

**Date Built:** 1846/moved: c.1850

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Christ Church Parish

**Builder:** Christ Church parishioners

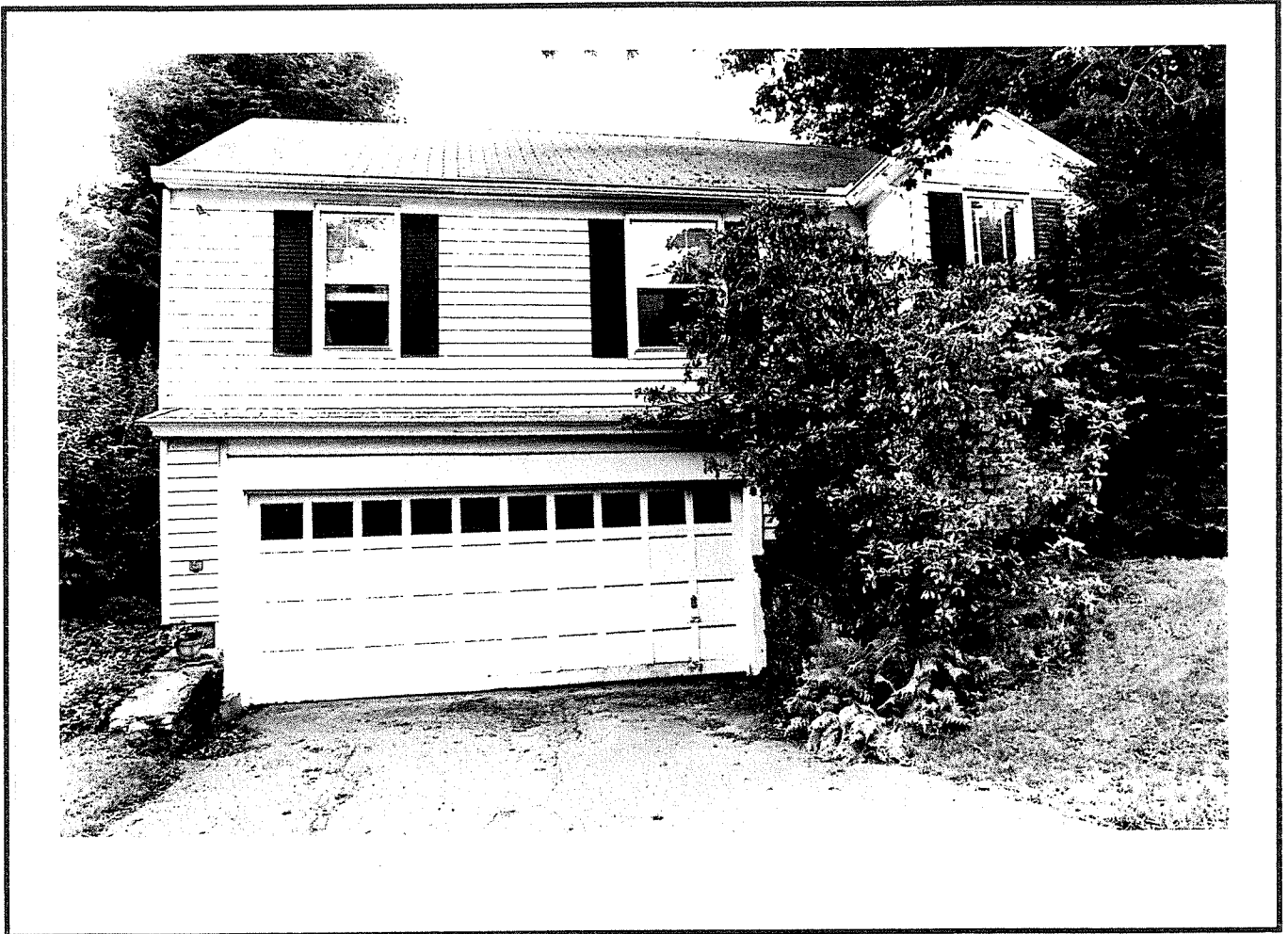
**Style/Commentary:** Greek Revival. Note the Doric entry, Greek Revival window in gable end, prominent bell-tower and 12/12 windows with prominent surrounds and corner pilasters. This is the only surviving large academic building in Watertown on a site that it has occupied for over 140 years. It is positioned on a vital corner of the Green and is one of the most important public structures in Town, both architecturally and historically.

Built for use as a private academy by Christ Church and moved down the block, c.1850, to its present location, it has served many church-related and public uses: Watertown Academy, first Watertown High School, first town library, other private schools, Christ Church Parish House, sewing groups, Red Cross, scouting, nursery school, etc.

# **WARREN WAY**

**8 Property Owners  
(8 Buildings)**





**Address:** 13 Warren Way

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Dr. Dwight F. & Carol Miller(1973)

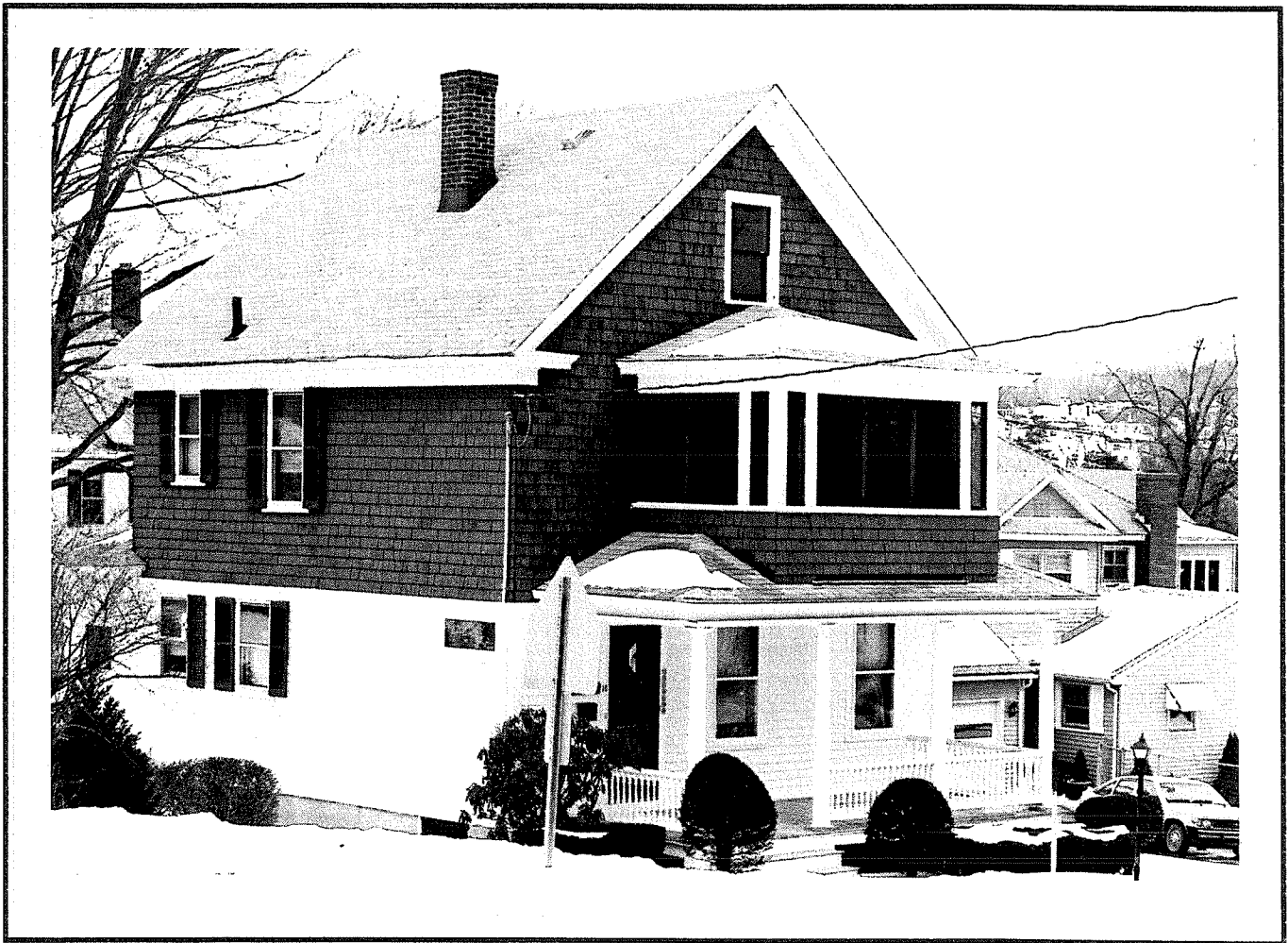
**Date Built:** 1948

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Royal A. & Ruth L. Meyers

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** This ranch-style house was formerly the garage to #160 Main Street. Its simple massing and clean lines are sympathetic reinforcements of the scale of the preexisting historic neighborhood.



**Address:** 18 Warren Way

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Robert C. & Michele D'Amico(1992)

**Date Built:** 1916

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Robert & Rebecca J. Gilcrest

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. Part of the original Ernest K. Loveland subdivision, this is a good example of its type and style for the period. The Gilcrests built the house and they and later their daughter, Hazel G. Branch, lived here for over 75 years(1916-1992).



**Address:** 30 Warren Way

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Arthur H. Evans(F-1914)

**Date Built:** 1917

**Architect:** Cass Gilbert/Goodale?

**Original Owners:** Arthur G. Evans

**Builder:** Robert L. Vaill

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. Designed for the Evans family by an employee of Cass Gilbert, this is one of the finer small Colonial Revival style houses in the district. Note, in particular, the entries.

Arthur G. Evans was purchasing agent for Chase Brass for 50 years and after he and his wife Marion's death their son, Arthur H., has continued to live here, making this a continuous family house ownership of 80 years.



**Address:** 31 Warren Way

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Jack A. & Teresa N. Marti(1975)

**Date Built:** 1920

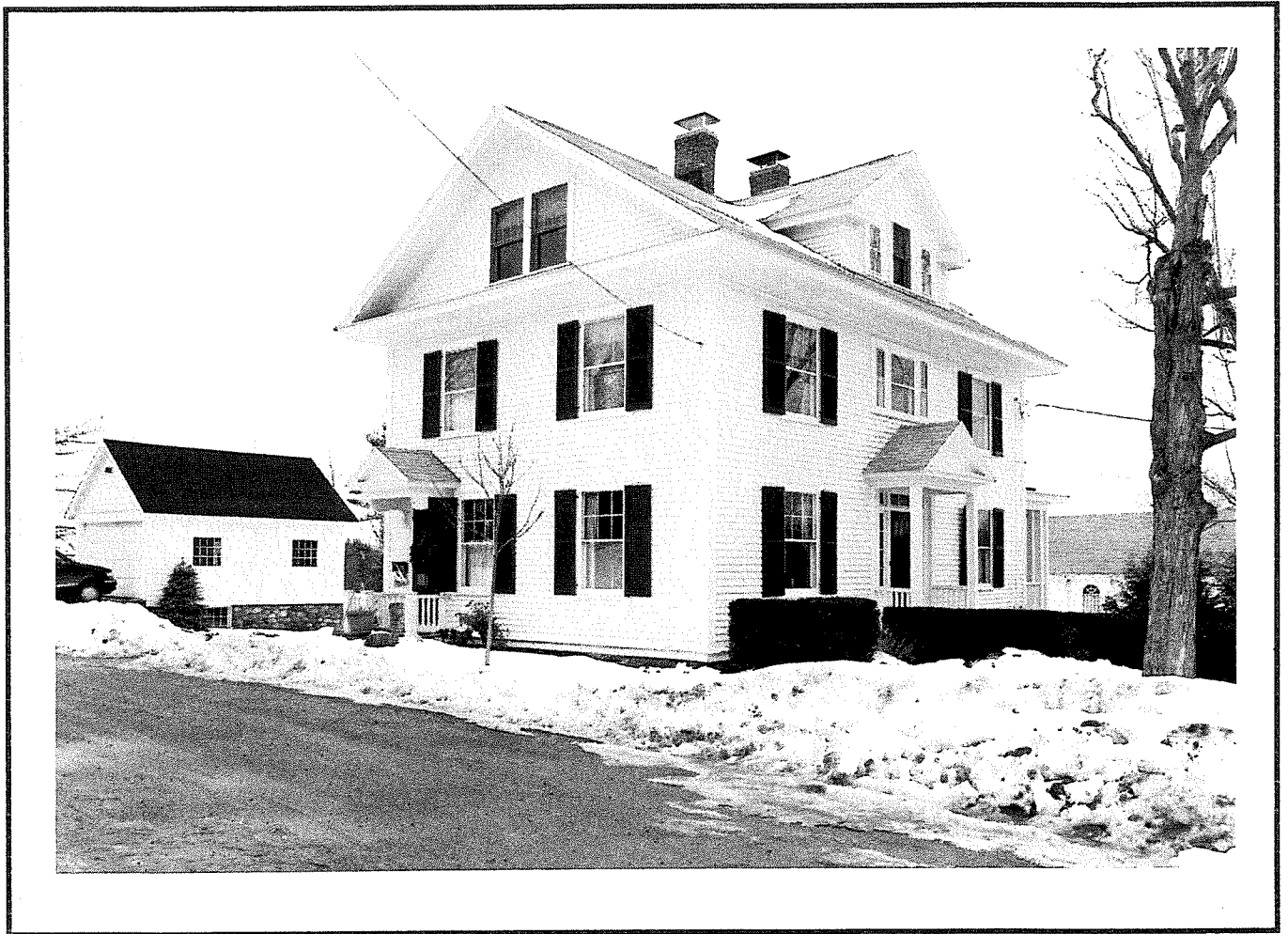
**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Unknown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Dutch Colonial Revival. A good example of this style when applied to a smaller residence.

The Barry L. & Irene T. Morgan family lived here for over 50 years(1923-75).



**Address:** 40 Warren Way

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** David W. & Susan D. Hostage(1986)

**Date Built:** 1915

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Leon G. Smith

**Builder:** Leon G. Smith

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. This bold, yet sober building should be noted for its prominent eaves, 6/1 fenestration, and an entry flanked by large sidelights, topped by a rectangular transom.

Leon G. & Elsie F. Smith built the house and owned it for about 70 years(1915-1986).



**Address:** 47 Warren Way

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** H. Gilbert & Elizabeth B. Rosenbaum(1966)

**Date Built:** 1912

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Grace & Rachel Barker

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Dutch Colonial Revival. One of a group of similarly styled houses. Note the bell shape to the eave and the prominent sidelights of the entry.



**Address:** 61 Warren Way

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Robert E. & Jean R. Collins(F-1945)

**Date Built:** c.1870 or 1898

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Mrs. M. L. Griswold  
Cornelia L. Benham

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** 19th century Vernacular with Queen Anne porch. The oldest house on the street, it may have been built by Mrs. M. L. Griswold c.1870 and moved to the present site or by Cornelia Benham c.1898. Its scale is somewhat smaller than the other houses on the street, but remains a significant structure in the district. Note the turned post porch and 2/2 windows.

John and Elizabeth Virtue owned this house 34 years(1911-45). Helen C. Collins, mother of Robert E. Collins, has lived here since 1940 and she is well-known to several generations of Watertown piano students as she has taught piano for 60 years.



**Address:** 70 Warren Way

**Known As:** Watertown Tennis Club

**Present Owners:** Watertown Tennis Club, Inc.(1913)

**Date Built:** 1913? **Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Watertown Lawn Club, Inc. **Builder:** Unknown

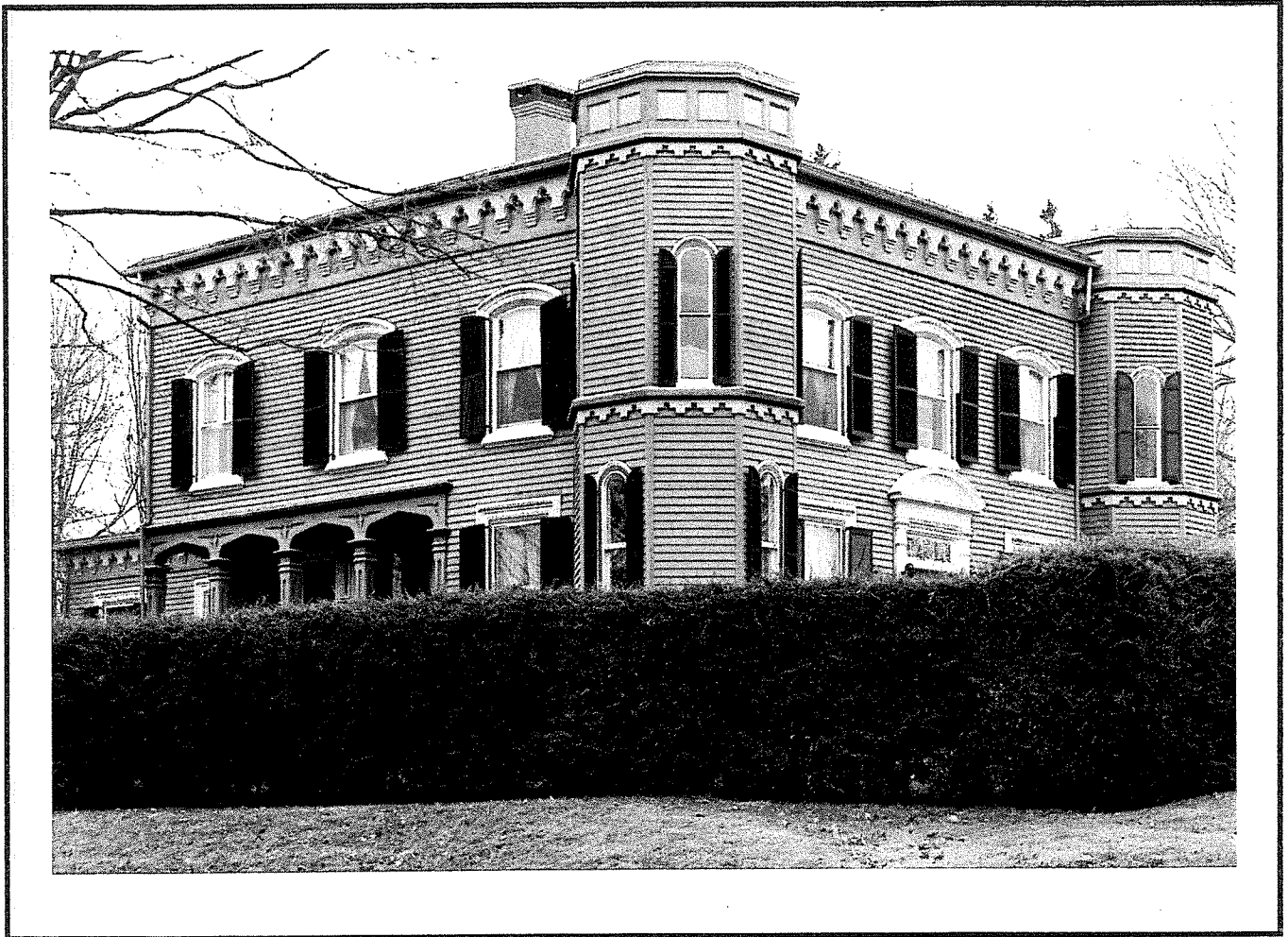
**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival/Shingle Style. This is an elegant, well-proportioned structure in which the materials provide visual interplay and augment its massive image.

Believed to be the second oldest clay courts in Connecticut.

# **WOODBURY ROAD**

**18 Property Owners  
(23 Buildings, 1 Vacant Lot)**





**Address:** 7 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Charles T. & Martha G. Kellogg(1966)

**Date Built:** 1859

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Charles T. Woodruff

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** High Victorian Gothic with castellations. Built by Charles T. Woodruff, an investor in the sewing machine, silk and buckle manufacturing companies in Watertown. This type is a rarity in the State. Originally it had taller crenelated turrets and a Gothic front porch. The Tuscan-columned porch to the west was added in 1912. Located on the southern edge of the green, architecturally, it is one of the most important buildings in Watertown.

This house was in the Richard J. & Alida Grace Ashworth family for over 65 years(1899-1966).



**Address:** 14 Woodbury Road

**Known As:** Nathaniel B. Wheeler House  
Harry & Charlotte Heminway House

**Present Owners:** Donald C. Atwood(1964)

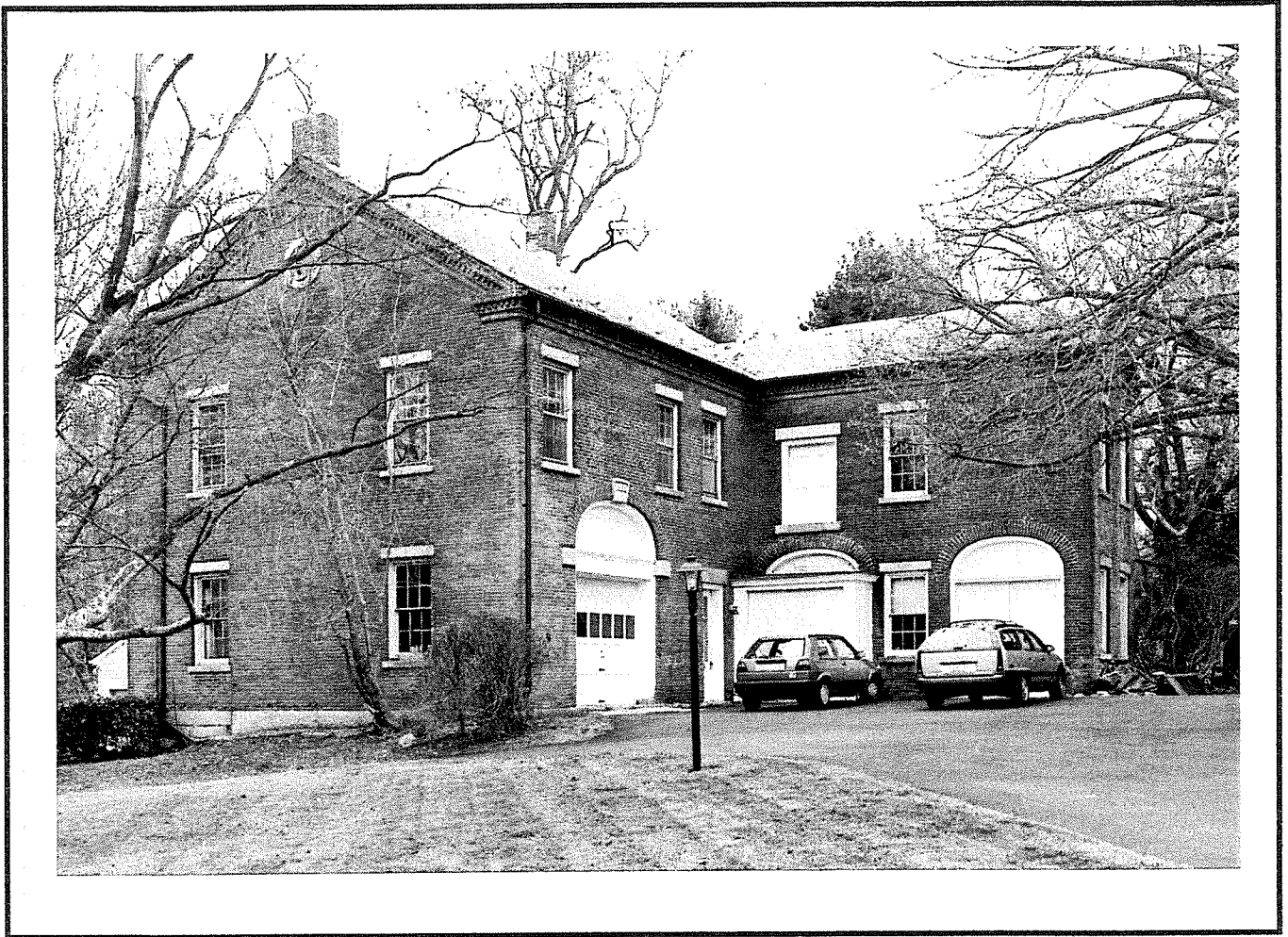
**Date Built:** 1852/1914 alterations

**Architect:** 1914: remodeled by Wilfred Griggs

**Original Owners:** Nathaniel B. Wheeler

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Italianate/Colonial Revival. One of the founders of Wheeler & Wilson Mfg. Co., a sewing machine company that was eventually amalgamated into Singer, Mr. Wheeler built his home on land purchased from his business partner to the north, Alanson Warren. Mr. Wheeler sold the house and moved to Bridgeport in 1856 with his company. The house was originally Italianate, matching #153 DeForest and Christ Church's Rectory. In 1914, architect Wilfred Griggs was asked to remodel the house and he turned it into a vision of the southern colonies. Note the French side doors and semi-circular fan light on the main entry. See separate page for the brick carriage house & barn on this property. For over 50 years, Jane B. & Robert B. Lewis and later their daughter, Charlotte Lewis Heminway(Mrs. Harry H.), lived in the house until 1964.



**Address:** 14 Woodbury Road

**Known As:** Carriage House

**Present Owners:** Donald C. Atwood(1964)

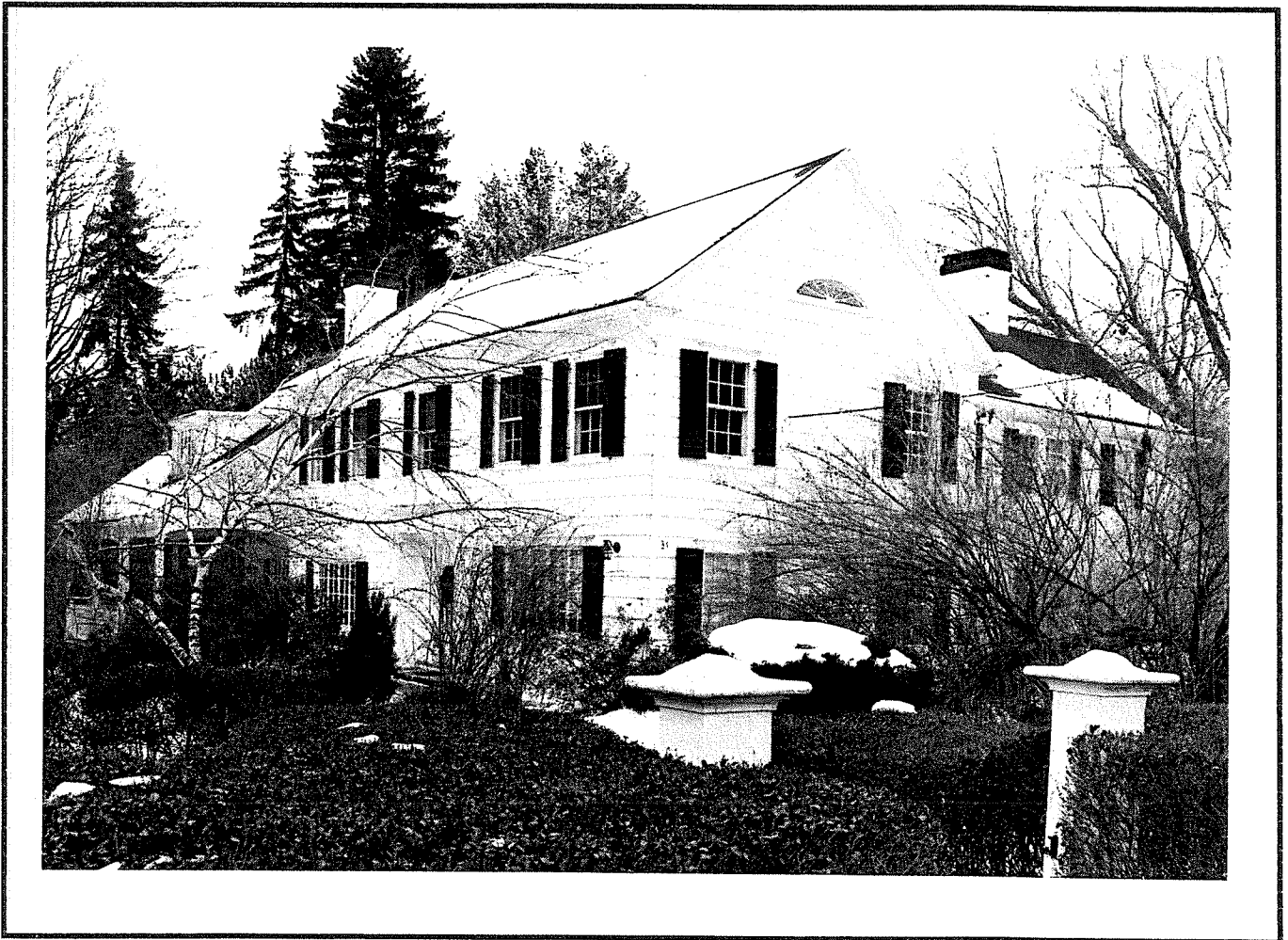
**Date Built:** 1863

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Unknown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** This impressive carriage house, the only brick out-building in the district, belongs to 14 Woodbury Road. Note the corbelled cornice, eave oculus window, stone window heads and sills. The keystone on the arched entry bears the date of 1863.



**Address:** 31 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Stedman G. & Patricia B. Sweet(1967)

**Date Built:** 1927

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Samuel T. Buzzee

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. Built about 1927, it is a gracious and refined adaption of the style. Note the elliptical window in the gable end, modillioned cornice, and paneled, recessed entry.

It was the home of Clark S. Judd, CEO of American Brass Co. It is on the site of Barton's General Store, which contained the Town's second library for ten years(1866-76) and later burned down.



**Address:** 47 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Genie M. Rigopulos(Mrs. Christopher N.) (1972)

**Date Built:** 1905

**Architect:** Wilfred Griggs?

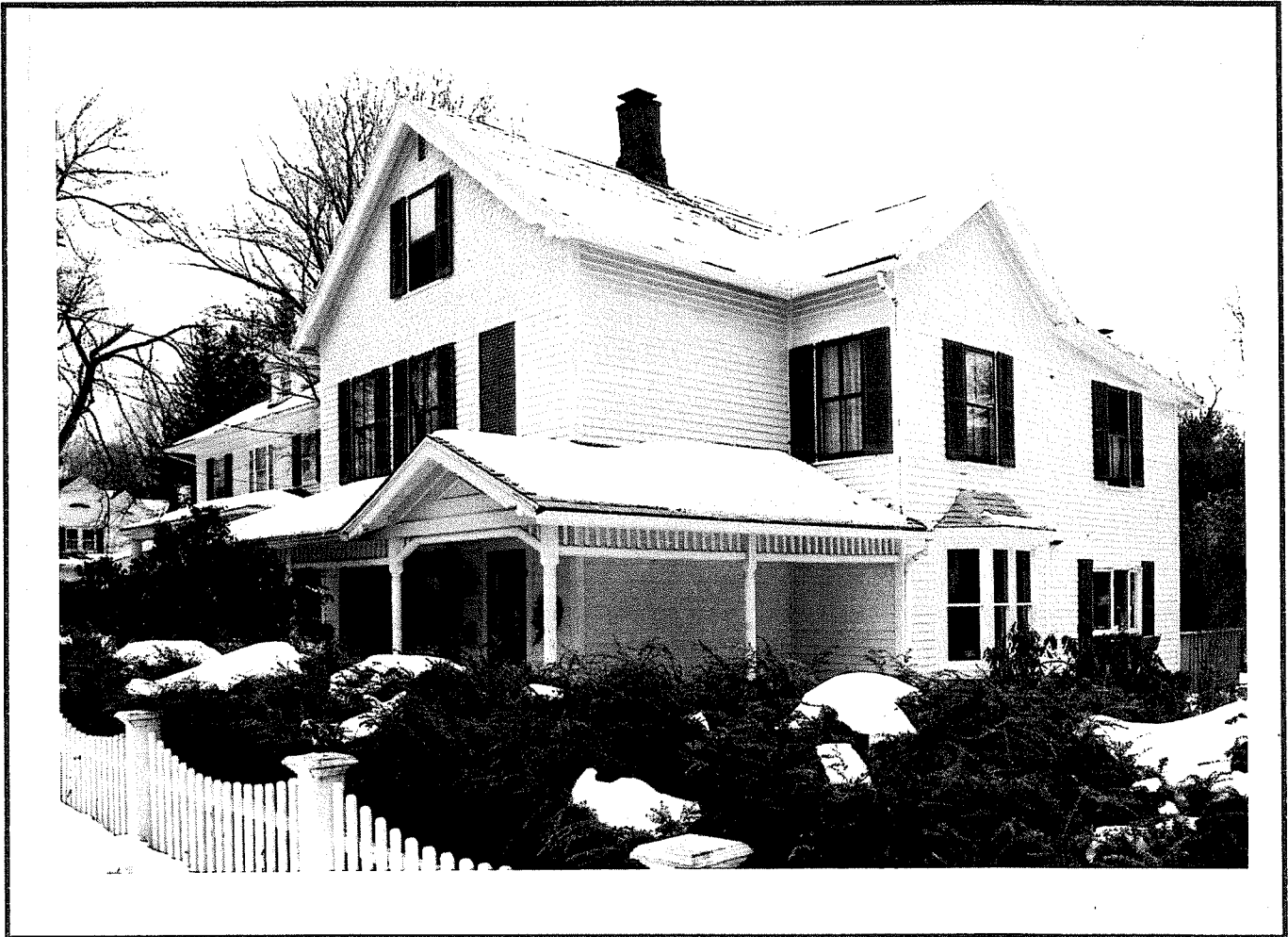
**Original Owners:** Francis N. Barton

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival Four Square. Note the central window, wide entry, sidelights, Chippendale Gothic dormer and Doric porch.

This was the homestead property of Francis N. Barton and his wife Mary(1905-1943). He owned the Barton General Store next door which burned down. The Barton store was home to Watertown's second library for 10 years.

For almost 30 years(1943-72), Mr. & Mrs. George H. Morgan lived here. Nora Fauchald Morgan was known as the "Norwegian Nightingale" and sang with John Philip Sousa's band.



**Address:** 53 Woodbury Road

**Known As:** Bronson House

**Present Owners:** Stuart P. Jr. & Margrit Gillespie(1978)

**Date Built:** 1885

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Frederick Bronson?

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Queen Anne. This small Queen Anne house should be noted for its imbricated shingles, stick valence and turned post porch, as well as its curved barge boards. In the 1920s, a 2 story rear addition with chimney was built.

This house is notable in that one family, the Bronson/Olsons, lived here from 1885-1978, a period of 93 years.



**Address:** 75 Woodbury Road

**Known As:** Charles Merriman House

**Present Owners:** Dr. William F. Quigley(1968)

**Date Built:** 1750/1812/1912 alterations      **Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** 1750--Unknown      **Builder:** Unknown  
1812--Charles Merriman

**Style/Commentary:** Federal/Colonial Revival. The house has retained many original windows as well as an open-bed pedimented entry. Note also the large Ionic portico and Palladian window on the eastern side of the house.

Incorporated into the present house, is the original 1750: 2 rooms down, 2 rooms up house. Later, Charles Merriman who served in the Revolutionary War, added the large front part of the house, c.1812. He had a tailor shop and later a general store nearby at Woodbury Road & Middle Turnpike(Hamilton Ave.). A 2-story rear addition was built 1890-1910. The south portico was added in 1912.



**Address:** 101 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1949)

**Date Built:** 1924

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Fred E. Holbrook

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Arts & Crafts Bungalow. This Arts & Crafts influenced bungalow has a well proportioned mass. It should be noted for its jerkinhead roof, bird's-mouth rafters and stone pillared porch.

Fred E. Holbrook, a Taft employee who ran the school's laundry in the Annex building basement, purchased an approximately 100' square of land from Taft School, built this house in 1924, and after leaving Taft's employ sold the land and house back to Taft. It now serves as faculty housing.



**Address:** 141 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1922)

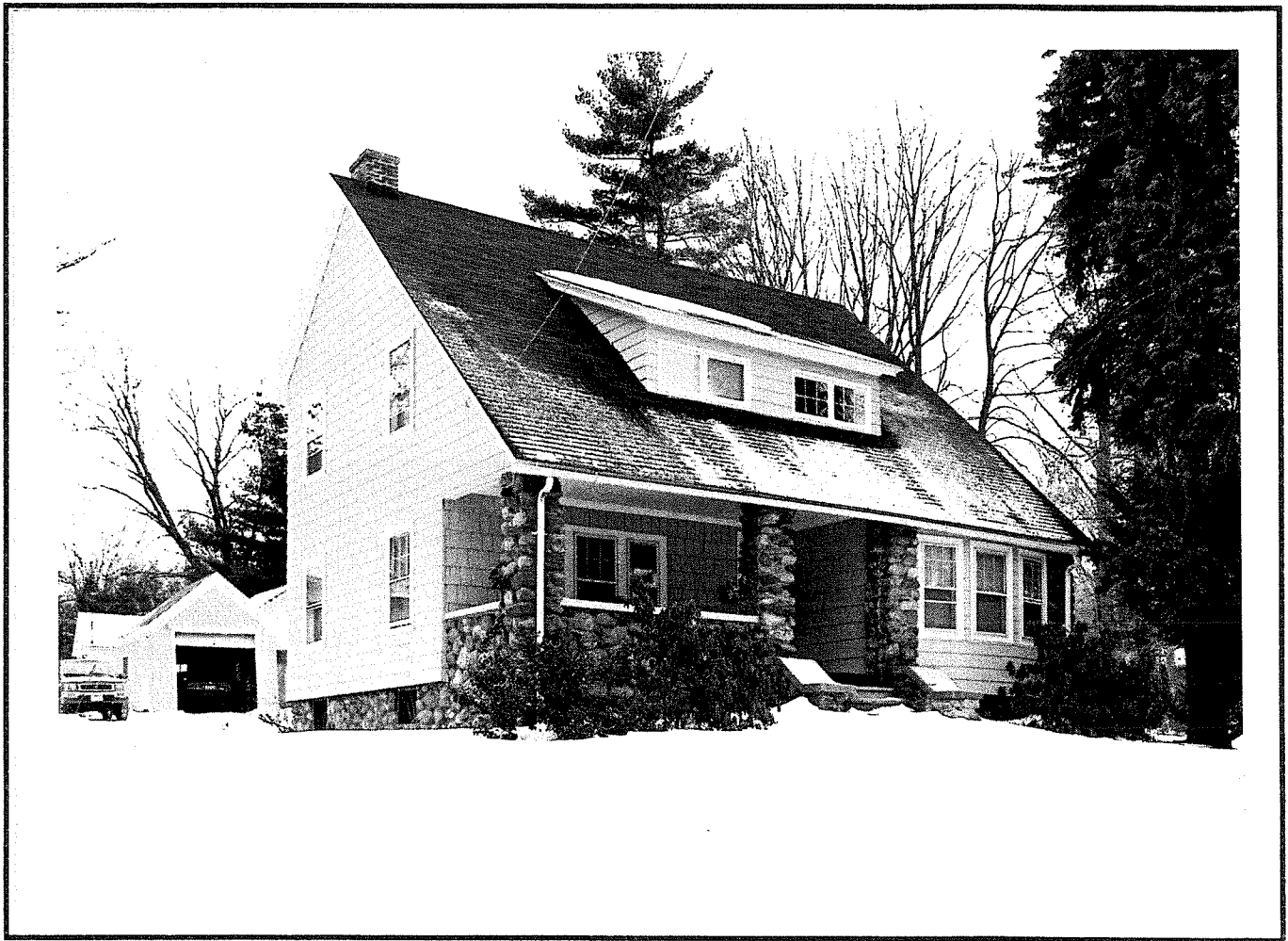
**Date Built:** 1880?

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Unknown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Judging from the exterior, this house was probably Italianate in form and later received its hipped roof. Note the trefoil shaped eave brackets, Tuscan-columned porch and large window at the entry. This building now serves as Taft faculty housing.



**Address:** 151 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1978)

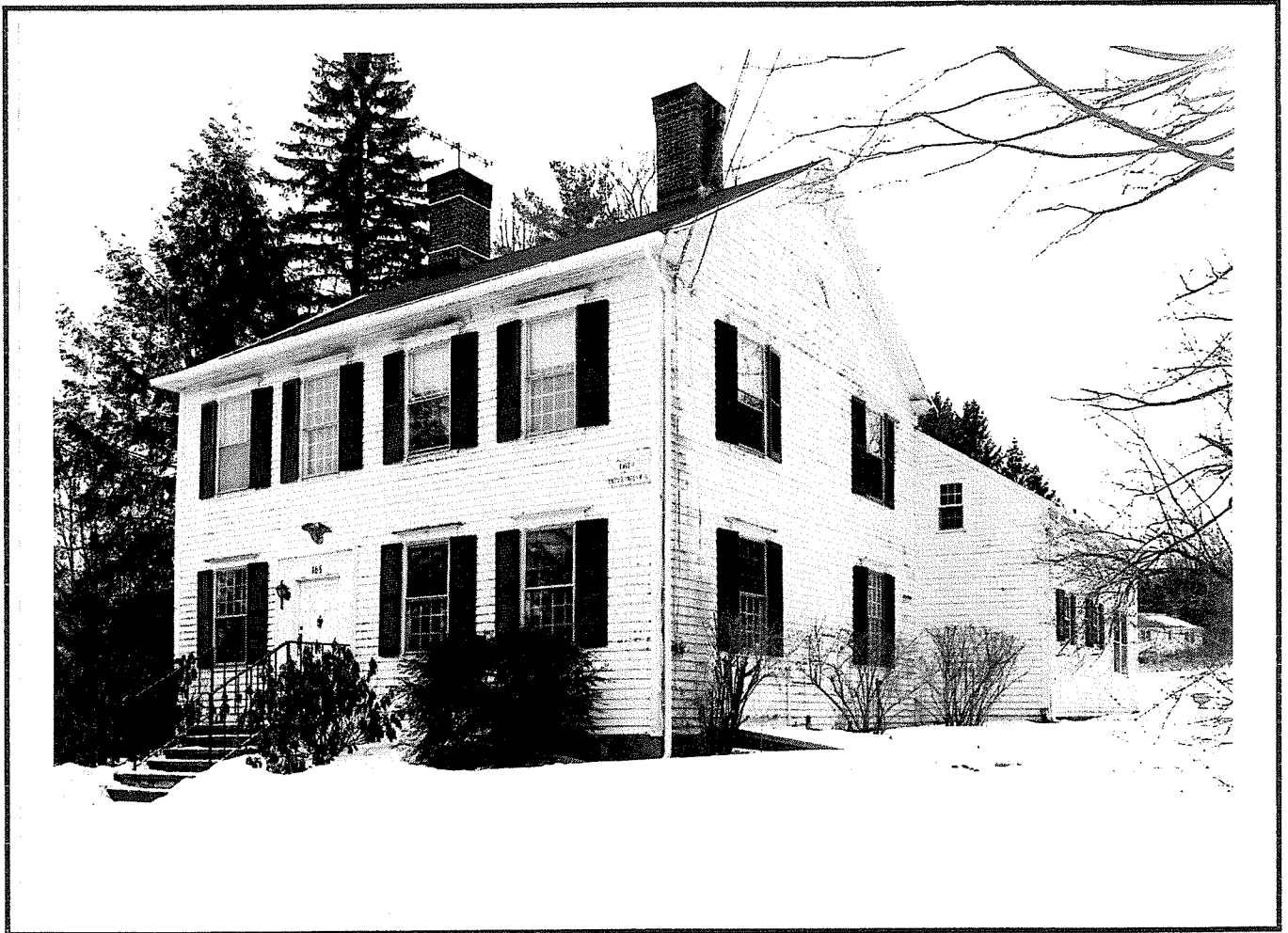
**Date Built:** 1913?

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Newton B. Hobart

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Bungalow. Note the rubble stone pier porch and shed dormer. There is a slightly bowed window on the first floor of the front facade. Taft faculty housing.



**Address:** 165 Woodbury Road

**Known As:** Aner Bradley II House

**Present Owners:** Dr. Marvin A. McMillen(1984)

**Date Built:** 1812

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Aner Bradley, II

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Federal. This center hall house has retained its window surrounds and door decorations and gable-end windows. It is one of the better preserved early 19th century houses in the district.

Aner Bradley II received this land from his father and built the house in 1812. He was a tanner and bootmaker. One of his sons, Samuel N. died in Andersonville Prison during the Civil War, another: Aner III became a Mayor of Waterbury and a daughter, Anna Maria, taught private school in a small building that is still on the property. Donald F. Flynn did extensive restoration work on the house(1952-1971).



**Address:** 181 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Robert P. & Joanne K. Romaniello(1976)

**Date Built:** 1911

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Georgia Cruttenden

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival Four Square. This large Four Square, although sided has retained its Tuscan-columned porch and Palladian windowed dormer.

Michael E. & Theresa J. Brahen and later, their daughter, Gertrude B. Madden, lived here almost 60 years(1915-1974).



**Address:** 199 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Loraine B. Sheeler & David Vickery(1988)

**Date Built:** 1800s/1908-10

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Unknown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Italianate/Queen Anne. Local lore says that this house was built in Waterbury in the 1800s and was dismantled and reerected here: 1908-10. Note the shingled porch arches, deep eaves, arched window in gable and prominent window cornices.



**Address:** 211 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** James E. Jr. & Yarka Cleary(1991)

**Date Built:** 1922

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Garfield M. Weld

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Dutch Colonial Revival. A well proportioned house. Note the Ionic pilastered doorway, gambrel roof and oriel window. The eastern wing was added in the late 50s, as well as a circular staircase, large western window and extensive landscaping improvements.

This property was in the Weld family for 30 years(1912-1942) and one member was a master at Taft. The Harry & Conrad G. Fleisher families were here 46 years(1942-1988) and they were officers and major stockholders for many years in Princeton Knitting Mills in Watertown. The company was sold to Burlington Mills in the 1960s and closed.



**Address:** 227 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Thomas L. & Jean E. Winn(1992)

**Date Built:** 1936

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Joseph G. & Doris L. Wilson

**Builder:** Robert L. Vaill

**Style/Commentary:** English Tudor. One of few of its type in the district. Note the gracefully sloping roofs, as well as the picturesque combination of half timbering, stucco and brickwork.

The White/Tesavis family owned the house for 52 years(1940-1992). Linford C. White was owner of the White Supply Co., a mill supply company in Waterbury.



**Address:** Woodbury Road

**Known As:** Taft Alumni House

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1991)

**Date Built:** 1991

**Architect:** William Wooster(Washington, CT)

**Original Owners:** Taft School Corporation

**Builder:** Burlington Construction Co.-Division of  
O & G

**Style/Commentary:** 20th century Colonial Revival. A recent building that maintains the scale of this primarily residential neighborhood. This building was built on the foundation & basement of an older building. Attached is a small older building that serves as a day-care center.

Contains Taft School's Development & Alumni offices.



**Address:** 230 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1929?)

**Date Built:** c.1900

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Ellen H. Scoville(Mrs. Henry W.)?

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. A small elegant home, note the vaulted entry with trellis and benches. It is topped by a Palladian window enframed by a cross dormer at the eave. Note the lunette in the gable end. It is believed that this building was the Scovill's garage and there was an apartment for their chauffeur upstairs.

This house now serves as Taft faculty housing.



**Address:** 238 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Taft School Corporation(1929?)

**Date Built:** c.1900

**Architect:** Unknown

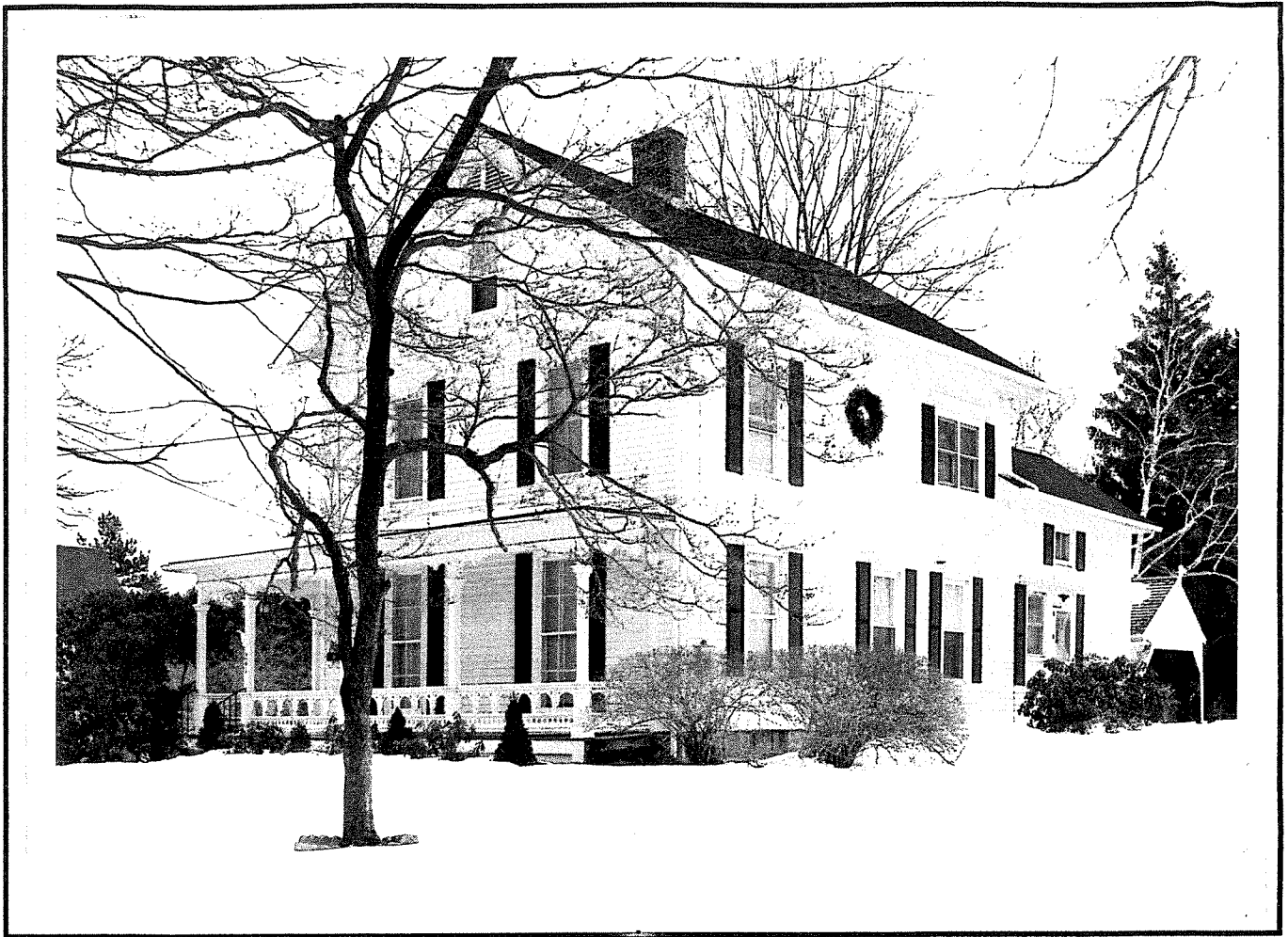
**Original Owners:** Ellen H. Scoville(Mrs. Henry W.)?

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. This well proportioned house should be noted for its Tuscan-columned porches and 2/2 windows. Its scale fits in well with the adjoining residences.

This is believed to have been the main residence of the Scovills, their garage & chauffeur's quarters were in the building to the east and they owned 4 other buildings on adjoining property on Guernseytown Road. Mr. Scoville was a senior executive at Scoville Manufacturing.

The house now serves as Taft faculty housing.



**Address:** 241 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Laurence E. & Ann C. Wagner(1986)

**Date Built:** 1868

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** John Curtis

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Italianate. Note the prominent window cornices, floor-to-ceiling windows, arched gable window and elaborate cut-work decorated porch.

This property was in the Woodruff family for 57 years(1878-1935). The Henry L. Long, Sr. family was here for 49 years, from 1937-86. Mr. Long was owner of the Keeler & Long, Inc. paint company in Watertown.



**Address:** 259 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Joseph F. Jr. & Margaret M. Sheehan(1974)

**Date Built:** 1860

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Atwood Family

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Greek Revival/Queen Anne. Always linked to the Atwood/Cowperthwait family, this house has a Greek Revival front including a Greek Revival window in the gable end. There is a large Queen Anne addition at the rear c.1890.



**Address:** 271 Woodbury Road

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** George B. & Patricia Norman(1969)

**Date Built:** 1924

**Architect:** Fred A. Webster(Waterbury)

**Original Owners:** Fletcher W. Judson

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Georgian Revival. This two course American bond brick house has an elegant open end pedimented entry with elliptical fan light. Note the keystones in the window openings on the first floor and the slate roof.

Fletcher W. Judson, President of the Watertown Bank & Trust Co., built the house and owned it for over 30 years until 1957. The nearby Judson Elementary School was named for him. He was an accomplished horseman and he had a combination stable/garage built.



**Address:** Woodbury & Guernseytown Roads

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Bank Of Boston Connecticut(1988)

**Date Built:** Not applicable

**Architect:** Not applicable

**Original Owners:** Not applicable

**Builder:** Not applicable

**Style/Commentary:** Vacant land.

This 2/3rds of an acre, at an important intersection in the district, was part of a larger parcel until 1937 when it reverted to the Watertown Trust Co. when mortgages foreclosed. Fletcher Judson, President of the bank who lived across the street from this property, split off this corner lot and donated it to the State in 1941 "for development and use for public park and public highway purposes." Bank of Boston bought this property from the State in 1988.



**Address:** 325 Woodbury Road

**Known As:** Lilley House

**Present Owners:** Vivian Hanson(Mrs. John)(1979)

**Date Built:** 1926

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Theodore & Silvia P. Lilley

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Georgian Revival. Of particular interest is the slate roof, Chippendale Gothic dormers, denticulated and modillioned cornice, Corinthian columned porch and keystones in the flat-arched ground floor windows.

Mr. Theodore Lilley owned and managed real estate in Waterbury and the family owned this property almost 50 years(1922-1972) His grandfather, George L. Lilley, was Governor of Connecticut in 1909. This house was bought in 1979 by Jack Hanson, Senior Vice-President & CFO of R. H. Macy & Co.



# **WOODRUFF AVENUE**

**12 Property Owners  
(12 Buildings)**

**[Pages 177 through 178 have been removed from this revised report]**

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**Address:** 147 Woodruff Ave.

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Charles W. Jr. & Linda A. Yoos(1984)

**Date Built:** 1896

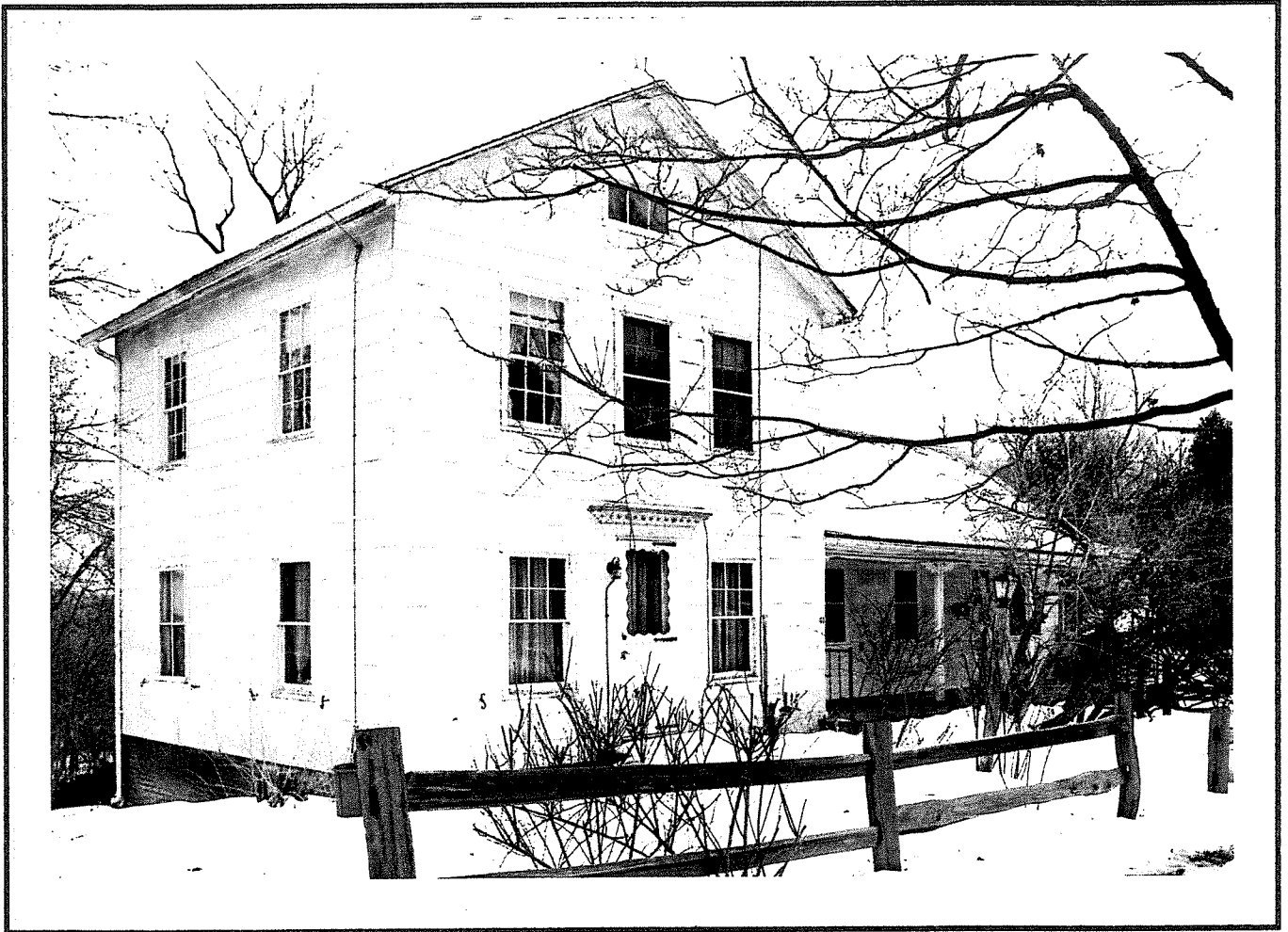
**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Unknown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Queen Anne. One of a pair with its neighbor to the north, #153. This picturesque building should be noted for its oriels, recessed gable windows, bell cast gambrel roof and Tuscan-columned porch.

This property was in the Daniel F. & Sara J. Hannon/Eva Hannon & Harold H. Wright families over 60 years up to 1969. It is now a 2-family rental property.



**Address:** 148 Woodruff Ave.

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** David J. Daddona(1995)

**Date Built:** c.1865

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Truman B. Warren?

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Late Federal with Greek Revival gable window. Although greatly altered, this building does seem to retain part of its Federal style doorway and its horizontal gable window.

It appears to have originally been the home of T. B. Warren, a local farmer. Eilleen I.(Holton) & David H. Craig and their heirs were owners of this property for 56 years(1939-1995).



**Address:** 153 Woodruff Ave.

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** John A. & Mary K. Sklanka(1979)

**Date Built:** 1904

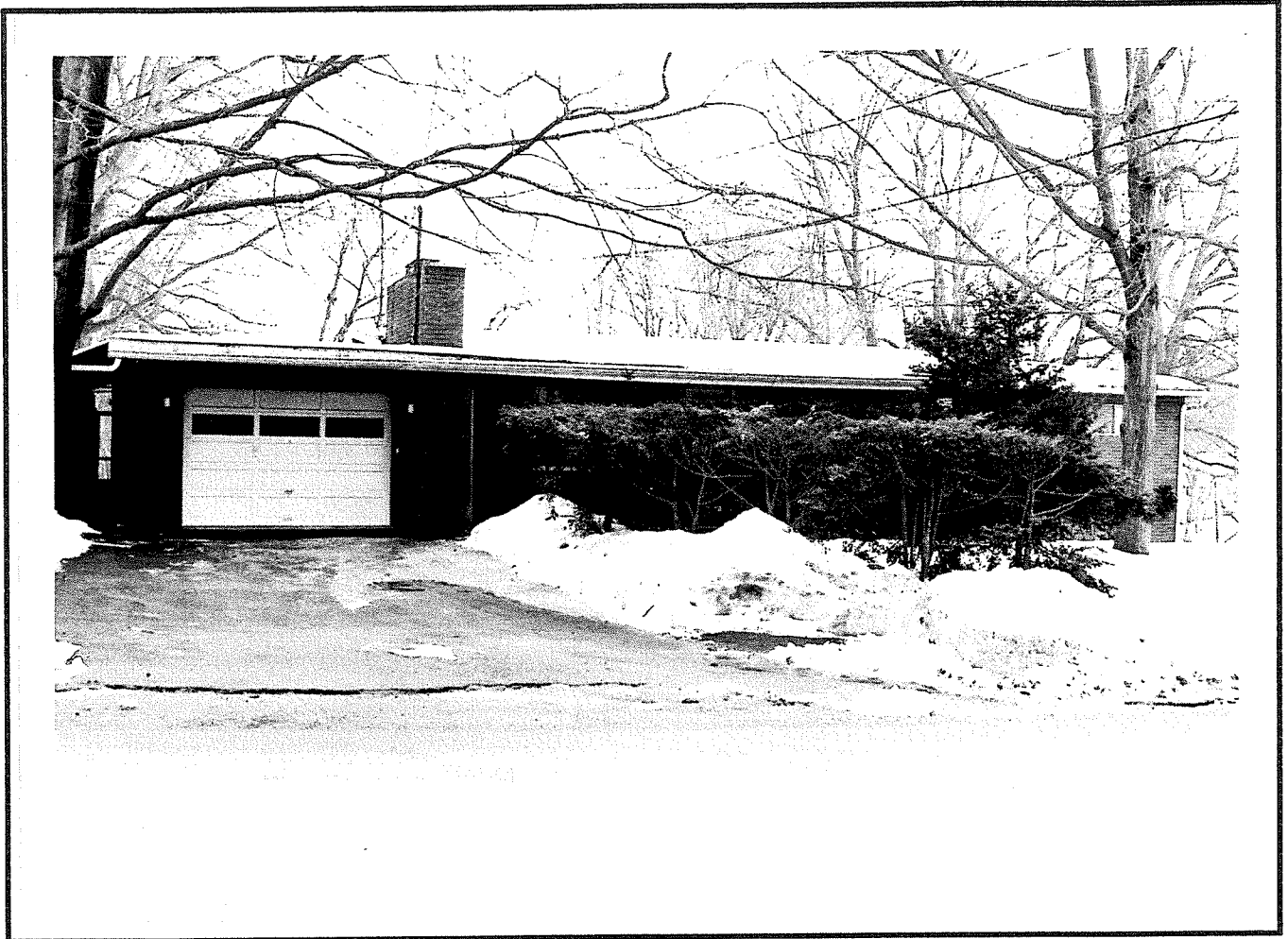
**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Martha L. Roberts

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival/Queen Anne. This house appears to be a pair with its neighbor to the south, #147. Although much of its decoration has been removed, it has retained its picturesque massing and Tuscan-columned porch.

This house was in the Clifford O. & Lina B. Luse family for over 60 years(1909-1972).



**Address:** 156 Woodruff Ave.

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Harold W. Hughson(1954)

**Date Built:** 1956

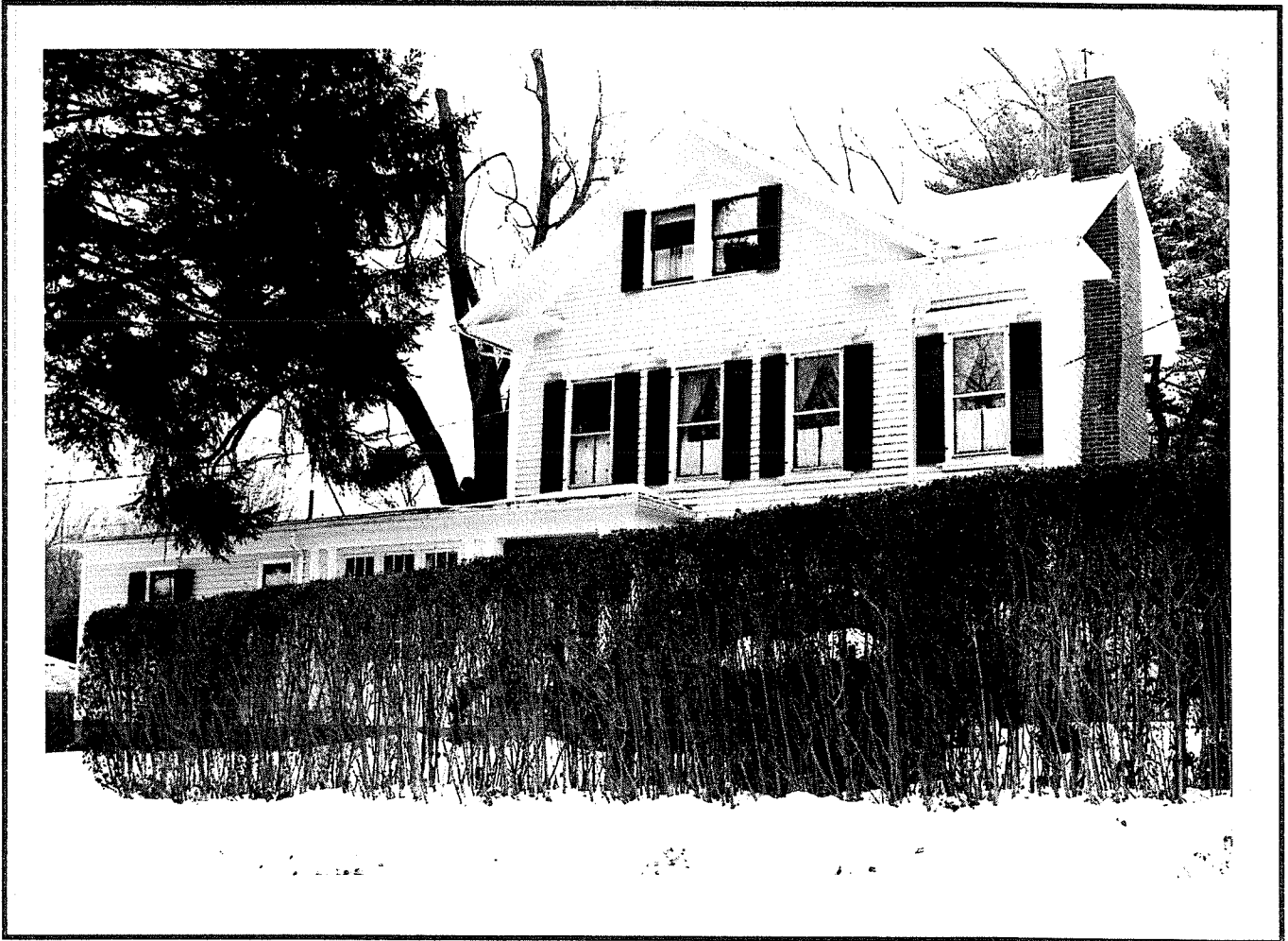
**Architect:** Harold W. Hughson

**Original Owners:** Harold W. & Jane E. Hughson

**Builder:** Harold W. Hughson

**Style/Commentary:** Ranch House. Built by Mr. Hughson himself, the house is an excellent composite of Wrightian and International style ranch homes that were popular in the 1950s. Mr. Hughson has owned the property for 40 years.

It is located on the site of Citizen's Hall, which was originally the 2nd Episcopal Church building, built in 1793 and located on the Green for 60 years. This former church building was bought for \$300. and moved to this spot by George P. Woodruff who opened up Woodruff Avenue in the 1850s. Citizen's Hall had many uses: a shirt and hoopskirt factory, apartments as well as a hall for meetings, plays and concerts and even for Catholic Church services from 1867-1878. It had been converted into a two story building with the addition of a floor and stairs. Citizen's Hall burned down in 1894.



**Address:** 165 Woodruff Ave.

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Dr. Chalmers M. & Priscilla H. Hamill(1983)

**Date Built:** 1876

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Samuel W. Merwin

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Italianate. A dramatic cross-gable structure. Note the deep eaves, elaborate corner posts and prominent window heads and deep gable returns. At some point, the north side of the house was expanded. In the 1970s a 1 story southerly addition was also added for use as a nursery school.

This house had 2 long ownership stretches: the William P. & Helen F. Skinner family(1886-1928) and later: Anne H. Smith for 34 years(1929-1963).



**Address:** 166 Woodruff Ave. *page*

**Known As:** Judson Inn

**Present Owners:** Nawal & Hala El Hachem(1987)

**Date Built:** 1856

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** John Woodward

**Builder:** John Woodward

**Style/Commentary:** Queen Anne/Italianate. Originally built as a cross-gable Italianate structure, it has retained prominent eaves and gable returns. Between 1880 and 1895, Julina Dailey added a turret and porch making the house Queen Anne. Note the turned posts, spooled valence and turned balusters. John Woodward, a carpenter, bought the land from George P. Woodruff in 1856 and probably built the house shortly thereafter.

Julina Dailey and her family owned the house for over 40 years(1859-1901) and altered it as described above. Another long-time owner was Sarah P. Judson(1901-1942) and at one time the house was known as the "Carrie Judson Inn." From 1943 to 1957, Princeton Knitting Mills of Watertown owned this large building to house workers during WW II and thereafter because of the housing shortage. It remains a multi-family building today.



**Address:** 175 Woodruff Ave.

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Vincent T. & Carolyn M. Stebbins(1977)

**Date Built:** 1864

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Mary J. Daley

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Italianate. This is a quintessential example of the style. Note the deep eaves, blind frieze band, deep window heads with fish-scale decoration and floor to ceiling ground floor windows. The Tuscan-columned porch is probably an early 20th century addition.

Henry H. Bartlett, of Heminway and Bartlett Silk Co. bought the property from the Estate of Frederick B. Woodward in 1888 and it remained in his family's hands until 1960, over 70 years. It is now a 2-family rental.



**Address:** 178 Woodruff Ave.

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Peter C. & Susan C. Montesano(1983)

**Date Built:** 1850s

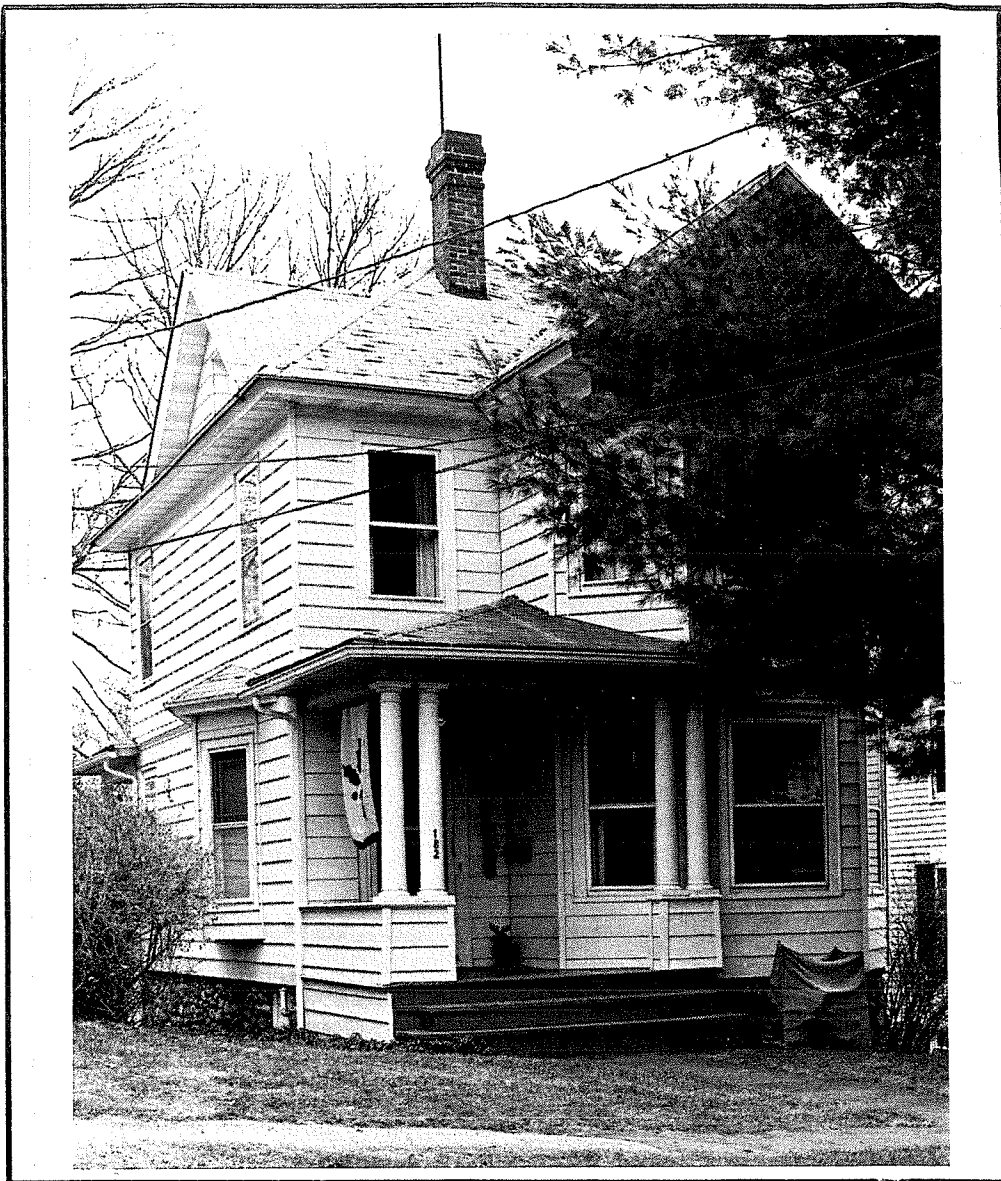
**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Unknown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Vernacular Italianate. Note the deep eave that has cutwork corbels and the frieze band windows in the rear ell. The plain window surrounds are quite prominent. The south side porch was closed in, in the 1960s.

The early ownership of this property is unclear and it has changed hands 15 times since 1900.



**Address:** 182 Woodruff Ave.

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Ellen Virginia Lee(Mrs. James A. Jr.)(1964)

**Date Built:** 1900

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Caroline M. Woodruff/  
Florence Woodruff Lewis

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Queen Anne. This small house has retained its massing and its Tuscan-columned porch. It was originally a part of the Woodruff/Merwin property to the north and was subdivided about 1903.

The property has passed through one family: Caroline M. Woodruff to daughter: Florence Woodruff Lewis to daughter: Belinda Lewis Stansby from 1903 to 1964 and is believed to have been a rental property during this period. In 1964, it became an owner-occupied home after Virginia & James Lee bought it.



**Address:** 186 Woodruff Ave.

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Steven V. & Debra G. Sawicki(1991)

**Date Built:** 1858

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Samuel A. Merwin

**Builder:** John Woodward?

**Style/Commentary:** Greek Revival. An excellent example of its type. This side hall house has retained its tympanum window and frieze band windows in the ell. A 1-story garage was added in the 1920s. It is one of the first houses built on Woodruff Avenue.

Owned by Samuel A. Merwin since 1857, this property passed down through various members of the family for over 90 years: Samuel A. & Minerva A. Merwin(to 1895), Caroline Merwin Woodruff(to 1903), Florence Woodruff Lewis(to 1945) and Belinda Lewis Stansby(to 1951).



**Address:** 191 Woodruff Ave.

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Walter L. & Elizabeth D. Barber(1988)

**Date Built:** 1904

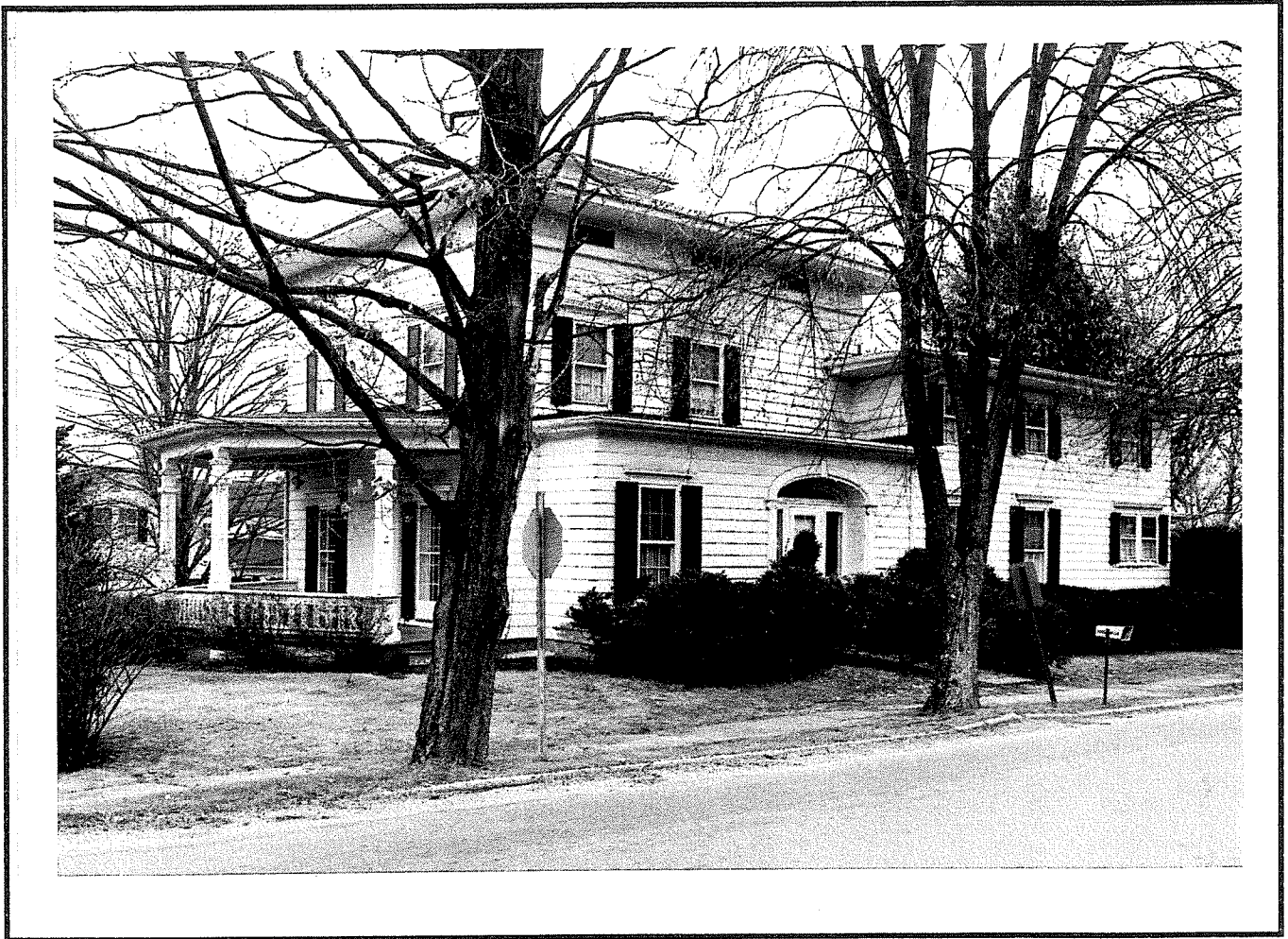
**Architect:** Griggs & Hunt(Waterbury)?

**Original Owners:** Frank B. Noble

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Colonial Revival. This is a very good example of its type. Note the square massing corner pilasters, bell-cast eave and Palladian window on the second floor. The building is wrapped by a Tuscan-columned porch that is supported by paired columns. In the 1930s, a 3-story addition was built on the rear of the house and stained glass panels were placed in the front door sidelights and dining room. The property also has a substantial carriage house/garage with a stable underneath.

The original owner, Frank B. Noble, was Corporate Secretary for Chase Brass & Copper and his family lived here until 1924. Thereafter, Waterbury attorney, John H. Cassidy and his family were residents for almost 40 years(1924-1963).



**Address:** 212 Woodruff Ave.

**Known As:**

**Present Owners:** Natalie R. Merriman(Mrs. Heminway)(1948)

**Date Built:** 1812/1855

**Architect:** Unknown

**Original Owners:** Huldah Porter  
Orrin S. Starr

**Builder:** Unknown

**Style/Commentary:** Italianate with later additions. Since Huldah Porter first built a house on this important corner in 1812, there has been a house on this site. The house was later owned by George Woodruff but it appears to have been subsequently altered to its Italianate state by Orrin S. Starr. The building still retains its Italianate porch, massing and cupola. The Federal entry way may date from an earlier house. Its location on the corner of the Green makes it a very important building in the district.

Orrin S. Starr, who purchased the property in 1855 and probably substantially altered it, ran the brick store(# 55 DeForest-Health Complex) as: Starr, Clark & Co. Mr. Starr died in 1869. The Heminway Merriman family has owned the house for over 45 years(1948 to present). Mr. Merriman was VP, Secretary and General Counsel to Scovill, Inc.





