

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 79002676 Date Listed: 11/29/79

Collins and Townley Streets

Historic District

Hartford

CT

Property Name

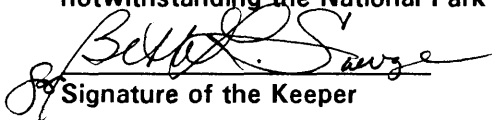
County

State

Asylum Hill MRA

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

5/7/93  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

**8. Period of Significance & 3. Classification: Number of Resources within Property**

The Collins and Townley Streets Historic District represents a significant concentration of high style residential architecture that developed in response to the growth of the city's downtown in the late nineteenth century. As growth progressed in the early twentieth century through the Depression, the increased demand for affordable modes of housing resulted in the construction of several apartment buildings and the conversion of many single-family houses into multiple unit residences. Thus, the period of significance for the Collins and Townley Streets Historic District is extended through 1928 to reflect the significant social and historical changes in the district that resulted in the construction of apartment buildings and in the conversion of single-family houses into multiple unit residences. Further, the clause in the original nomination documentation that states "...free of apartment buildings that detract from the historic character of the area..." is retracted.

The building located at 28 Townley Street (10789CT), originally classified as non-contributing, contributes to the significance of the historic district as a good representative example of an apartment house constructed in 1927 with character-defining Neo-Classical Revival detailing. The building located at 30 Townley Street (10788CT), identical in design to 28 Townley Street, was originally erroneously classified as contributing. Now that the period of significance for the district is amended to extend through 1928, 30 Townley Street contributes to the significance of the district for the same reasons as 28 Townley Street.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

National Register property file and Nominating Authority (without attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Historic Resources of Asylum Hill  
Hartford, Connecticut

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RECEIVED	OCT 10 1978
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Collins and Townley Streets District

Location:

Collins Street, north side, 182, 236 thru 250, 310  
Collins Street, south side, 167-169 thru 291

Townley Street, north side, 16 thru 30  
Townley Street, south side, 5 thru 29

Asylum Avenue, north side, 926, 944, 970

Huntington Street, east side, 94  
Sumner Street, west side, 89

Sigourney Street, west side, 183-185 thru 205  
Sigourney Street, east side, 202

Willard Street, west side, 17 thru 67-69  
Willard Street, east side, 54 thru 66

Atwood Street, east side, 4 thru 32

Property Owners:

Those buildings considered not to contribute to the historic character of the district have been designated with the initials "NC" before the addresses.

Collins Street-

- |            |   |  |
|------------|---|--|
| NC 167-169 | David W. and Sandra B. Bobowski               | 45 Terry Road, Hartford, CT              |
| 171-173    | Francois and Jean Ouellette                   | 171 Collins Street, Hartford, CT         |
| NC 175     | Solomon Greenspan and Sidney Winnik           | Wingreen Realty, 28 Huntington St., HTFD |
| 181        | Arthur and Josephine Byron                    | 181 Collins St., Hartford, CT            |
| NC 195     | Donald E. Kauke, Trustee, and<br>Ann K. Amaio | P.O. Box 393, West Hartford, CT          |
| NC 197     | Robert and Ginette Lamart                     | 103 North Quaker Lane, West Htfd., CT    |
| NC 199     | Donal E. Kauke and Mark A. Segal              | P.O. Box 393, West Hartford, CT          |
| 207        | David W. Bobowski and Sandra M.<br>Bonvicini  | 45 Terry Road, Hartford, CT              |
| 211        | Herman H. White, Jr.                          | 211 Collins Street, Hartford, CT         |
| 215        | John E. Hawsworth and Justine M.<br>Candels   | 215 Collins Street, Hartford, CT         |
| 219        | Anne K. Bourbeau                              | 219 Collins Street, Hartford, CT.        |

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	221	Freddie J. Gray	146 Blue Hills Avenue, Hartford, CT
	245	Greater Hartford Group Homes, Inc.	814 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT
	247	Joseph R. Marfuggi	247 Collins Street, Hartford, CT
	249	James P. Henahan and Ann P. Henahan	249 Collins Street, Hartford, CT
	251	Manuel Rodriguez et al	251 Collins Street, Hartford, CT
	253	Jack D. and Jane S. Middleton	91 Peck Road, Bethany, CT
	273	William G. and Catherine C. Ost	273 Collins Street, Hartford, CT
	275	Gregory L. McFetridge	33 Ashworth Street, Manchester, CT
	277	Arthur J. and Eleanor M. Courteau	277 Collins Street, Hartford, CT
	281	Gary L. Ottman	10 Pine Road, West Hartford, CT
	283	Deal T. Aseltine, Jr.	283 Collins Street, Hartford, CT
	287	John F. Beakey	287 Collins Street, Hartford, CT
	291	Connecticut Bank and Trust	1 Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT
	182	JAD Inc.	182 Collins Street, Hartford, CT
	235		
	236	Monica A. Damphousse	236 Collins Street, Hartford, CT
	240	Lawton J. Holmes	37 Richmond Crescent, Windsor, CT
	244	John P. Callan	244 Collins Street, Hartford, CT
	246	Joseph R. Marfuggi	246 Collins Street, Hartford, CT
	248-250	Co-operative Housing Association Inc/ George F. Halford	1000 Farmington Avenue, Rm 110, West Hartford, CT
	310	Hartford Heart Association, Inc.	same
		Townley Street-	
NC	16-20	David L. Abrahamson and Julian C. Schoor	142 Trumbull Street, Hartford, CT
	22	Nicholas Grzybowski	22 Townley Street, Hartford, CT
	24	Juliette C. Sperry	24 Townley Street, Hartford, CT
NC	28	The Townley Street Realty Trust/ M.J. Neiditz	111 Pearl Street, Hartford, CT
	30	The Townley Street Realty Trust/ M.J. Neiditz	111 Pearl Street, Hartford, CT
	5	Josephine Bellone	5 Townley Street, Hartford, CT
	11	Audrey J. Lawrence and Leonora Gorsen	122 Scoville Road, Avon, CT
	17	Edward J. and Minnie S. Godek	17 Townley Street, Hartford, CT
	19-21	Gerald N. Smith	815 Mountain Road, West Hartford, CT
	27-29	Anna H. Dugan	1430 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT
		Asylum Avenue-	
	926-930	Meyer Ben-Kiki	46 Westpoint Terrace, West Hartford, CT
	944	Larry Ross	47 West Ridge Road, West Hartford, CT
	970	J. Michael Kelley and Frank A. Dipeitro	970 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT

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Sumner Street-

89 The Sumner Realty Co. Inc./ 10 Middlefield Drive, West Hartford, CT  
Bernard E. Dubin

Sigourney Street-

183-185 Zuni Corp., Trustee 9 Miamis Road, West Hartford, CT  
187 Dorothy J. and Frank Molinski 499 Oakland Road, South Windsor, CT  
191 Freddie J. Gray 146 Blue Hills Avenue, Hartford, CT  
193 " " " " " " " " " " " "

NC 195-197 Society for Savings 31 Pratt Street, Hartford, CT  
NC 199-201 Carleton E. and Barbara P. Wilkins 115 Salisbury Street, Hartford, CT  
202 Ellen F. Sheheen 409 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford, CT  
NC 205 New Britain Federal Savings and 94 West Main Street, New Britain, CT  
Loan Association

Willard Street-

NC 17-21 Tamed Inc. 17-21 Willard Street, Hartford, CT  
35 Mary A. Moriarty 35 Willard Street, Hartford, CT  
37-39 Paul E. Littmon 194 Vine Street, Hartford, CT  
41 Barbara R. and Leslie L. Gemmell 55 Lake Street Manchester, CT  
43 Jack L. Rosenblitt Trustee 92 Lawler Road, West Hartford, CT  
45-51 Michael N. Cohen and Yale Gordon/  
Michael N. Cohen 99 Pratt Street, Hartford, CT  
54-56 Hartford Home Savings and Loan 108 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT  
55 Peter R. Blum 242 Trumbull Street, Hartford, Ct  
57 " " " " " " " " " " " "  
60 John P. Beaulieu et al 48 Niles Street, Hartford, CT  
NC 61 DAK Partners 67 Willard Street, Hartford, CT  
62 James A. and Marianne H. Crowley 62 Willard Street, Hartford, CT  
66 Dennis S. and Renee F. Main 66 Willard Street, Hartford, CT  
67 DAK Partners 67 Willard Street, Hartford, CT

Atwood Street-

NC 4 S. Mark Stephens 211 South Main Street, Manchester, CT  
6 Robert C. and Helen N. White 521 Oak Street, Hartford, CT  
8 " " " " " " " " " " " "  
10-12 " " " " " " " " " " " "  
16 Marion Down Estate/  
Connecticut Bank and Trust 1 Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT  
20 M. Madeleine Way 20 Atwood Street, Hartford, CT  
NC 22 Carlos T. and Hermine R. Pilatti 7 Fox Meadow Lane, West Hartford, CT  
24-26 Antonio Pappalardo and Gaetana Larosa 24 Atwood Street, Hartford, CT  
28 Peter R. Amato, M.D. 21 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT

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30 Mary W. Edwards  
32 Peter R. Amato

30 Atwood Street, Hartford, CT  
21 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT

Huntington Street

94 Helen C. Gary, et al

94 Huntington Street, Hartford, CT

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Description:

The number and density of 19th century houses in the Collins and Townley Streets District are the greatest in the Asylum Hill area. About 54 single and double houses dating from the last three decades of the century are found here, built in the popular styles of the era. In general, the houses are in fair condition, with some rehabilitation activity on Atwood and Collins streets. Most retain their historic features in large part. This part of Asylum Hill was the stronghold of the Collins family. What is thought to be the oldest house on the Hill, 287 Collins Street, was on Collins property, probably occupied by a member of the staff. It is Italianate in style, built in wood with triangular window pediments at the first floor, flat window caps at the second, and a flat roof with a modest, bracketed overhang, the whole now painted white.

Townley Street is the center for some dozen Italianate and mansard roof brick and brownstone two-family houses, now broken up into apartments. These houses retain their decorative carvings incised in the brownstone lintels, and their porticos with classical columns and capitals.

Along the U formed by Atwood, Collins, and Willard streets are 16 Shingle Style houses that may have been constructed by one builder. No two houses are identical, but all adhere to a standard compact block form with hip or gable roof over the main part of the house and with gable to one side. They have brick exterior walls for the first floor, with shingles above, and all have some touches of Colonial Revival detail.

Running east from Willard Street along both sides of Collins Street are brick houses with roofs and gables similar to the shingled houses along Atwood, Collins, and Willard streets, but these earlier houses have greater verticality and more elaborate trim. Here the decorative detail is sawn and turned woodwork for porches, entrances, and gable embellishments. Three Italianate double houses at 183-193 Sigourney Street are typical of dozens of such houses built throughout Hartford in these years.

Three houses merit individual descriptions. The first of these is the Flint House at 310 Collins Street, northeast corner of Atwood. It was built in 1895 of brick and wood in a variation of the Queen Anne style under a broad slate roof. The gables have Tudor half-timbering. A wide verandah and octagonal tower complete the picturesque effect. The other two houses were designed by George Keller. The 1880 Seymns House at 181 Collins Street, southeast corner of Huntington Street, is in red brick with high slate roof, gables, ironwork cresting, and decorative terra cotta panels. Additional panels or plaques in wood on the east and west walls display foliate patterns, the one on the west being a sunflower. Like the exterior of the Flint House, the exterior of the Seymns House is almost entirely free of alterations. Keller's Trumbull House of six years later (1886) at 970 Asylum Avenue,

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northeast corner of Atwood Street, is much simpler in detail and massing. The front facade has two principal gables to left and right of a shallow recessed entry that initially was covered by a smaller gable of its own, now removed. The brick first story is now painted white, but above it are shingles that retain a dark color. On the west wall is another sunflower panel. These sunflower panels of Keller's are the only known examples of the genre in Hartford.

Significance:

The Collins and Townley streets houses, relatively free of apartment buildings that detract from the historic character of the area, maintain the best sense of neighborhood life of any section of Asylum Hill. On these streets it is possible to sense with more intimacy than elsewhere on the Hill what the neighborhood was like in the 1890's.

Architecturally, this district is a composite, offering examples of the full spectrum of styles in the late 19th century. Late Greek Revival, Italianate, High Victorian Gothic, Queen Anne, Shingle and Stick Style, and Tudor Revival are all represented in a wealth of detail. Many of them are excellent examples of their styles.

The Flint House, built for a furniture merchant, is an outstanding example of a house transitional between Queen Anne/Tudor Revival and the Stick and Shingle Style. On the one hand, its half-timbered gables and tower carry on in the picturesque tradition, but on the other hand, its great roof, even though the shingles are slate, suggests the vast area and plasticity of the Shingle Style, while the roof brackets and porches reflect the influence of a Swiss chalet if not the Stick Style that was gathering strength at that time.

The two Keller houses clearly depict the change that occurred in his approach to domestic architecture in the 1880's. The Seymns House of 1880 still shows the verticality and high roof executed in brick and terra cotta associated with his Seyms Street Jail (1873), Temple Beth Israel (1876), and Phelps House (c. 1880). Elements of High Victorian Gothic are present in the apsidal roof, heavy gables, and brutal massing that make the house seem top-heavy. Six years later for Gurdon Trumbull, the artist well-known for his piscatorial subjects, simple planes and massing giving an altogether more comfortable effect were used to create a house sympathetic to the current work of Phillip Webb and Richard Norman Shaw. Keller had seen Shaw's Bedford Village while visiting in England in 1885 and had been favorably impressed by it--to the advantage of the Trumbull House. Only the sunflower plaques are shared in common by the Seymns and Trumbull houses.

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Geographical Data:

- Acreeage of nominated property: 22  
Quadrangle name: Hartford North  
UTM References: A. 18/692000/4626870  
                  B. 18/692000/4626850  
                  C. 18/691720/4626920  
                  D. 18/691690/4626800  
                  E. 18/691620/4626810  
                  F. 18/691640/4626900  
                  G. 18/691570/4626890  
                  H. 18/691460/4626720  
                  I. 18/691360/4626730  
                  J. 18/691440/4627060

Verbal Boundary Description:

Starting at the northeast corner of 169 Collins Street, the line runs south to the north border of 89 Summer Street, east, south, and west along its borders to the east border of 171-173 Collins Street, south along its east border to its southeast corner, west along the rear borders of properties fronting on Collins Street, across Huntington Street to southeast corner of 202 Sigourney Street, along its south border to Sigourney Street, south along Sigourney Street to the southeast corner of 183-185 Sigourney Street, west along its south border to its southwest corner, north along the rear borders of properties fronting on Sigourney Street to the southeast corner of 60 Willard Street, west along its south border to the northeast corner of 54 Willard Street, south and west along its borders to Willard Street, south along Willard Street to Asylum Avenue, west along Asylum Avenue to the southwest corner of 944 Asylum Avenue, north along its west border to the northeast corner of 950 Asylum Avenue, west along rear borders of properties fronting on Asylum Avenue to the northeast corner of 970 Asylum Avenue, south and west along its borders to Atwood Street, north along Atwood Street to the northwest corner of 310 Atwood Street, east and south along its borders to Collins Street, east along Collins Street to May Street, north along May Street to the northwest corner of 250 Collins Street, east along the rear borders of properties fronting on Collins Street to the northeast corner of 236 Collins Street, south along its east border to Collins Street, east along Collins Street to the southwest corner of 182 Collins Street, north along its west border to the south border of 94 Huntington Street, west, north, east, south, and west along its borders to the northeast corner of 182 Collins Street, south along its east border to Collins Street, and east along Collins Street to point of beginning.