

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY - BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

Please send completed form to: National Register and State Register Coordinator,
State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Economic and Community Development,
One Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor, Hartford CT 06103

* Note: Please attach any additional or expanded information on a separate sheet.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Building Name (Common) Deacon Daniel Gregory House
Building Name (Historic) Same
Street Address or Location 11 Belden Hill Road
Town/City Wilton Village _____ County Fairfield
Owner(s) Jerre & Thomas Dawson ☐ Public ☒ Private

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Residence
Historic Use: Unknown

Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Interior accessible? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, explain _____

Style of building Colonial/Colonial Revival Date of Construction c1755 c1915

Material(s) (Indicate use or location when appropriate):

☐ Clapboard ☐ Asbestos Siding ☐ Brick ☒ Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Siding
☐ Fieldstone ☐ Board & Batten ☐ Stucco ☐ Cobblestone ☐ Aluminum Siding
☐ Concrete (Type _____) ☐ Cut Stone (Type _____) ☐ Other _____

Structural System

☐ Wood Frame ☒ Post & Beam ☐ Balloon ☐ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel
☐ Other _____

Roof (Type)

☒ Gable ☐ Flat ☐ Mansard ☐ Monitor ☐ Sawtooth
☐ Gambrel ☐ Shed ☐ Hip ☐ Round ☐ Other _____

(Material)

☒ Wood Shingle ☐ Roll Asphalt ☐ Tin ☐ Slate ☐ Asphalt Shingle
☐ Built up ☐ Tile ☐ Other _____

Number of Stories: 2 Approximate Dimensions 33x41, 34x23

Structural Condition: ☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

Exterior Condition: ☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

Location Integrity: ☒ On original site ☐ Moved When? _____

Alterations? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, explain: _____

FOR OFFICE USE: Town # _____ Site # _____ UTM _____

District: ☐ S ☐ NR If NR, Specify: ☐ Actual ☐ Potential

PROPERTY INFORMATION (CONT'D)**Related outbuildings or landscape features:**

☐ Barn ☐ Shed ☒ Garage ☐ Carriage House ☐ Shop ☐ Garden
☐ Other landscape features or buildings: _____

Surrounding Environment:

☐ Open land ☐ Woodland ☒ Residential ☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Rural
☐ High building density ☐ Scattered buildings visible from site

- Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

See continuation sheet.

- Other notable features of building or site (*Interior and/or Exterior*)

See continuation sheet.

Architect N/A Builder N/A

- Historical or Architectural importance:

See continuation sheet.

- Sources:

See continuation sheet.

Photographer Mary E. McCahon Date 4/89

View East Negative on File CHC 4:31

Name Mary E. McCahon, Arch. Historian Date 5/89

Organization Wilton Historical Society

Address 249 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT 06897

- Subsequent field evaluations:

Threats to the building or site:

☒ None known ☐ Highways ☐ Vandalism ☐ Developers ☐ Renewal ☐ Private
☐ Deterioration ☐ Zoning ☐ Other _____ ☐ Explanation _____

HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY – BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

CONTINUATION SHEET

11 Belden Hill Road, Wilton



Photograph 11 Belden Hill Road. View east.

Interrelationship of Buildings and Surroundings

Superbly sited on a rise at the intersection of two of the town's most historic roads. Overlooks historic center of Wilton. In local historic district.

Other Notable Features or Buildings on the Site

The handsome Colonial/Colonial Revival house with six-over-six windows is dramatically sited on a rise overlooking Wilton Center and is surrounded by generous, casually landscaped grounds. The house, with two interior end chimneys, apparently never had a central chimney, but its exterior is more Colonial Revival than period. It was extensively "improved" during the 19th century with the addition of milled trim, a full-façade verandah, bay windows, and a roof with boxed overhanging eaves. The house passed out of the original family in 1932 and it was reworked in the prevailing Colonial Revival taste. All Victorian-era additions, save the roof, were removed and replaced by superbly executed, Federal-inspired trim, including the handsome, well proportioned, arched soffit, entrance portico with Doric colonettes and entablature with mutules. The six-panel door is topped by an elliptical transom and is flanked by operable side sash. The rear two-story ell is also Colonial

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CONTINUATION SHEET

11 Belden Hill Road, Wilton

Revival. The house ranks as one of the most gracious Colonial Revival dwellings in Wilton and is representative of the 20th-century attitude toward Colonial homes which were stripped of the 19th-century modifications and transformed into comfortable, country homesteads.

Historical and Architectural Importance

Local tradition holds that the house was erected ca.1775 by Deacon Daniel Gregory I on the site of an earlier house. If the interior end chimneys are in fact, original, it would appear that the house is closer to 1800 than 1775. The property remained in the Gregory family until 1923, passing to Daniel Gregory II (1774-1826), William Daniel Gregory (1823-), and then to William Daniel's daughter Henrietta Lucretia (1855-1930) who married F. D. Benedict. Mrs. Benedict was the last Gregory to own the family homestead, which was sold to the Lewis Engels in 1932. They affected the "restoration" of the house, removing all the 19th-century "improvements." Such work is typical of the early-20th century attitude towards restoration or rehabilitation of period homes which were transformed into gracious country estates rather than left in "as found" condition, complete with 19th century additions. The house contributes significantly to the historic character of Wilton Center and is part of Wilton Historic District #2.

Sources

Wilton Historical Society: House File.