DECD
State of Connecticut
Department of Economic and Community Development

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) Ambler House

Building Name (Historic) Raymond-Ambler House

Street Address or Location 257 Hurlbutt Street

Town/City Wilton Village _____ County Fairfield

Owner(s) Ambler, Elizabeth ○ Public ◉ Private

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Residence

Historic Use: Residence

Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road? ◉ Yes ○ No

Interior accessible? ○ Yes ◉ No If yes, explain _____

Style of building Colonial/ Picturesque Vernacular Date of Construction 1805, 1880

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 _____

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: milk shed, open shelter, corn crib, well, paling fence

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 North Negative on File CTSHPO 12:

Name Mary E. McCahon 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 _____

Photograph 257 Hurlbutt Street View North

Interrelationship of Buildings and Surroundings

One of two Raymond houses, located on the best preserved farm complex in Wilton.

Other Notable Features or Buildings on the Site

The five-bay, central chimney, colonial-style house built ca. 1799 was reworked in late-19th century in the picturesque mode, and fortunately the "improvements" have been retained. A central cross gable with imbricated shingles and a circular-headed, two-over-two window was added, and two-over-one windows were used on the rest of the house. All windows are fitted with operable blinds. A handsome, Italianate verandah with chamfered posts on pedestals wraps the three principal elevations, and a large, two-story rear wing that extends to the south side and connected by a flat-roofed hyphen was also added. The wing has imbricated shingles in the gable ends and a two-story octagonal-ended bay on the north side. In addition to the well preserved house, the property includes an impressive assemblage of farm buildings, including two barns (one for horses and another for cows), a pig house, hen houses, a paint house and a corn crib. A sheep barn located on

the east side of the street is not extant. The property is enclosed from the road by a paling fence typical of those that once graced many of the Hurlbutt Street farms.

Historical and Architectural Importance

Exactly when the central chimney colonial-style house was constructed is not known. It was built by Raymond on part of the 60 acre parcel at Buckingham Ridge Josiah Raymond purchased from Ebenezer Abbott in 1799. His son Platt purchased it in 1803, and it remains in the Raymond family. The house may have been constructed for Platt's brother, Jesse, and it later passed to Platt's son Lewis who made a fortune in real estate in Norwalk and married Catherine Meeker in 1834. Their daughter Hannah married Charles Ambler in 1872, and the farm passed to them. They had two children, Charles Meeker Ambler and Lewis Raymond Ambler. Lewis Ambler married Mary Miller, daughter of Samuel J. Miller and Esther Cannon Miller. They had no children. Charles and his wife Anna had one daughter, Elizabeth, the current owner of the property. Architecturally the property with its early house remodeled in the late-19th century and the complete assemblage of farm-related buildings, is one of the most significant in Wilton. Few properties enjoy the integrity of the Raymond Ambler homestead.

Source

Hubbard. Wilton Families
Wilton Land Records.