

## 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) Ambler House

Street Address or Location 19 Cannon Road (Previously 15 Cannon Road)

Town/City Wilton Village \_\_\_\_\_ County Fairfield

Owner(s) Hansen, Trygve & Muriel  Public  Private

### PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Offices

Historic Use: Residence

**Accessibility to public:** Exterior visible from public road?  Yes  No

Interior accessible?  Yes  No If yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_

Style of building Colonial Revival Date of Construction c.1905

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

- |  |   |                                      |                                       |  |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard             | <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding        | <input type="checkbox"/> Brick       | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone            | <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten         | <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco      | <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone  | <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete (Type _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut Stone (Type _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> 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:** 2.5 **Approximate Dimensions** 27 x 43

**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: granite hitching post.

**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 northeast Negative on File CHC 3:34

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

19 Cannon Road, Wilton



Photograph 19 Cannon Road. View northeast.

**Interrelationship of Buildings and Surroundings**

The house and barn, to which the Cannon Store was attached, is located behind (east) the Miller family homestead. Contributes to the original residential character of Cannondale.

**Other Notable Features or Buildings on the Site**

The ambitious, picturesque massed, two-and-one-half-story, Colonial Revival house with a broad, cross gable centered on the façade was constructed circa 1905, and it stands basically unaltered despite its conversion to office use. The gable ends are finished with scalloped shingles, pents, and small, six-over-six windows with pedimented architraves as well as decorative bargeboards. A flat-roofed octagonal-ended bay opens to the east and west sides of the house, while the first level of façade is sheltered by a porch (now enclosed) with a cobblestone balustrade and coupled, truncated, Tuscan columns. A rear porch on the west side of the asymmetrically-massed dwelling has colonnettes, and it, too, has been enclosed. A popular period detail, a combination of sidings is

## HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY – BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

CONTINUATION SHEET

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used the exterior of the first level being clad with the clapboards while the second level is shingled. The house is set on generous, park-like grounds, which enhance its graciousness. It is part of the Miller family compound located on the south east corner of Cannon and Danbury Roads in the Cannondale section of town.

### **Historical and Architectural Importance**

The property on which this house stands was purchased from William A. Dudley in 1835 by the Cannon family (7:192), and at the time it included the Dudley residence. The house appears on both the 1855 and 1867 maps at the approximate location of the 19 Cannon Road House. In the Wilton Grand Lists, however, the Cannon family house count goes from 2 to 1 in 1880, suggesting that the Dudley house was torn down or moved to another location.

The house increases by one in 1891 and then another in 1905. The 1909 map shows “Ambler” as the occupant of 15 Cannon Rd. Mary Catherine Miller had married Lewis Ambler in 1900 (Cannondale). Her mother, Esther A. Cannon Miller was the sole heir to the Charles Cannon Estate (20:377) and, thus, owned the land on which 19 Cannon Road stood. It may be surmised that the “new” house was built by or for the Amblers after their marriage in 1900 and is the one first appearing on the Grand Lists of 1905. The house added in 1891 may well be the one referred to in the 1987 Wilton Historical Society’s Cannondale book as a residence of Esther A. and Samuel J. Miller next to the Cannon family home at 436 Danbury Rd.

The Miller property, which included 19 Cannon Rd., past to D. Henry Miller III and Mary Ambler from the estate of their father, Samuel in 1925 (37:535) and then to Esther Miller Allen, daughter of D. Henry, in 1956 (68:434, 284). In 1978 the property was subdivided for the first time, and in 1982, the 4.38-acre parcel containing the house at 19 Cannon Rd. was purchased by plumbing contractor Trygve Hansen and his wife Muriel. It has since been converted to professional office use. Cannon store, now being moved to Heritage Village on Danbury Road by the Wilton Historical Society, was attached to the barn behind the house sometime during the 19th century.

### **Sources**

Wilton Land Records.  
1855 Clark, Beers Maps.  
Wilton Grand List.  
Researched and written by Al Wood.