

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) Lyon-Nathan House

Building Name (Historic) Lyon Tavern

Street Address or Location 923 Ridgefield Road

Town/City Wilton Village _____ County Fairfield

Owner(s) Levin, Peter R. and Alice N. 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/Colonial Revival Date of Construction ca. 1810

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 Approximate Dimensions 39 x 37

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:

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

Architect _____ Builder _____

- Historical or Architectural importance:

- Sources:

Photographer _____ Date _____

View _____ Negative on File _____

Name _____ Date _____

Organization _____

Address _____

- 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

923 Ridgefield Road, Wilton



Photograph 923 Ridgefield Road View Northeast

Interrelationship of Buildings and Surrounding

Located on the west side of historic Ridgefield Road.

Other Notable Features or Buildings on the Site

The three-bay, side hall plan, Federal-style house is, along with Marvin Tavern, the only documented local example of an original pyramidal hip roof. The six-over-six windows diminish on the second level. The house has been reworked twice; once in the late 19th century and again this century in the Colonial Revival mode. Historic photographs show that the façade was

HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY – BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

CONTINUATION SHEET

923 Ridgefield Road, Wilton

sheltered by a verandah with turned posts, and, while it has been removed, the entrance door with a glazed upper panel which was probably added at the same time, survives. It is framed by a broken pediment frontispiece that is Colonial Revival as are the shutters. A two-story wing has been added to the south side. A stone terrace is located at the rear of the house which sits on nicely landscaped grounds. A guesthouse is located at the rear of the property.

Historical and Architectural Importance

The house was likely built shortly after Levi Lyon (1769-1839) purchased property on the west side of Ridgefield Road from Daniel Olmstead in 1810 in order to extend the property he already owned to the north. Levi, the third child of Hezekiah and Rachel Dikeman Lyon of Weston, operated a tavern in the house from about 1820 until his death in 1839 at which time the operation was continued by his son-in-law, Jeremiah Fox. An 1841 advertisement in the Norwalk Gazette offered “to let-April 1 next that well-known stand situated in Wilton on the road leading to No. Salem, being about equal distance from each, and usually known as “Halfway House.” Such stand occupied as a tavern for 20 years past and known as Lyon Hotel.” Particular terms may be obtained by applying to Samuel Scott”. Eri Davis, uncle of longtime Ridgefield Road resident Mildred Tuttle, purchased the property in 1852 and held it until 1907. He was a shoemaker. Frederick Gray acquired it from Davis in 1907, and he sold to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Nathan, parents of the present owner, in 1929.

Sources

Norwalk Land Records. Wilton Land Records. Wilton Historical Society: House File.