

Summary of How to Research Your Home – “Historic” or Not

Nick L. Foster and Kelly L. Morron for the Wilton Historical Society (ed. August, 2024)

wiltonhistorical.org 203.762.7257

Primary Sources of Research Information in Wilton	Summary of Steps to Research Your Property	Secondary, or Contextual, Sources of Property Information in Wilton
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessor’s Online Database • Online Database for Wilton • “GIS” Maps and Data (beta) at Assessor's Office wiltonct • Assessor’s Office/Computer • Land Records (online, Library, Town Clerk’s Office Vault) <p>Deeds (in books on walls of Vault and computer); books used with Index (date) books (low bookcases in center of Vault)</p> <p>Property maps (referenced in deeds)</p> <p>Mortgages (in deed books or computer)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Information in a Deed</u></p> <p>Seller(s) (“grantor”)/ Purchaser(s) (“grantee”)</p> <p>Description of the property, bounds, size</p> <p>Dates – conveyed and recorded</p> <p>Signatures of grantor(s) and grantee(s)</p> <p>Limitations on rights, if any, required by government (<i>e.g.</i>, lien) or contract (<i>e.g.</i>, life interest or communal driveway)</p> <p>Price (“consideration”) (price does not need to be specific, requirement is to show exchange)</p> <p>* Sometimes additional info (<i>e.g.</i>, prior deed info, character of property)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deed (paper, computer, or index) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The deed provides Grantor (seller), Grantee (buyer), and date information b. The Grantor on this deed is the next earlier Grantee, and with this deed’s date, know when to start looking (backwards) for the next earlier sale. Grantor on that deed is next earlier grantee, etc. 2. Wilton computer or indexes to find next preceding sale 3. Repeat 4. If you become stumped going backwards in time, and know the name of an owner on a specific earlier date, can search the grantee indexes before that date, or grantor indexes after that date, or neighbor property, to pick up the trail! 5. Earlier than 1802 (date of Wilton incorporation), Norwalk records available in Library or Vault computer or Norwalk 	<p>Assessor’s maps (Assessor’s Office or P&Z), with MBL/Parcel number</p> <p>Google Maps</p> <p>Marriage, Birth, Death records, road ages (Town Clerk’s Office Vault)</p> <p>Probate records (some in deeds books)</p> <p>Wilton Library History Room</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. House Surveys <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Phases I and II of the Historic House Survey b. 1978 Cultural Survey c. 1940’s Notecard Survey 2. Historical Photographs 3. Historic Maps 4. Historical Writings <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. G. Evans Hubbard b. David Van Hoosear c. Clerc Ogden d. Robert Russell e. “18th Century Dwellings” f. Norman Boas 5. “Wilton Roads” 6. “Wilton Bulletin” archives 7. GE Hubbard card catalogue (hit or miss) 8. Ledgers and daybooks (ditto) 9. “Neighborhoods and Old Houses”

--	--	--

Ate