



Item No. 21
Department of Economic and
Community Development

State Historic Preservation Office

April 12, 2016

Stephen Bishop
Chair, Historic District Commission
265 Taconic Road
Greenwich, CT 06830

Re: Proposed Gershom Lockwood III House, 117 Dingtowntown Road, Greenwich, CT.

Dear Mr. Bishop:

I am pleased to inform you that at its April 6, 2016 meeting, the Historic Preservation Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Greenwich Historic District Commission's study report for the proposed Gershom Lockwood III House, 117 Dingtowntown Road. The Council had the following comments:

In addition to the significance of the house as one of the few remaining intact examples of 18th century houses in Greenwich, there is also significance in the changes made over time beginning in the early 20th century. Therefore, we recommend that the architectural history section of the report include a series of floor plans or footprints that would help the reader understand the chronology of the building and include more information about the introduction of Colonial Revival style in Greenwich. It is also important for the Greenwich Historic District Commission to have information in the report that more clearly and specifically delineates the changes made over time to the house (and therefore have accrued their own significance), so that the Commission can make informed decisions regarding appropriate exterior alterations.

The council fully supports and encourages the tremendous efforts of the Greenwich Historic District Commission to protect and preserve the town's irreplaceable historic and architectural heritage. Please keep me informed of the progress of this designation. In the meantime if you have any questions regarding this notification, please feel free to contact me at (860) 256-2756.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary B. Dunne".

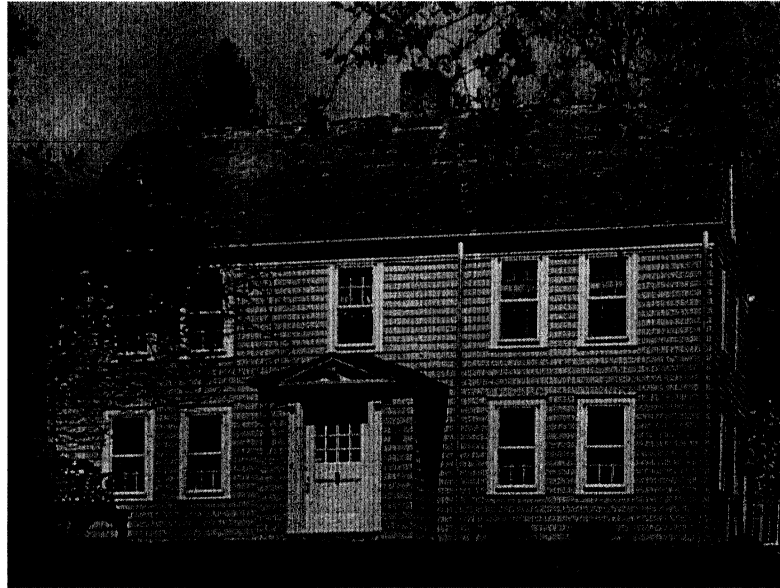
Mary Dunne
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Cc: Anne Young

State Historic Preservation Office

One Constitution Plaza | Hartford, CT 06103 | P: 860.256.2800 | Cultureandtourism.org

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer An Equal Opportunity Lender



Gershom Lockwood III House

117 Dingtowntown Road, Greenwich, CT

Nils Kerschus

Study Report Requested by Town of Greenwich
Historic District Commission

Table of Contents

Description	1
Historical Significance and Summary.	5
Architectural Significance	9
Setting Significance	12
Bibliography	13
List of Photographs	15

Gershom Lockwood III House

117 Dingtletown Road, Greenwich, CT

DESCRIPTION

Situated in a wooded valley on the north side of Dingtletown Road, the Gershom Lockwood III House is a rambling, multi-winged, wood-shingled dwelling sheltered by gabled, wood-shingled roofs and fenestrated with six-over-six windows. From south to north, the house consists of the original 2½ story, side-gabled Colonial dwelling; a slightly lower, transverse-gabled middle wing facing west, a 1½ story, side-gabled rear wing; and a 1½ story, front-gabled, two-car garage, connected to the rear wing by a wooden gate.

Built circa 1745, the original house faces south and presents a five-bay façade that is 36 feet long and fenestrated primarily with single windows arranged symmetrically in pairs, exhibiting a greater distance from the central window than between the windows of each pair (Photograph 2). The façade focuses on the centrally placed main entrance, located in an enclosed projecting foyer constructed circa 1925 and sheltered by a low-pitched, hipped roof. The front door is Dutch in design, composed of multi-paned sash at the upper half and a single paneled lower half. The door is flanked by paneled pilasters surmounted by elongated fluted entablatures accented by drip marks as well as alternate long and short guttae-like pendants suspended from the overhanging architraves. Crowning the doorframe is a projecting, low-pitched pediment enclosing a carved eagle motif. Descending from the front door are several stone steps composed of fieldstone risers and single-stone granite treads. As in the remainder of the house, the façade's windows show six-over-six sash surrounded by simple frames except at the second story where the sash of each window is surmounted by a continuous, narrow frieze board including a very narrow architrave which replaces the top segment of each window frame. The frieze board is overhung by a projecting, molded, boxed cornice. Rising through the mid-point of the roof's ridge is the top of the central chimney, at this point constructed of brick.

The original house's gabled, two-bay, east elevation is 25 feet wide and fenestrated symmetrically except for the attic window which is slightly off center. The gable's eaves are distinguished by a raking cornice that terminates at incomplete cornice returns at either end, including the termination of the façade's frieze and architrave. The west elevation is superficially identical to the east elevation although the windows of the right bay are closer to the center than those of the left bay. This elevation also reveals the uppermost courses of the original foundation, here composed of roughly cut granite blocks. The rear or north elevation shows one bay of windows to the far left, also symmetrically arranged, and one window at the second floor, to the far right, the remainder of the elevation obscured by the junction of the middle wing.

Extending 30 feet north of the original house is the 2½ story middle wing. Most of its first story was constructed in 1922, while the second story, attic and the east elevation's shed-roofed ell and recessed porch were all built in 1967. Also part of this remodeling was the enclosure of the west elevation's recessed porch which now contains the house's kitchen or service entrance, sheltered by a gabled entry porch incorporating a segmental arch over the entry. Continuing northerly from the middle wing is the 1½ story, side-gabled rear wing, also built in 1967. Its east elevation is dominated by a large, projecting, multi-paned bay window, while its gabled, rear (north) elevation is bisected by a tall, off-side brick chimney. Obscuring the first story is a shed-roofed storage ell sided with vertical boards and pierced by a segmental-arched entryway. At the northern end of the west elevation a rather elaborate entry gate, incorporating a turned balustrade, connects the rear wing to the front-gabled, two-car garage, constructed in 1934. Attached to its north elevation is a wood-shingled ell, its low-pitched shed or cat-slide roof continuing the garage roof's northern slope.

Situated at an elevation of 170' at the bottom of a valley drained by Greenwich Creek (historically East Brothers Brook), the house is located in a neighborhood of houses constructed primarily during the past 50 years on wooded lots of one to five acres. Its narrow, wedge-shaped lot covers 1.24 acres, tapering to a point at its southern end and bounded by Dingtowntown Road to the southwest and the wooded borders of adjacent lots to the west, north and east. Most of the property is relatively level, dominated by broad lawns to the north and south, the north lawn crossed by several intermittent brooks. The premises are enhanced by prominent specimen trees, including red maple, shagbark hickory, white pine, Norway spruce and white ash. Providing evidence of the house's early, agricultural

history are fieldstone boundary walls and a circular, fieldstone wellhead, the latter located just west of the original house.

The interior of the original house is entered via the enclosed foyer built c1925 and incorporating the narrow Colonial “porch” of the original house to form a more spacious entry hall. Its paneled wainscot and the vertical paneling of the front staircase’s closed string, surmounted by a simple balustrade, were installed by H. Lawrence Coggins in 1958. The winding front staircase is itself original to the house, consisting of one regular step, three winders, three lateral steps, three more winders and one step to the upstairs hall. To the right of the entry hall is the original parlor which was combined with the original northeast “chamber” to form the present living room extending the full width of the house. The walls are distinguished by molded baseboards and chair rails, and surmounted with a continuous entablature, all installed as part of the 1958 remodeling. Likewise included with these alterations is the summer beam, with its beaded corners, and the beaded casing of the corner posts. On the left (west) wall is the fireplace, its opening measuring 34” wide, 32” high, and 16” deep, the interior lined with bricks while the opening’s architrave and hearth are faced with black marble. The wooden mantel, also installed by Coggins, is late Georgian in design, originating in a house in Guilford, Connecticut. To the left (west) of the entry hall is the southwest chamber or library. Its right (east) wall is paneled, incorporating a brick-framed fireplace measuring 39” wide, 33” high and 16” deep, showing a brick-lined interior and a granite hearth. The paneling and the chair rails of the other walls also date to the 1958 remodeling.

Located to the north of the library is the original kitchen, dominated by the house’s largest fireplace, its opening measuring 5’ wide, 50” inches high and 2’ deep. Its interior is built of cut-granite at the sides and back while granite is also utilized for the front and back hearths. Attached to the right inside wall is an original wrought-iron crane, while the left wall features a built-in oven, its opening fitted with a heavy, segmental-arched iron door. The fireplace opening is spanned by a single cut-stone lintel which may not be original, showing flat sides but a rough surface. This lintel and the outer edges of the interior granite walls are framed by a bolection molding defining the fireplace as a whole within the fireplace wall, paneled with wide, vertical boards. The other walls feature a simple wainscot, installed during the 1958 remodeling as were the wide floorboards which cover the original floorboards.

The second floor comprises four rooms (or chambers). The narrow front hall, lit by the façade's central window, connects the southeast and southwest chambers. The north wall shows a batten door to the right, leading to the attic stairs and the entrance to the main staircase to the left, its diagonal lintel reflecting the attic's staircase immediately above it. Visible through this entrance are vertical boards paneling the triangular wall between the level of the second floor and the underside of the attic staircase.

To the left (west) of this hall is the southwest chamber, the only room on the second floor including a fireplace, this example located at the east wall, measuring 33" wide, 27" high and 12" deep. The interior walls and architrave feature a painted, stuccoed surface while the hearth is paved in brick. The simple mantel comprises wide flushboards framing the architrave and supporting a molded mantelshelf. The room's southeast corner features the exposed left front chimney post while the southwest corner displays a corner cupboard, the upper section lacking doors but showing a rectangular top enhanced by a curvilinear valance. On the other side of the front hall the southwest chamber reveals the right front corner post while the northeast chamber, to the north, shows the corresponding right corner post as well as the right rear chimney post. Extending westerly from the northeast chamber, the rear hall is paneled with wide vertical boards on its north wall. To the west, the northwest chamber does not show a corner post but does reveal an exposed post to the left of the door to the middle wing.

The house's structural system is best viewed from the basement and the attic. The cellar consists mostly of crawl space with four to five feet headroom and is occupied primarily by bedrock upon which rests the chimney stack's foundation measuring 11 feet at the front and 10 feet at the sides, and composed of fieldstone and cut-granite. Only the southwest corner of the cellar is deep enough to stand upright, measuring 7' by 15'. Visible from this perspective are hand-hewn joists averaging 5" by 7" in width and running parallel with the front of the house and perpendicular to the rear elevation. The undersides of the original wide floorboards of the first floor are also visible from this vantage point.

The attic is reached via a straight-run, enclosed staircase accessed from the second floor's front hall, positioned parallel to it, and comprised of two winders and seven lateral steps. The enclosing walls are paneled with wide, vertical boards, the east wall spanned by an exposed section of the east chimney girt. In the attic the roof frame is largely exposed, consisting of 13 common, hand-hewn rafters averaging 3 to 3½" in width, pegged at the top, and mitered midway into two horizontal purlins, also hand hewn, averaging 5 to 5½" in width. The purlins rest on eight six-foot high purlin posts, two incorporated into each gable. These end posts are reinforced by large, diagonal hand-hewn braces, each pegged at the bottom in the post and mitered at the top into the purlin. The junction of each post with the purlin is also pegged. The two purlins are connected by a number of collar beams, these junctions not necessarily coinciding with the purlin posts. The floors retain their wide floorboards, averaging one foot wide, while the undersides of very wide roof boards are visible, arranged horizontally and nailed onto the rafters. At this level the centrally located fieldstone chimneystack has diminished in thickness to 4' by 4½'. An ornate mantel originally framing the parlor fireplace lies prostrate on a mattress and features pilasters embossed with floral designs and a frieze showing a design of swags and medallions.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND SUMMARY

The Gershom Lockwood III house is historically significant as one of the oldest houses still standing in Greenwich and also for several of its owners who are notable within their historical contexts. The house is one of 19 extant buildings that had been constructed in the town by 1750. The following historical overview or summary discusses the determination of the house's construction date of c1745 as well as the more relevant aspects of its subsequent history.

The house's construction date not only derives from the title search but also from genealogical and architectural sources, the latter treated separately under "Architectural Significance". The title search's earliest mention of a house is in 1771 when it was sold for 59 pounds, 10 shillings and 7 pence by Gershom Lockwood, Jr. (a.k.a. Gershom Lockwood III) and his wife Ann to Joseph Sackett, Gershom's brother-in-law by his first wife Mary, the house and barn "supposed to be standing on land in the tenure of Gershom Lockwood

by the courtesy of England set out to his late wife”¹. Gershom’s first wife Mary (b.1717) was the daughter of Reverend Richard Sackett (1686-1727) and his second wife Elizabeth Kirtland. A graduate of Yale in 1709, he was appointed minister of the Second Congregational Church in 1717 where he served until his death in 1727. Reverend Sackett acquired a great deal of land in Greenwich during his tenure there, including several parcels laid out by the town in 1717, probably including the land upon which Gershom’s house would be constructed, this property measuring 15 acres and 30 rods located between “the branch of the East Brother and said East Brother”, i.e. between today’s Rockwood Lake Brook and Greenwich Creek². When Reverend Sackett died the inventory of his estate included his 11-acre homestead, almost 500 acres of land in Greenwich, the latter without any buildings, and an extensive private library, highly unusual in 1727 and attesting to his elevated standing in the community³. Mary Sackett married Gershom Lockwood III around 1740 and had four children by him, the last born in 1746. She died sometime between this last birth and 1752, the estimated date of Gershom’s second marriage, his first child with second wife Ann born in 1753. It can therefore be logically deduced that Gershom built his house before his first wife died, i.e. c1745, as the property was still owned by the estate of his father-in-law, Rev. Sackett. Gershom finally acquired title to 30 acres from the division of Rev. Sackett’s estate in 1770, set out to his late wife Mary. Interestingly, the farm’s actual land (save one acre on Stanwich Road) was not sold to Joseph Sackett until 1777, described as “one quarter of the lands in his possession by right of his late wife Mary”. Seven days later Sackett sold to Joseph Reynolds 58 acres plus a two-acre lot on Stanwich Road for 498 pounds, including the house and barn⁴. In 1786, Gershom Lockwood sold to Joseph Reynolds the road (today’s Dingtletown Road) from Joseph’s house (originally Gershom’s) to the main highway (Stanwich Road) for 4 pounds New York money, the road being 7 paces wide, covering a little over a rod (1/4 acre) and reserving use by Lockwood and his heirs⁵.

Gershom Lockwood III (c1715-1796) was, aside from his advantageous relationship to Rev. Sackett, a prominent citizen in his own right and by that of his family. While Rev. Sackett was a newcomer to Greenwich in 1717, Lockwood was the grandson of Jonathan Lockwood, one of the 27 Proprietors of 1672 whose purchase from the Indians covered the

¹ Greenwich Land Records. Book 10, Page 143.

² Greenwich Land Records. Book 2, Page 222.

³ Fairfield Probate Records. Book 8, Page 210-213.

⁴ Greenwich Land Records. Book 10, Page 551.

⁵ Greenwich Land Records. Book 12, Page 154.

lion's share of Greenwich between the Mianus and Byram Rivers. He also represented the Town in the colony's legislature for four years. His wife, Gershom's grandmother, was Mary Ferris, daughter of Jeffrey Ferris, one of the earliest and perhaps the earliest settler of the Town's original settlement in Old Greenwich, being mentioned in the original deed from the Indians in 1640. Gershom's father, Gershom Sr., was listed as one of the wealthiest citizens in town in 1694, ranking fifth. Gershom himself was involved in local politics, serving in 1751 as one of the Town's "townsmen", the predecessor of today's selectmen.

Joseph Reynolds was listed in the country's first census in 1790, as the head of a household that comprised 2 white males over 16 years of age, one white male under 16, 2 white females and one slave. The property was owned and occupied by four successive generation of the Reynolds-Holly-Lyon family, passing to Sarah Holly, daughter of Joseph Reynolds, in 1815, followed in 1840 by Daniel Lyon, Jr., the son-in-law of Isaac and Sarah Holly, whose daughter Hannah Lyon died in 1837 at 41 years of age while giving birth to her tenth child. In 1866 Albert J. Lyon, Daniel and Hannah's third son, sold the farm to Charles A. Guthrie, whose wife Adelia sold it in 1883 to her brother Nelson Studwell, whose estate sold it to another brother, Frank, in 1887. In 1894 the farm was acquired by Samuel Bloomfield.

Bloomfield sold the property in 1909 to real estate speculator Timothy Loughlin who sold the house and 70 acres of land to Adelaide Wilson Pier in 1916. Mrs. Pier was a prominent local clubwoman and wife of Garrett C. Pier (1875-1943), renowned archeologist, Egyptologist and author of non-fiction books, novels and plays, all based on his archeological background. Construction commenced immediately on the Pier's new stone mansion, still standing today at 105 Dingtletown Road, as well as the renovation of the old farmhouse which was assessed at \$500 in 1915, identified as the Bloomfield house. In 1917 the house was assessed at \$3,000, reflecting improvements commissioned by the Piers, while the new stone house was assessed at \$40,000. The renovated farmhouse initially became the residence of the property's farm manager, Italian-born Samuel Telerico, his wife Angelina and their three children, according to the 1920 census. The 51.814-acre property became one of the town's many "gentleman's farms" that were gentrifying Greenwich's backcountry during this period.

In 1922 the Piers decided to sell the old farmhouse but must have commissioned the construction of the one-story kitchen wing to the rear, as well as other improvements to attract a buyer and account for the increase in assessment from \$3,000 to \$13,000. In September of that year the house was sold with 1.17 acres to Eleanor Morse, wife of Carl Morse. The 1930 census listed Carl Morse as an engineer for an oil company, aged 47, his wife Eleanor, also 47, and their four children including twin sons. In 1923 the assessment of the house was readjusted to \$8,000, still significantly higher than the farm house assessment, and described as a frame house with 9 rooms, 3 baths and built in 1720, the latter not to be taken seriously but attesting to its reputation for being a very old house. This description, minus the 1720 date, continued in the assessment of the house until it was significantly enlarged in 1967.

In 1931 the house was sold to Horatio B. Williams (1877-1955) and his wife, Abbie. Dr. Williams was professor emeritus of physiology at Columbia University. He played a major role in the development of the galvanometer which measures small electronic currents and in the perfection of electrocardiograph instruments. In 1934 he replaced an existing garage on the property with the present two-car garage. He also uncovered the house's largest fireplace which apparently had been enclosed during one of the renovations undertaken by the Piers.

In 1956 the executor of Dr. Williams' estate sold the house to its most recent owners, Sylvester Larkin, Jr. and his wife Margaret. In 1958 the Larkins commissioned H. Lawrence Coggins (1898-1992) to remodel the interior. A resident of nearby Cos Cob, Mr. Coggins was considered to be one of the nation's leading authorities on Colonial and Federal architecture. He was responsible for installing Colonial and Federal elements, primarily at the first story, including paneling, chair rails and baseboards. In the living room he installed the summer beam, corner post casings and the fireplace mantel, the latter originating at a house in Guilford, Connecticut. In 1967 the Larkins commissioned the enlargement of the middle wing, i.e. its second story, attic, and east ell, as well as the construction of the rear wing, all designed by Douglas M. Malcolm.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Gershom Lockwood III House is architecturally significant as one of the twelve oldest houses in Greenwich that have maintained sufficient architectural integrity to serve as relatively intact example of houses constructed up until 1750, the seven other houses of this period having undergone more extensive alterations. The house is significant both for the elements that validate its c1745 construction date, and for features that are unique or unusual, thus contributing information to the study of this subject. This architectural evidence is primarily structural but also includes elements of the house plan and interior, non-structural elements.

The structural elements of the house are visible at each level but are primarily evident at the basement and attic. The basement reveals the hand-hewn joists of the first floor, arranged in typical Colonial fashion, i.e. parallel to the front of the house and perpendicular to the rear. At the second floor exposed corner posts are visible at the eastern end of the house while exposed chimney posts are present at the second story's northwest chamber and southwest chamber. At the attic the framing of the roof reveals a typical arrangement of equidistantly placed, hand-hewn common rafters, pegged at the top, but also a very unusual design in which the rafters are mitered midway into two hand-hewn purlins, one on either side which rest on eight purlin posts, a system typical of gambrel-roof construction but not of a gable roof's frame. The four central purlin posts, two located on either side of the chimney probably rest on the corresponding chimney girts, a portion of one being visible as it spans the east wall of the attic's stairwell.

The house's central chimney stack is another hallmark of the first half of the eighteenth century, its 10' by 11' base comparing favorably with other houses of this period. The retention of all four fireplaces is also notable, especially the largest, located in the original kitchen and measuring 5' wide, 50" high and 2' deep, also comparable to other Connecticut houses of this period. It retains its cut-granite hearth and interior walls, a large built-in oven and a wrought-iron crane. Also typical of the house plan in this period are the house's original staircases. The central staircase is characterized by its tight, winding construction which is dictated by its cramped location in front of the chimneystack. The attic staircase, straight-run with winders at the bottom, is located immediately above it, producing the angled lintel of the central staircase's entrance to the second floor. The house also retains vertical full-height wainscoting at the original kitchen's fireplace wall, the rear hall of the

second story and the enclosed attic staircase, all typical of the transitional period when plastering was replacing such wainscoting elsewhere except at the kitchen and less important rooms and spaces.

A more subtle distinction reflecting the first half of the eighteenth century is the fenestration of the façade, clearly depicting the early Georgian arrangement in which the windows of the typical five-ranked façade are organized in pairs at the outer two bays, i.e. the windows of each pair being much closer to each other than the distance to the central bay's front door and second story window. In the latter half of the eighteenth century, the windows are distributed equidistantly across the façade. The earlier arrangement is further emphasized in this case by photographic evidence showing the window's original nine-over-six sash before the house was renovated in 1916. This unequal arrangement (also including six-over-nine sash in other examples) was the earliest type of double-hung window, typical of the early Georgian period, while the current six-over-six design is typical of the later Georgian period as well as most Colonial Revival examples.

Of lesser significance but still notable are the additions that the house has acquired over its long history. The corner cupboard of the second story's left front chamber is a good example of the history of a house being revealed by personal adaptations of specific elements. Such a cupboard would virtually always be placed in the parlor to show off the household's best china. In this case, tradition maintains that this room was occupied by a maiden lady who had the cupboard installed for her personal satisfaction. The title search indeed suggests such a scenario when the estate of Daniel Lyon, Jr. was probated in 1860. His two sons, Albert J. and Joseph T., received an equal share of the estate, but his daughters Hannah M. and Sarah were given the right to use the front rooms of the second story as long as they remained unmarried⁶.

After the Piers bought the house in 1916, they immediately commissioned a renovation of the now deteriorating structure to make it habitable, ostensibly as the residence of their own farm manager and his family, and without much thought of historical accuracy. Several photographs taken before the renovation show the house with its original narrow

⁶ Greenwich Probate Records. Book 1, Page 229.

clapboards, several original nine-over-six windows, and, in one photograph, the removal of an enclosed front porch, revealing the front chimney posts, the front girt and the narrow Colonial “porch” or front hall and front staircase, all open to the elements. A photograph taken right after the renovation shows the new wood-shingled exterior, six-over-six windows and an entry porch or portico sheltered by a shallow front-gabled roof, its incomplete cornice returns supported by paired posts and its entrance spanned by a segmented arch. Also visible in the photograph is the stone wellhead and an outhouse.

In 1922 the Piers sold the house after adding a kitchen wing to the rear and perhaps by replacing the 1916 entry porch with the present enclosed foyer. The latter could have been commissioned by the Morses during their ownership at any time up to 1930. This foyer is architecturally notable for the elongated fluted entablatures surmounting the pilasters flanking the front door, specifically the row of alternate long and short pendants suspended from the bottom of each architrave as well as the drip marks within the flutes. The pendants would seem to be derived from the guttae of the classical Doric entablature. This inventive design is apparently completely original and represents the more adventurous aspect of Colonial Revival design in the 1920s.

The additions and alterations of 1967 greatly increased the house’s living space but were sensitively designed to defer to the original structure, the additions being essentially hidden at the main house’s façade and subservient to it at the side elevations, the components of which gradually decrease in height to the north. The height and bulk of the middle wing is mitigated by the full-length, one-story ells at both exposed elevations, the second story being, in effect, recessed behind the apparent projection of the main house’s gabled side elevations. The overall design of the west elevation also skillfully incorporates the pre-existing garage, which continues the decrease in roofline height and, due to its gabled façade and projecting position, nicely balances the four-part composition as the counterweight to the main house’s gabled elevation. The rather elaborate gate connecting the garage to the rear or living room wing provides a nice finishing touch to the design, appropriately relegating such relative ostentation to a minor role within the overall restraint of the composition. The design of such additions to a historical structure is critical to the integrity of the structure since it is all too easy to overwhelm the original design. In this case, the original house’s integrity is maintained by its uncompromised façade as well as the incorporation of its side elevations with new additions which are not only aesthetically

suitable but give the impression of having developed over a long period of time, the ultimate complement for designing an addition to a historic house.

SETTING SIGNIFICANCE

The setting of the house is also a notable factor within its overall significance, reflecting the history of the house and its surroundings, as well as complementing it aesthetically. The façade of the original section is oriented almost due south, thereby helping to validate its estimated construction date since Colonial dwellings usually faced south to take advantage of the sun's rays, especially in winter. The house's apparent lack of orientation to the highway, which runs in a north northwesterly direction, derives from the highway's later construction, the road not mentioned in land records until its sale by the original owner to the third owner in 1786.

The setting's present landscape is additionally notable in that the mature trees of the property and its wooded borders reflect the past 100 years of the property's strictly residential use, the open fields of the agricultural past having been replaced by woodland necessary for the rural ideal evident in most of Greenwich, providing screening between adjacent properties. As such, the Gershom Lockwood III House survives today as a readily identifiable Colonial structure, sensitively expanded for modern living requirements, and attractively framed by wooded borders that insulate it from its more recent neighbors, presenting an aesthetic and educational experience to anyone traveling on this stretch of Dingtown Road.

Nils Kerschus

December 2015

Bibliography

Clark, Elizabeth ed. Before & After 1776 – A Comprehensive Chronology of the Town of Greenwich: 1640-1976. Greenwich, CT: Historical Society of the Town of Greenwich, Inc., 1976.

Fairfield, Town of. Probate Records. 1727.

Greenwich, Town of. Assessment Records. 1930-1970.

Greenwich, Town of. Geographical Information System: Topographical Map of 117 Dingtowntown Road, 2015.

Greenwich, Town of. Grand List. 1915-1968.

Greenwich, Town of. Land Records. 1640-1956.

Greenwich, Town of. Probate Records. 1860.

Greenwich Historical Society. Landmark Recognition Program Files.

Greenwich Historical Society. Photograph Files.

Greenwich Time. 2 November 1955, p. 1; 6 July 1992, pA5.

Holder, Frederic A. & E. Dunbar Lockwood, comp. Colonial Revolutionary History of the Lockwood Family in America from A.D. 1630, Philadelphia: privately by the Lockwood family, 1889.

Kelly, Frederick. Connecticut's Old Houses - A Handbook and Guide. Stonington, CT: Reprint Tercentenary Pamphlet Series, Connecticut Tercentenary Commission, 1933-1936.

Kelly, Frederick. Early Domestic Architecture of Connecticut. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1924. Reprint New York: Dover Publications, Inc. 1952.

Larkin, Margaret B. Interviews by author. 2 September; 7, 21 October 2015, Greenwich, CT.

Malcolm, Douglas M. Plans for additions to residence of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Larkin, Jr., 1967.

McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.

Mead, Spencer P. Ye Historie of Ye Town of Greenwich with Genealogical Notes. New York: The Knickerbocker Press, 1911. Reprint, Harrison, NY: Harbor Hill Books, 1979.

Stamford, Town of. Probate Records. 1796.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930. Connecticut. Washington, D.C.: National Archives Microfilm.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. Connecticut. Washington, D.C.: National Archives Microfilm.

(U.S.) Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, S.N.D. North, Director. Heads of Families of the First Census of the United States taken in the year 1790. Connecticut. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1908.

Who Was Who in America. Vol. II, p. 424. Chicago: The A.N. Marquis Co., 1950.