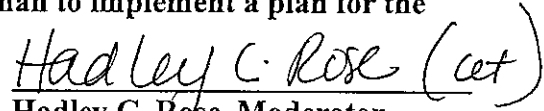


RTM Meeting  
August 2, 2011

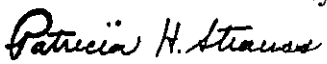
## REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING NOTICE

All Representative Town Meeting Members and inhabitants of the Town of Westport are hereby notified that a meeting of the Representative Town Meeting members will be held at Town Hall, 110 Myrtle Ave., on Tuesday, August 2, 2011, at 8 p.m. for the purposes listed below. If necessary, the meeting shall reconvene on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 to deal with any agenda items not disposed of at the adjournment of the August 2, 2011 meeting.

1. To take such action as the meeting may determine, upon the recommendation of the First Selectman, to reappoint Alexander Balas, Robin Coleman, Anthony Ialeggio, Russell Blair, and Edward Kowalczyk to the Public Site and Building Commission for a term to end June 2015.
2. To take such action as the meeting may determine, upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance and a request by the Deputy Police Chief for an appropriation of \$90,000 to the Railroad Parking Account (Storm Expenses) in order to cover snow removal expenses incurred during the winter storms of 2010-11.
3. To take such action as the meeting may determine, upon the recommendation of the Historic District Commission, to amend Chapter 38-24 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Westport by adding the property and building(s) located at 93 Cross Highway as a historic property. (First reading. Full text available at the Town Clerk Office)
4. To take such action as the meeting may determine to approve the recommendations of the joint committees of the RTM in response to a petition from electors requesting the RTM and the First Selectman to implement a plan for the control of the Town's deer herd.

  
Hadley C. Rose, Moderator

This is to certify that I mailed a copy of the above notice, properly prepaid, to each Representative Town Meeting Member on Monday, July 25, 2011, and that I caused a copy of said notice to be published in the Westport News in its edition of Friday, July 22, 2011.

  
Patricia H. Strauss, Town Clerk

## RESOLUTIONS

(1)

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the First Selectman, the reappointment of Alexander Balas, Robin Coleman, Anthony Ialeggio, Russell Blair, & Edward Kowalcyk to the Public Site and Building Commission for a term to end June 2015 is hereby approved.

(2)

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance and a request by the Deputy Police Chief the sum of \$90,000 to the Railroad Parking Account (Storm Expenses) in order to cover snow removal expenses incurred during the winter storms of 2010-11 is hereby appropriated.

(3)

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Historic District Commission, Chapter 38-24 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Westport is amended by adding the property and building(s) located at 93 Cross Highway as a historic property. (First reading. Full text as follows.)

### ARTICLE II SPECIFIC HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND LANDMARKS

#### 38-24 Historic landmark properties

The property and buildings at 93 Cross Highway, to be known as the Sturges-Wright House, situated in the Town of Westport, County of Fairfield and State of Connecticut being shown and designated as Parcel B-1 on a certain map entitled "Resubdivision Map Prepared for Constance Boylan, Westport, Connecticut" dated January 23, 1995, revised through January 5, 1998, prepared by RKW Land Surveying, which map is on file in the Westport Town Clerk's office as Map No. 9234.

(4)

RESOLVED: That in response to the petition of electors to create and implement a plan for the control of the Town's deer herd, the RTM hereby

A) Supports the recommendations of the Health and Human Services, Environment and Public Protection Committees:

- 1) To implement a public education campaign which would focus on ways to protect against the harmful effects of deer; and
- 2) To create a volunteer board and/or deer warden charged with monitoring advances in deer control techniques; and further

B) Recommends that the joint committees' proposals be sent to the First Selectman.



# WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

GORDON F. JOSELOFF  
First Selectman

BACK UP MATERIAL  
RTM ITEM # 1

June 21, 2011

Mr. Hadley Rose  
Moderator  
Representative Town Meeting  
Town of Westport  
Westport, CT 06880

Dear Hadley:

As First Selectman, I have reappointed the following members of the Public Site & Building Commission of the Town of Westport:

Alexander Balas  
Robin Coleman  
Anthony Ialeggio

Russell Blair  
Edward Kowalcyk

The reappointments are effective immediately for a four-year term, or until June 2015.

Please place the reappointments before the Representative Town Meeting for confirmation.

Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Gordon F. Joseloff  
First Selectman

GFJ:ps  
Enclosure

cc: Joseph Strickland, Chair, Public Site & Building Commission  
Alexander Balas, 15 Colony Road  
Russell Blair, 58 Woodside Avenue, Westport  
Robin Coleman, 13 Burnham Hill, Westport  
Anthony Ialeggio, 166 Kings Highway North, Westport  
Edward Kowalcyk, 135 Regents Park, Westport  
Judith Starr, RTM Public Works Committee  
Patricia Strauss, Town Clerk  
Stephen Smith, Building Official

ALEXANDER BALAS  
15 Colony Road,  
Westport, CT 06880  
203-227 6001  
*alexbalas@yahoo.com*

BACK UP MATERIAL  
RTM ITEM # 1

## BACKGROUND

Management of businesses engaged in manufacturing of mechanical and electronic products. Expertise in industrial engineering, organization, productivity and quality improvement, and systems improvement. Work includes expansion, construction and maintenance of facilities.

## CAREER

Retired from ITT as Director of Operations and headquarters consultant to domestic and international subsidiaries with responsibility for management studies, acquisitions, and new product start-up and improvement projects.

## EDUCATION

B.S.; M.S. Industrial and Management Engineering, Columbia University School of Engineering and Applied Science.  
Registered Professional Engineer.

## MILITARY SERVICE

U. S. Navy WWII and Korea; Two Citations.

## AFFILIATIONS

Life member of the Institute of Industrial Engineers and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

## OTHER

Volunteer work with IESC (International Executive Service Corps) includes extended overseas projects in Indonesia, former Yugoslavia, Russia, India, Ukraine, and Bahrain.  
Westport resident for over 30 years. Three children educated in the Westport school system. Active in volunteer community affairs.

## Robin Bernard Coleman

13 Burnham Hill  
Westport, CT 06880  
USA

Tel: (203) 226-1947  
Fax: (203) 226-1205  
e-mail: runriot@optonline.net

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### SUMMARY

More than twenty years experience in corporate finance, real estate and commercial lending in the USA, Europe and Asia. Specialized expertise in loan restructurings, real estate portfolio and property management, sovereign debt reschedulings, bankruptcies and litigation. Demonstrated ability to improve returns on assets, obtain full loan repayments and maximize recoveries in complex turnaround situations. Chartered Accountant with extensive experience in designing and implementing financial, credit policy and operational systems.

### EXPERIENCE

**BANKERS TRUST COMPANY, New York, NY**

#### Managing Director, Real Estate Investment Banking - Portfolio Group (1993 - 1998)

Managed \$290 million non-performing real estate loan portfolio reporting to Chief Credit Officer. Restructured and/or resolved problem loans with activities including development, management and sale of significant assets. Also provided asset management for \$780 million securitized mortgage-backed loan portfolio.

- Restructured/resolved more than 90% of portfolio's non-performing loans, achieving \$262 million in repayments. In addition, generated \$39 million in fees and interest, and \$15 million in loan loss recoveries.
- Developed, managed and sold ownership position in a 560 unit apartment complex in Alexandria, VA which generated a \$25 million sales profit.
- Refinanced, managed and consulted on selection of a hotel operator for a 170 room hotel and 230,000 SF office/retail complex in Philadelphia, PA. Obtained full repayment of \$44 million restructured obligations.
- Consulted on pre-development phase of a 1,600,000 SF regional mall in Brookhaven, NY working through protracted environmental problems and other litigation. Sold bank's position to venture capital fund before construction needed to commence. Achieved \$21 million recovery.
- Assumed ownership control of a 388,000 SF regional mall in Newburgh, NY. Brought in new management. Undertook an \$8 million renovation with equity-based debt structure. Generated \$2 million in profits.
- Managed \$780 million securitized commercial mortgage-backed loan portfolio, establishing Bankers Trust as a servicing agent. Achieved rating approvals from S&P and Fitch.

#### Managing Director, Credit Policy - Special Loan Group (1990 - 1993)

As agent for groups of banks, managed restructuring/workout of \$2.6 billion corporate loan portfolio. Focused on re-establishing full creditworthiness of corporations by advising on creative financial techniques.

- Resolved more than 98% of portfolio's non-performing loans, achieving full repayment. Generated \$38 million in recoveries and \$7 million in incremental income for Bankers Trust.
- Restructured total financing for \$2 billion building products manufacturer, utilizing "pre-pack" bankruptcy proceedings to contain significant asbestos litigation. Obtained full repayment of \$1.1 billion bank debt. Consulted on new derivative financing products, generating \$1.4 million in incremental fee income for bank.
- Advised on restructure of overall finance requirements for major south-west utility company. Re-established rating with state authority and returned taxable and tax-exempt bonds to full creditworthiness. Obtained full repayment of \$950 million bank debt and generated \$1.9 million in additional fee income for bank.
- Negotiated full repayment of \$120 million debt of a major real estate partnership syndicator, despite personal bankruptcy of owner and attempts by his creditors, including the FDIC, to forestall that result.
- Refinanced \$37 million of debt on two ship leases where bank held equity. Generated \$500,000 in fees.
- Liquidated major New York stock brokerage firm, in process selling viable divisions, disposing of investor and landlord litigation, and permitting repayment of bank group's \$125 million of subordinated debt.
- Sold bank's \$8 million position in syndicator of investment partnerships for a price 15% higher than market.

**Vice President, Credit Policy - International Rescheduling (1983 - 1992)**

Reporting to the Chief Credit Officer of the bank, rescheduled \$27 billion sovereign indebtedness of Nigeria, the Philippines, Yugoslavia, Poland, Morocco, Gabon and the Ivory Coast, acting as agent for participating banks.

- Resolved 72% of problem debt through restructuring, repayments and debt conversions.
- Achieved recoveries of \$710 million on \$985 million problem loan portfolio for Bankers Trust.
- Reduced Philippine portfolio from \$430 million to \$190 million in face of imminent cessation of payments by Philippine government.

**Vice President, International Department - Asia (1980 - 1983)**

Served as Chief Credit Officer and Chief of Staff for Asia Group. Responsible for approval of credit decisions in \$2 billion loan portfolio, administration, financial reporting and operational control of eight branches throughout Asia. Also, provided corporate lending to Asian banks and corporations in the USA and UK.

- Developed computerized loan approval process for branches, reducing turnaround time by 80%.
- Formulated corporate lending strategy for Taiwan and Korea.
- Generated new loan portfolio of \$200 million, achieving annual profits of \$1.5 million.

**Vice President, International Department - Credit Policy (1979 - 1980)**

Created and implemented credit policy procedures and financial "risk-return" model for this newly reorganized department. Approved all credit exposure for \$1.5 billion portfolio in Asia, Africa and Continental Europe.

- Established minimum return criteria for all types of business in International Department.
- Achieved a 20% increase in the return on earnings assets from 1.45% to 1.75%.

**Vice President, International Banking Department - Europe (1977 - 1979)**

**Vice President, International Banking Department - International Finance (1975 - 1977)**

Marketed banking services to governments, banks and corporations in Germany, Switzerland, Austria and Luxembourg. Marketed bank's international network and finance capabilities to Fortune 500 multinationals in New York and New England.

- Established \$70 million loan portfolio and generated \$60 million of interest free balances.
- Achieved annual profits of \$4 million.

**BANKERS TRUST AG, Zurich, Switzerland**

**Commercial Banking, Assistant Director (1973 -1975)**

**Operations and Financial Control, Assistant Director (1971 -1974)**

Marketed commercial banking services to Swiss and Scandinavian multinationals. Established operational and financial functions, including credit policy and internal audit procedures, for new SFr 200 million subsidiary.

- Increased loan portfolio from SFr 20 million to SFr 100 million.
- Achieved annual profits of SFr 1 million.

**PRICE WATERHOUSE, Zurich, Switzerland (1968 - 1971)**

Audit Senior responsible for audit, taxation and related work for multinational corporations operating in Switzerland. Focused on banks, computer/technology and engineering corporations.

**EDUCATION**

Educated in England (dual citizenship: US and British). Elected an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales in 1968; elected a Fellow of the Institute in 1973.

**ANTHONY D. IALEGGIO**

4 Old Mill Road  
Westport, CT 06880  
(203) 227-5236

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**PROFESSIONAL  
EXPERIENCE:**

*A.D Ialeggio Associates*  
1973 – Present  
Westport, CT

- Owner – Residential architecture and design
- Construction management

*Zullo Construction*  
1972 – 1973  
Norwalk, CT

- Project Manager
- Commercial construction
- Organize, schedule, contract review
- Financial analysis

*Diocese of Bridgeport*  
1971 - 1972  
Stamford, CT

- Stamford Catholic High School Mathematics Instructor; geometry, algebra, calculus

**EDUCATION:**

Warren Institute, Hartford, CT  
Post Graduate Degree, Architectural Engineering  
1970 - 1971

Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT  
Bachelor of Science, Mathematics  
1966 – 1970

Central Catholic High School, Norwalk, CT  
1962- 1966

**PERSONAL:**

- Westport resident 1971 – present
- Westport Conservation Commission 1981 – 1985
- National Association of Home Builders – Former Member
- American Institute of Building Designers – Former Member
- Westport Little League Baseball Manager – Former
- Westport Soccer League Coach - Former



## Resume of Russell M. Blair

I moved to Westport in 1936 and attended local schools. During High School I was at a school in New London, Ct. I entered the US Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point N.Y on July 1947. Following graduation in June 1951 I sailed as Assistant Engineer on cargo ships. In 1953 I came ashore and joined the Dorr Company as a Test Engineer at their Laboratory in Westport Ct. This work involved testing various types of ores and other small particles to determine their compatibility with the machinery and processes designed by the company. During this time I also worked at the Engineering Dept in Stamford, Ct. In late 1956 I went on Active duty in the Navy. I was assigned as Engineering Officer on the USS Allagash (AO-97). In early 1959 I was released to inactive status and returned to the Dorr Company where I held positions in the Engineering and Sales Department. In 1963 I joined Warnaco at the position of Assistant Plant Engineer at their Bridgeport Ct. facility. Warnaco was a textile manufacturer. In addition to the Bridgeport plant I was also responsible for maintenance at two textile mills in R.I. In 1966 I was employed by Consolidated Diesel Electric Company in Stamford Ct. I was Manufacturing manager of the Uninterrupted Power Supplies Unit (UPS). These were Diesel engine driven generator units to supply power to communications stations at US Military stations overseas.

In 1969 I joined Slickbar Inc in charge of Product Development. Slickbar is a manufacturer of oil spill containment and recovery equipment. In 1973 I was appointed Executive Vice President and became responsible for all of the companies activities except production. Our customers included all the major oil companies both domestic and international. I gave seminars on Prevention, Planning and Training for Oil Spills at many US and overseas locations. I am the holder of several patents relating to Oil Spill Equipment and Corrosion Protection systems for pilings and offshore structures. I was an active member of ASTM Committee F-20 relating to Standards for Oil Spill Equipment. In 1987 I acquired controlling interest in the company and became President. We continued with the Slickbar product line and expanded into a corrosion protection system for pilings and offshore platforms. We acquired basic patent rights for the product and developed new designs and received several patents. I retired from active participation in the day to day operation of the company in 2002.

In June 1951 I married Isabel Matthews. We have a son and two daughters. We also have four Grand Daughters. In 1969 I retired from the Navy Reserve with the rank of Lt. I became involved in Emergency Services for the Town in 1953. I was a member of a local Volunteer Fire Company for over twenty five years. I became an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in 1973 and Instructor of various EMS medical courses. I am still involved in EMS as a member of the Board of Directors. Since 1999 I have been a member of the School Building Committee for the Board of Education. We have completed \$ 175 million of new construction, renovations and additions. I have been responsible for the mechanical systems on 3 of the 6 projects. I was Project Chairman on a Parking Expansion and Site improvement project.

EDWARD J. KOWALCYK  
4 BARN SWALLOW DRIVE  
WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT 06880  
(203) 226-0565

EXPERIENCE

1974 - PRESENT CITIBANK/CITICORP - NEW YORK

1987 - Present - North American Finance Group  
Vice President & Division General  
Counsel & Corporate Secretary

- o Provide strategic legal, corporate and regulatory counsel to Senior Group management of a \$550MM corporate finance profit center.
- o Perform senior transactor and counsel role on major international countertrade project finance team.
- o Deliver transactional legal support as General Counsel/Corporate Secretary to 15 regional Citicorp North America Lending Facilities and Citicorp International Trading Company.
- o Develop and negotiate letters of credit and reimbursement agreements, corporate electronic banking user agreements and commercial lending documentation.
- o Select and manage external counsel as cost effectively as possible.
- o Lecturer - Letters of Credit and Uniform Commercial Code Seminars.

1984 - 1986 North American Finance Group  
Vice President & Division General  
Counsel & Corporate Secretary

- o Delivered transaction level legal support to 17 regional Citibank International and Citicorp, USA facilities, plus Citibank Delaware.
- o Negotiated multi-million dollar telecommunication, hardware and software contracts, and multi-user proprietary software licenses.

1980 - 1983 Audit Division - Counsel Staff  
Vice President & Deputy Department Head

- o Directed 30 person professional unit in providing corporate level, large dollar litigation and legal dispute resolution on a global basis relating to operating, loan work out and fidelity matters.

1977 - 1979 Audit Division - Vice President &  
Program Director

- o Directed 35 person professional staff in performing financial, operational and regulatory audits of the Finance, Leasing, Real Estate and Treasury Divisions.

1976 Comptroller's Division - Analysis & Control  
Assistant Vice President

- o Developed and implemented Comptroller's Division worldwide financial reporting system.

1975 Operating Group - Telecommunications & Technical Services Division - Financial Controller

- o Directed Data Center Operations while responsible for computer based systems including financial reporting, information systems, production, risk anticipation, quality assurance and special projects.

1974 Operating Group - Management Office - Senior Financial Analyst-Production Base Products

1972 - 1974 PORT AUTHORITY OF NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY

Aviation Department - Director's Office  
Program Manager

- o Performed project studies of a financial planning and evaluation nature, including the PA's compliance with Federal anti-hijacking statutes and three airport restaurant concession turnover.
- o J. F. Kennedy Airport - responsible for management office contract, budget, personnel and control functions.

#### EDUCATION & BAR ADMISSION

May 1968 University of Pennsylvania - B.S. Degree  
December 1971 University of Pennsylvania - MBA Degree  
(Wharton Graduate School of Finance)  
December 1979 New York Law School - J.D. Degree  
June 1980 New York State Bar

#### MILITARY EXPERIENCE

1968 - 1970 U.S. Army - Finance Corps - 1st Lieutenant,  
Special Forces (Airborne), Bangkok, Thailand/Ft.  
Dix

#### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Bar Association  
New York State Bar Association  
Association of the Bar of the City of New York

BACK UP MATERIAL  
RTM ITEM # 2



## Memorandum

Approved BOF 6/1/11  
\$90,000 Appropriation to  
Railroad Parking Fund Account  
(Storm Expenses)

**RECEIVED**

MAY 17 2011

TOWN OF WESTPORT  
SELECTMAN'S OFFICE

To RTM 7/12/11

**To:** Gordon Joseloff, First Selectman

**CC:** Al Fiore, Chief of Police

John Kondub, Finance Director

**From:** Deputy Chief Dale Call

**Date:** May 17, 2011

**Re:** Railroad station snow removal – additional expenses appropriation request

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Due to the unusually high snowfall amounts this winter the Westport Police Department Railroad Parking Division snow removal budget was overspent by \$90,000.


Snow removal at the train stations not only includes the parking lots but also the platforms and the stairs, all of which have to be sanded and cleaned even if snowfall is light to protect the safety of the commuters using the stations.

The amount budgeted for snow removal in this fiscal year was \$125,000 which was expended by mid-January 2011.

The rail station snow removal expenses from the January snowstorms were included by the Highway Department in the amount submitted for federal aid and some money should be returned to the Town as a result.

The Westport Police Department requests an appropriation of \$90,000 for additional snow removal expenses incurred as a result of the winter storms of 2010-2011.

Approved for submission to the  
Board of Finance (6/1/11)

  
Gordon F. Joseloff  
First Selectman



## Westport Historic District Commission

Town Hall

Westport, Conn. 06880

BACK UP MATERIAL  
RTM ITEM # 3

TO: Patricia Strauss, Town Clerk  
Hadley Rose, RTM Moderator

FROM: *Carol* Leahy, CLG Coordinator/HDC Staff Administrator

DATE: July 13, 2011

RE: Proposed Local Historic Property Designation at 93 Cross Highway  
Edward F. Gerber, Property Owner

At its July 12, 2011 public hearing, the Historic District Commission approved the final study report with no amendments for the proposed local historic property designation at 93 Cross Highway to be known as the Sturges-Wright House c. 1764-1767. Attached are copies of letters received by the Historic District Commission from the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, State Historic Preservation Office, and the Westport Planning and Zoning Commission stating their approval of the study report and support for the proposed designation.

The Historic District Commission requests the RTM enact an ordinance containing a legal description of the property and transmit to the Town Clerk a copy of the ordinance to be recorded on the land records.

Thank you.

Enclosures (2)

cc: Eileen Flug, RTM Ordinance Committee



Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism

Historic Preservation  
and Museum Division

One Constitution Plaza  
Second Floor  
Hartford, Connecticut  
06103

860.256.2800  
860.256.2763 (f)

RECEIVED

JUN 21 2011

HISTORIC DISTRICT  
COMMISSION

June 3, 2011

Ms. Margaret Feczko  
Chair, Westport Historic District Commission  
Town Hall, Room 108  
110 Myrtle Ave.  
Westport, CT 06880

Re: Proposed Historic Property Designation at 93 Cross Highway, Westport, CT

Dear Ms. Feczko:

I am pleased to inform you that at its June 1, 2011 meeting, the Historic Preservation Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Westport Historic District Commission's study report for the proposed historic property at 93 Cross Highway.

The council fully supports and encourages the ongoing efforts of the Westport Historic District Commission to protect and preserve the Town of Westport'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,

Mary Dunne  
Local Government Grants Coordinator

Cc: Carol Leahy, CLG Coordinator and Historic District Commission Liaison



## WESTPORT CONNECTICUT

PLANNING & ZONING  
TOWN HALL, 110 MYRTLE AVENUE  
WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT 06880  
(203) 341-1030 • (203) 341-1079  
(203) 454-6145 • fax

RECEIVED

MAY 25 2011

HISTORIC DISTRICT  
COMMISSION

### Memorandum

To: Historic District Commission

From: Larry Bradley, Director Planning and Zoning

Date: May 23, 2011

Re: **Proposed Local Historic Property Designation at 93 Cross Highway**

Please be advised that on May 19, 2011 at their regularly scheduled meeting, the Planning and Zoning Commission voted 7 – 0 to recommend approval for the above referenced property as a local historic property.

STUDY REPORT FOR  
PROPOSED HISTORIC PROPERTY DESIGNATION AT  
93 CROSS HIGHWAY  
APRIL 2011



Town of Westport  
Historic District Commission  
Prepared by HDC Study Committee  
(Research by Bob Weingarten and Property Owner Edward F. Gerber  
in collaboration with HDC Chairman Maggie Feczko, Vice Chairman Francis Henkels  
and HDC Staff Administrator Carol Leahy and  
edited by Consultant Tod Bryant, Architectural Historian)





## Westport Historic District Commission

Town Hall, Room 108

110 Myrtle Avenue

Westport, Connecticut 06880

April 13, 2011

State Historic Preservation Council  
Commission on Culture and Tourism  
Historic Preservation and Museum Division  
One Constitution Plaza, Second Floor  
Hartford, CT 06103

**RE: Proposed Historic Property Designation at 93 Cross Highway**

Dear Council Members:

In October 2010, a letter of request by the property owner was submitted to the Historic District Commission members to designate 93 Cross Highway as a local historic property.

At a public hearing on November 9, 2010, the Commission approved this property for study. The Commission supports this designation for the following reasons:

- The property owner supports the designation as a local historic property.
- The 2007 Westport Plan of Conservation and Development states that in order to maintain the town's historic character and qualities represented in its many significant buildings, structure, monuments, landscapes, cemeteries, public right of way, districts and sites, the Historic District Commission should propose, as appropriate, the establishment of additional local historic districts and local historic properties as defined by state statute.

The study report has been completed and, in accordance with CGS sec. 147(b), is being submitted to you for your comments and recommendations.

The following items are included for your review:

- Statement of significance
- A survey map of the proposed local historic property
- Site map and current photographs of the property
- Historic Property Inventory Form
- Town Ordinance with boundary description
- The letter of petition received from the property owner, and property owner contact information

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Francis H. Henkels  
Acting Chairman, Historic District Commission

cc: Gordon F. Joseloff, First Selectman; Larry Bradley, Dir. of Planning and Zoning; Hadley Rose, RTM Moderator; Gail Kelly, Town Attorney; Patricia Strauss, Town Clerk; Steve Edwards, Dir. of Pub. Works

93 Cross Highway  
Sturges-Wright House c. 1764-1767

## Statement of Significance

### Description

The house at 93 Cross Highway is a two story saltbox, originally built by Eliphalet Sturges c. 1764-1767 in the Georgian style. It was later remodeled to its current saltbox form by George Hand Wright in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Wright was a renowned illustrator and a small, one story studio, which he converted from an old farm building, is also on the property.

### Setting

The house faces southeast on the north side of Cross Highway. It is on a 1.57 acre parcel and is set back approximately 45 feet from the road. The lot is bordered by mature deciduous trees along the road on the south side and mature evergreens on the east and part of the north edges of the property. A small studio, built in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century by the illustrator George Hand Wright is situated behind and to the west of the main house. A 20<sup>th</sup> century detached two car garage was added to the east side of the property behind a capped stone well, date unknown. The house is surrounded by residential properties, old and new, on large lots.

According to historian Dorothea Malm, the first property transfer relating to 93 Cross Highway was in 1764. Jeremiah Sturges, because of the "love, good will and affection" he bore for his son Eliphalet, gave him 15 acres of land in "part of Long Lott that is called old Barlows Lott." Then two and a half years later the same property identified as the "part of Barlows Long Lott" but with a "Dwelling House" was sold to Daniel Sherwood by Eliphalet. The reference in the deed to the "old Barlows Long Lott" is key to determining the location of the "Dwelling House" currently referred to as 93 Cross Highway.

The Barlow family did indeed participate in several of the Fairfield land grants including the Long Lott grants of 1670-71 recorded on December 30, 1681. But the specific location of each of the "Long Lotts" granted land was not accurately identified in the land grant documents until Fairfield created a committee in 1758 to legalize and document the owners and bounds of each lot granted.

The 1758 document listed ownership of all the "Long Lotts" grants by proximity. Malm superimposed the 1758 ownership record of the granted land onto a 1980 map of the Long Lots Road area. This technique showed that "old Barlows Long Lott" corresponded to the property now identified as 93 Cross Highway. See map in Appendix A and history of the Long Lotts grants in Appendix B.

### Architectural Description

#### **Exterior**

The house is a three bay, two story, Colonial saltbox with a central chimney. It is a wood frame structure on a rubble stone foundation. The house is sheathed in painted clapboard on the façade and brown- stained shingles on the other three sides. It has an asphalt roof. The windows are double

hung with nine-over-six sash. The central entrance is set with a tripartite frontispiece and a shed-roofed porch with Tuscan columns and benches. A square, flush-sided bay with pilasters opens to the west elevation. (Photos 1 and 2.)

This historic house has evolved over three centuries and it was not originally a saltbox. It is theorized by architectural historian Charles Brilvitch (who wrote a report on the house for the former owners in 1980) that the oldest part of the house is the two story western section which includes the main entrance and chimney stack. Construction details indicate that this section may have been built as early as the 17<sup>th</sup> century and then moved to the current site from another location. (Figure 1). This section of the house shows several features typical of first period construction, including an exposed gunstock post in the second floor chamber (Photo 3), massive timbers and an, " ...unusual cambered chimney girt with its ornamental hewn ends." Factoring in the land record (of the property transfer with a dwelling in 1767), sometime between 1764 and 1767, the older western portion of the house may have been relocated or rebuilt on the property, the eastern section of the house was added and a new roof built to create the basic Georgian form that underlies the current structure (Photo 1). The chimney stack may have been rebuilt at that time.



Fig. 1. Phase 1 Illustration by Charles Brilvitch

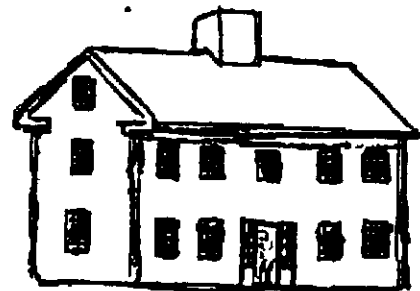


Fig. 2 . Phase 2 Illustration by Charles Brilvitch



Photo 1: Three Phases of Evolution of Existing Structure (Including 20<sup>th</sup> Century Addition)

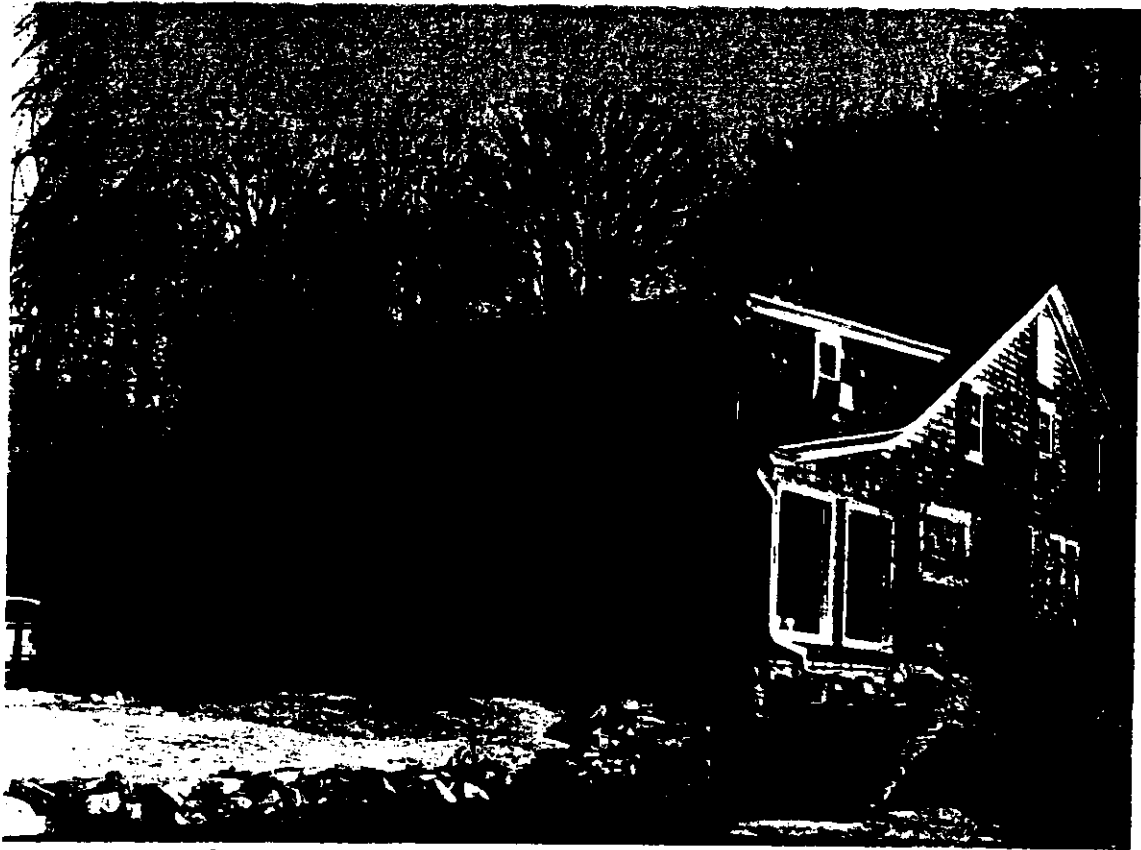


Photo 2. Northwest and west elevations, view south.

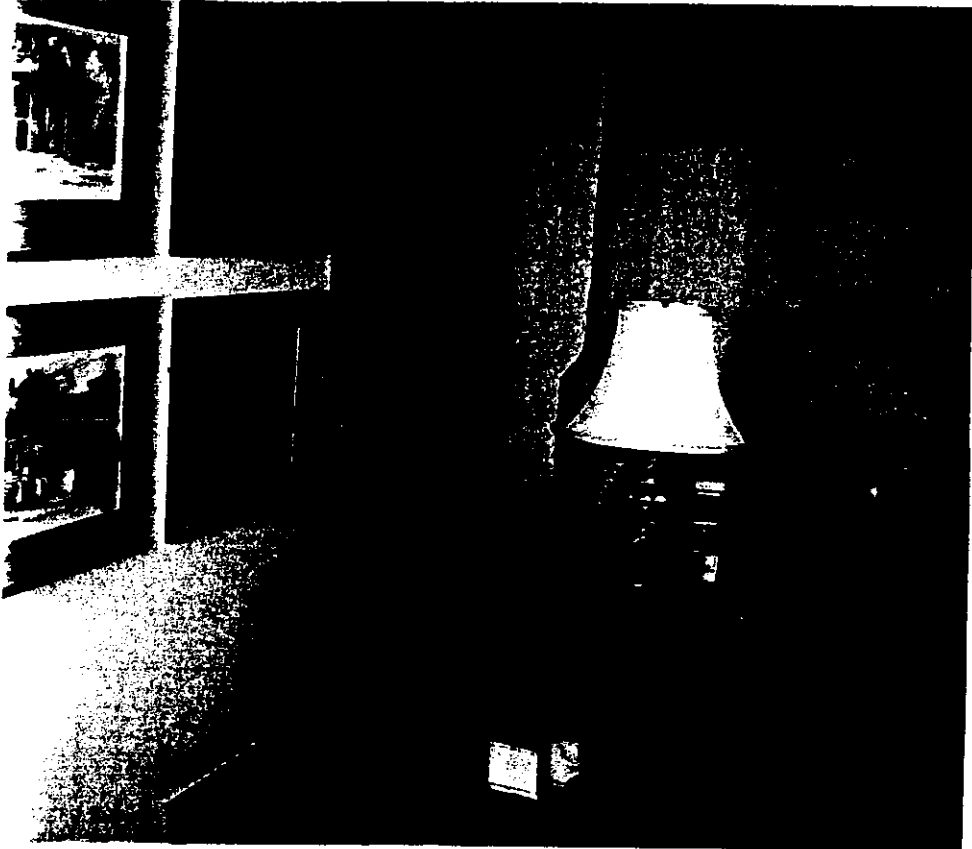


Photo 3. Gunstock post.

The third phase of construction took place in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. A first floor kitchen, bedroom, bath and porch with two bedrooms and bath above on the second floor were added to the rear of the house with an extended roof changing the appearance of the house to a saltbox with a large shed dormer. (Photo 2.) The front portico with its Tuscan columns, typical of the Colonial Revival, was also added at this time (Photo 1).

## Interior

The house is a two story structure with a full unfinished basement. The attic is above the c. 1764-1767, 4 room/2 story structure (Photo 4). At first, the two rooms on the first floor were used as living space and a kitchen. There was a hearth in each room sharing a central fireplace stack. The Phase 2 house may also have retained the 17<sup>th</sup> century arrangement inside the front entry way, which would have included a narrow, winding staircase for access to the upstairs bedrooms.



Photo 4. Attic and interior roof structure.

George Hand Wright bought the house in its 18<sup>th</sup> century Georgian form, a simple four room home, in 1908. This era was the height of the early Colonial Revival period and he fully embraced that aesthetic in his work on the Sturges-Wright House. The staircase was later moved to the rear of the house. Along with the major structural changes already mentioned, he also added cabinetry, paneling and other details to the existing 18<sup>th</sup> century work. The changes were so well done that it is

sometimes impossible to distinguish the old work from the new without disassembling it. The effect is that of the home of a moderately well-to-do family in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. (photo 5).

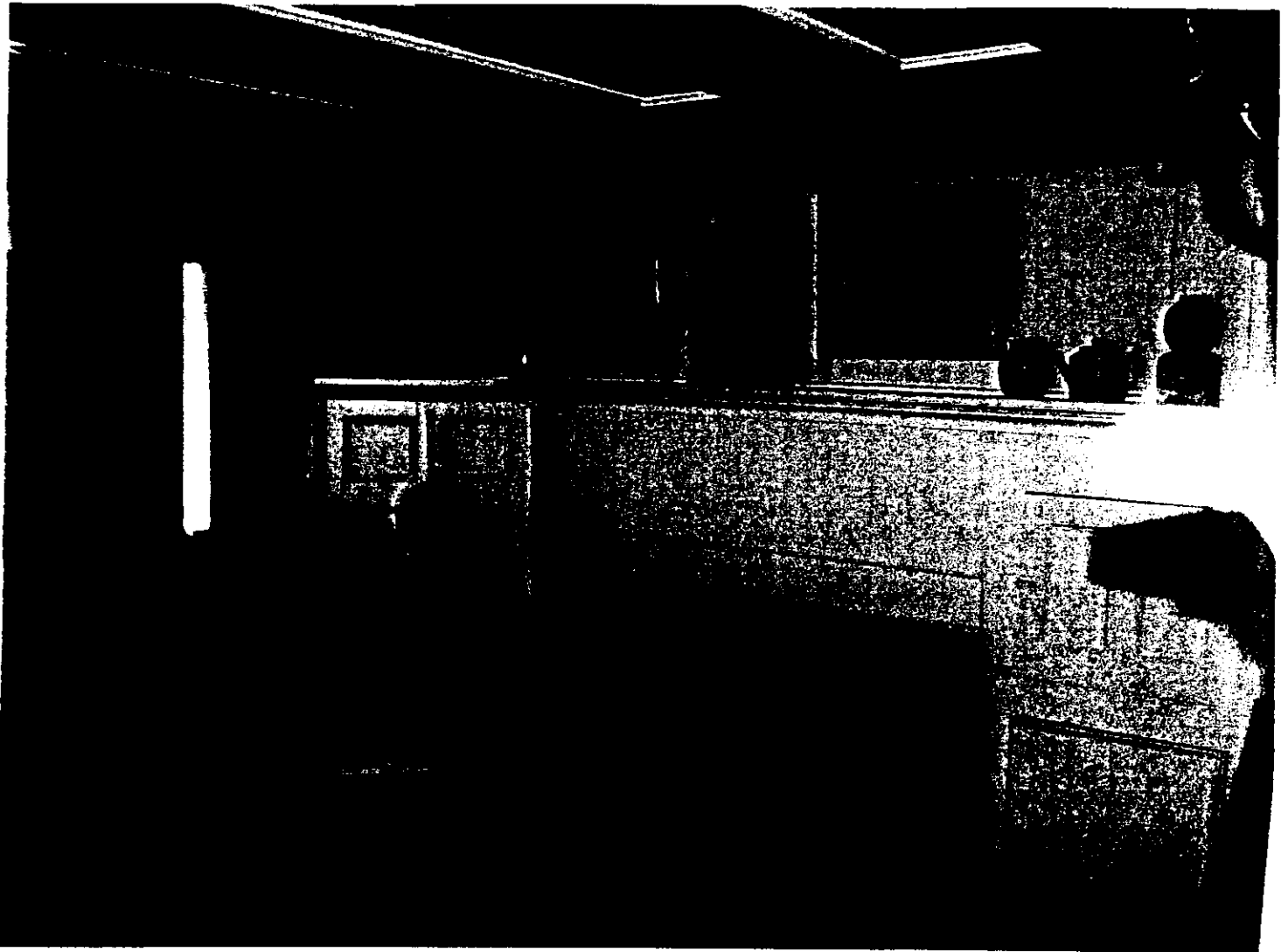


Photo 5. Parlor hearth and probable 20<sup>th</sup> century paneling.

### **Elphalet Sturges - Wright House - Historic Significance**

The period of historic significance for the Sturges-Wright House at 93 Cross Highway is c. 1764 to 1951. This period stretches from the earliest probable date of construction through the time of George Hand Wright's Colonial Revival changes and his period of residence. This house is a remarkable record of 350 years of building styles and techniques. It illustrates how a house can continue to be a family home; can change with the times and still retain the look and feel of the past.

The Elphalet Sturges-Wright House is also significant in African-American history. The last Sturges owner of the house, Peter W. Sturges, died in 1890 and his will provided for the distribution of his land and possessions, as well as some cash to family and friends. However, it also included the direction that before any other bequest be paid, but after payment of his debts, all his property should be given to, "...my faithful friend and housekeeper, Amelia Munroe, to her sole use during

the time of her natural life." Amelia was a black woman who cared for Peter after the death of his wife. This must have been an unusual bequest in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The will was probably fully executed after her death in 1894.

The 1880 U.S. Census for Westport does not include addresses, but the census taker did complete the column headed, "Dwelling houses numbered in order of visitation." Peter W. Sturges, a white farmer, age 71, and Amelia Monroe, a black servant, age 73, are listed at number 126. We know that Peter W. Sturges lived at 93 Cross Highway in 1880, so it is reasonable to assume that number 126 refers to that house. Number 127 includes Henry Monroe, an 80 year old black farmer, and his 69 year old wife, Phoebe. The Henry and Lyzette Munroe House, the home of Amelia's brother, at 108 Cross Highway, has recently been included in the Connecticut Freedom Trail in recognition of Connecticut's African American ancestry.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Century - George Hand Wright

George Hand Wright (1873-1951) married in 1906 and moved to Westport from New York in 1908 to live with his new wife at 93 Cross Highway. He would eventually be known as the dean of Westport artists and the founding father of the art colony. His obituary in the *Westporter-Herald* on March 22, 1951 said of him: "During the 1920s he was ranked as the undisputed top illustrator in the nation."

Wright studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts along with such influential artists as John Sloan, Robert Henri and William Glackens. He began his career as a jewelry designer for top New York City firms, possibly including Tiffany, but soon switched to illustration. He was elected to the prestigious Salamagundi Club in 1893 and this event marked his acceptance into the elite of the New York art world. By 1899, at the age of 27, he was known as one of the best in his field and he sold illustrations to *Harper's*, *The Century* and *Scribner's*, *The Saturday Evening Post* and many others. He was in great demand and between 1900 and 1910 he illustrated fourteen novels in addition to his regular illustration work. By the 1920s, Wright began to do less commercial work and more fine art. He eventually switched almost entirely to watercolor painting and etching. He continued to work in these media throughout the 1930s and into the 1940s. He was so widely respected in the Westport art community, that he was considered its "elder statesman." Wright continued to live and work at the Sturges-Wright House until his death in 1951.

## Current Status

Edward F. Gerber, the current owner at 93 Cross Highway, purchased the property on April 1, 2010. However, the property was not new to him, since he acquired it from the estate of Constance Boylan, the widow of his godfather, Frank J. Boylan. Gerber spent his entire life exploring and studying the interior and exterior of the property and at an early age became concerned about its future preservation. Since purchasing the house, he has upgraded multiple systems, painted, plastered and refinished floors - always keeping in mind the age and history of the house. Additionally, with the guidance of the Westport Conservation Department, he has spent considerable time and energy returning the grounds to their former state. He was very pleased to find the original stone boundary walls hidden under many years of over growth, as well as the borders of the pond. Gerber is a major

collector of the work of artist George Hand Wright, his godfather's uncle and property owner at 93 Cross Highway from 1908 until his death in 1951. Wright's appropriate 20<sup>th</sup> century renovations are visible throughout the house. In 2008, Gerber published a study of Wright the artist entitled *George Hand Wright: An Artist's Life Examined*", which contains reproductions of several of Wright's renderings of the property. Once the property is designated a local historic landmark property, Gerber stated he "can rest easy because it will be preserved for generations to come."

## References

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Deeds from Westport, Connecticut, 1835- present.

Farnham, Thomas. "Fairfield: The Biography of a Community 1639-2000".

Jensen, Kirsten M. *George Hand Wright: An Artist's Life Examined*. Westport, CT: PEN Press, 2007.

Malm, Dorothea. "History of 93 Cross Highway, Westport, Connecticut ". Westport, CT, 1980.

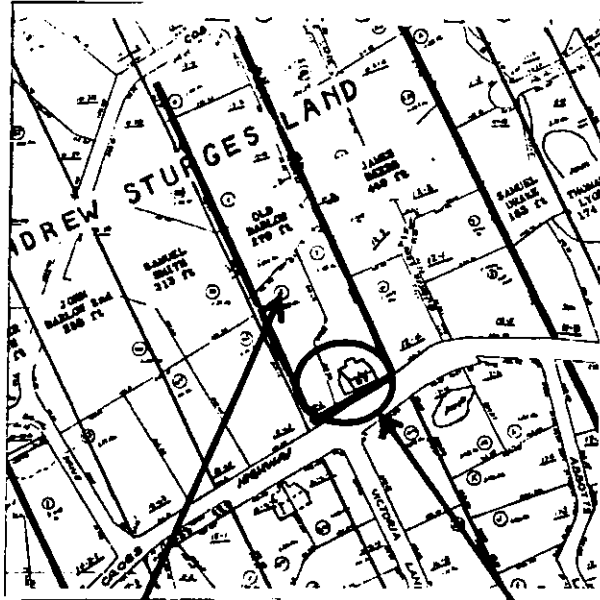
McCahon, Mary E. *Sturges-Wright House*. Hartford, CT: Connecticut Historical Commission, 1988.

Schenk, Elizabeth. *The History of Fairfield, Fairfield County, Connecticut*. Fairfield: Elizabeth Schenk, 1905.

Tarrant, Dorothy and John Tarrant. *A Community of Artists: Westport-Weston, 1900-1985*. Westport, CT: Westport-Weston Arts Council, 1985.

United States Census Bureau. 1880. Tenth Census of the United States. U. S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC.





Old Barlows Long Lott

93 Cross Highway  
House

Appendix A  
Long Lots Map - Dorothea Malm

## Appendix B

### Historical Significance of "Long Lotts"

A reference to the "old Barlows Long Lott" was documented in early deeds which appear to be the location of the property at the 93 Cross Highway. In order to confirm that the deeds were actually referring to this property, some examination of the history of Fairfield and its "Long Lotts" land grants to settlers in 1670-71 is necessary.

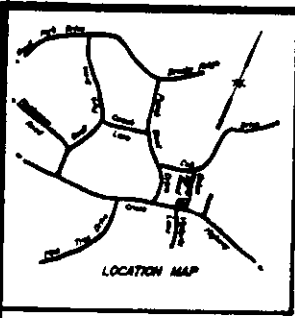
Fairfield was incorporated in 1639. In 1649 land was acquired by Fairfield from the Maxumux and Sasqua Indian tribes and then from the Pequannock Indians in 1656. All the land was owned by the Colony of Fairfield and a quit claim deed was subsequently written dealing with the acquired land from all the Indian tribes on March 20, 1660.

During this time period the settlers in Fairfield were concerned with what Charles II, the new English King, would do with the colony-owned undivided land. Afraid that the King would expropriate the land, Fairfield decided to distribute ("grant") the acquired land to its settlers in an attempt to make the land more secure.

Major land grants were proclaimed starting in January 1662 to 1669 with 320 acres located in the southeastern and southwestern parts of Fairfield. The land grants continued in 1669 with the distribution of 415 acres of land west of the Mill River and known as the Sasqua, deeded to 68 residents.

In 1670/71, the "Long Lotts" grant, a much larger land grant, was issued to 99 individuals and 2 institutions. The town established a Half Mile of Common from the Stratford line to Compo. On either side of this Mile Common the town created the "Long Lotts" which extended perpendicular to the Common from the Norwalk line to the Stratford line. These "Long Lotts" varied in width from 3 rods or 50 feet to 53 rods or 875 feet and extended for about 10 miles north with an average of about 490 acres. The total amount of land granted in 1670/71 was about 52,000 acres or approximately 81 square miles. The town granted these "Long Lotts" including home-lots and pastures for an average of 513 acres per individual.

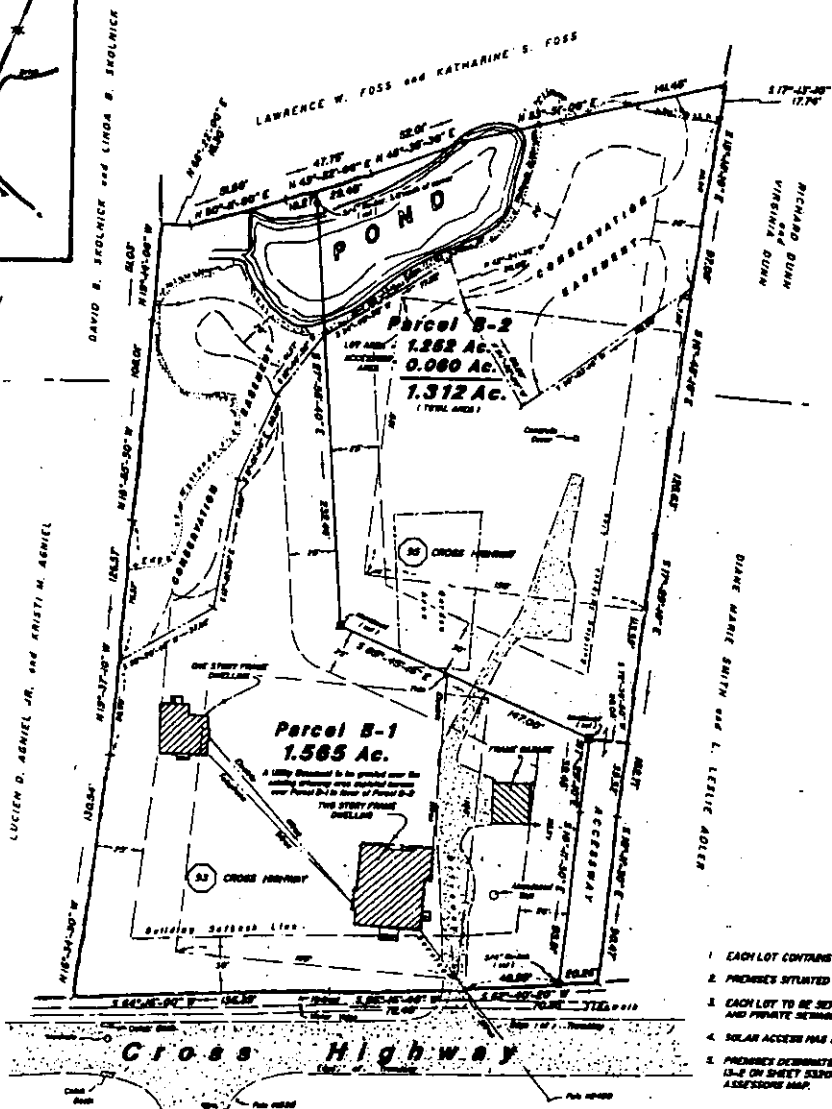
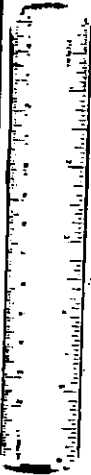
The land at 93 Cross Highway was granted in the 1670/71 "Long Lotts" distribution.



PLANNING & SURVEYING  
 1000 W. MAIN ST.  
 WESTPORT, CT 06894  
 TEL. 860-261-1200

9234

9234



1. EACH LOT CONTAINS A 150' x 150' SQUARE
2. PREMISES SITUATED IN "AA" RESIDENCE ZONE
3. EACH LOT TO BE SERVED BY PUBLIC WATER AND PRIVATE WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES
4. SOLAR ACCESS HAS BEEN CONSIDERED
5. PREMISES DETERMINED AS 150' LOT (B-1) AND 150' x 150' ON SHEET 9234-2 ON THE WESTPORT ASSESSORS MAP.

9234

**RESUBDIVISION MAP  
 PREPARED FOR  
 CONSTANCE BOYLAN  
 WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT  
 AA RESIDENCE ZONE  
 AREA = 2.877 ACRES**

APPROVED BY THE WESTPORT PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION  
*Chas. D. [Signature]* 1/24/98  
 COMMISSIONER DATE

APPROVED BY THE WESTPORT / WESTON HEALTH DISTRICT  
 DIRECTOR *[Signature]* 1/24/98  
 SUPERVISOR APPROVAL DATE 1/24/98  
 WORK COMPLETION DATE N/A

RECEIVED ON FILE IN THE WESTPORT TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
 AT 2:25 P.M. 1-23-98  
 BY *[Signature]* TOWN CLERK  
 FILE NO. 9234/19

1. ALL WORK APPROVED FORWENT TO THE SUPERVISOR SHALL BE COMPLETED WITHIN A YEAR OF THE DATE OF APPROVAL, BY APRIL 30, 1998.
2. ALL NEW UTILITIES SHALL BE PLACED UNDERGROUND.
3. THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROTECTED HEREON SHALL BE RETURNED IN ITS ENTIRE STATE, EXCEPT FOR REMOVAL OF REMAINS, TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT AS A CONDITION OF ANY FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS LAND. THIS SHALL BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT BY THE TOWN OF WESTPORT.
4. SUBJECT TO ELECTRIC AND/OR TELEPHONE COMPANY ELEMENTS, IF ANY, THE APPLICANT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF SUCH UTILITIES.
5. THE APPLICANT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL UTILITIES UNDERGROUND.
6. UTILITIES HERE FIELD DETERMINED BY CHANGING THE SERVICE CONNECTIONS OF ANY GAS AND FUEL LOCATED BY A R.E.P. LAND SURVEYOR OR G.E.P.
7. ALTERNATIVE TO THIS MAP OTHER THAN BY A LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR IS ALLOWED.
8. APPLICANT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL UTILITIES UNDERGROUND.

LOT	AREA OF LOT	AREA OF SETBACK	AREA OF SETBACK	AREA OF SETBACK	AREA OF SETBACK	AREA OF SETBACK
B-1	1.565	0.060	1.262	0.060	1.312	2.934
B-2	1.565	0.060	1.262	0.060	1.312	2.934
TOTAL	3.130	0.120	2.524	0.120	2.644	2.877

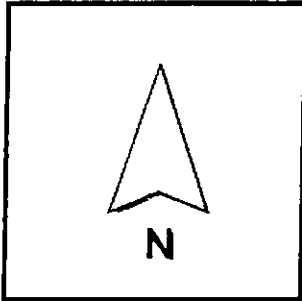
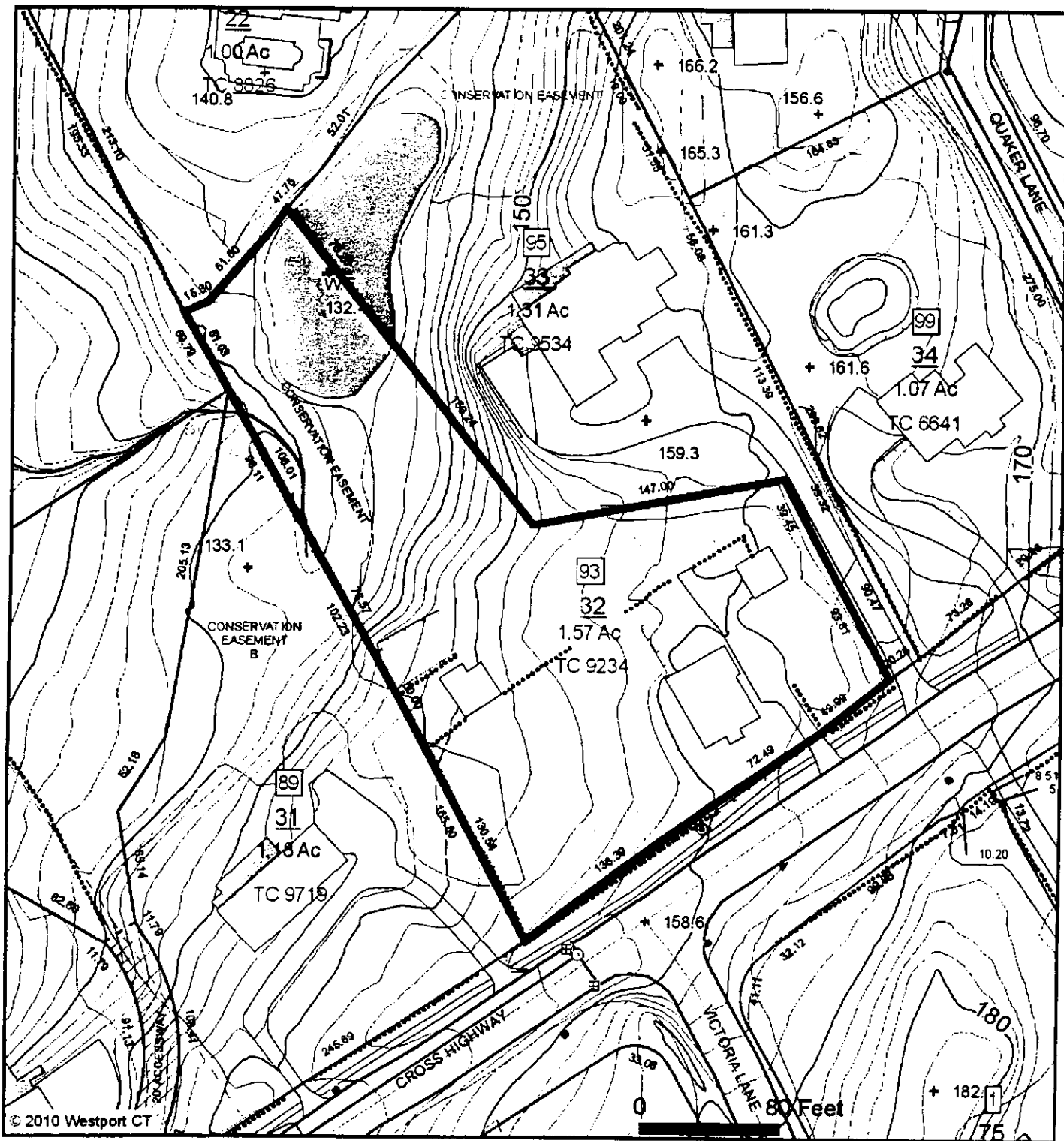
9234

SCALE: 1" = 40'



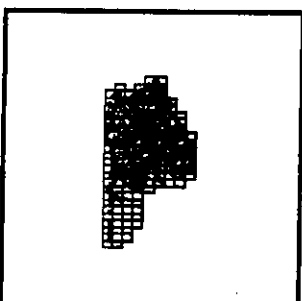
**R K W LAND SURVEYING**  
 NEW CANAAN, CONNECTICUT  
 TEL. 860-896-3200

SURVEY DATE: JANUARY 23, 1998  
 APPROVED: [Signature] 1/24/98  
 LAND SURVEYOR



**93 CROSS HIGHWAY**

This data is prepared for Westport, CT and is compiled from recorded deeds, plats, taxmaps, surveys, planimetric maps, and other public records and data. Users of this information are hereby notified that the aforementioned public primary information sources should be consulted for verification of the information contained on the map. Westport and its mapping contractors assume no legal responsibility for the information contained herein.



**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY  
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES**

1-6 REV. 6/82

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106  
(203) 566-3005

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.: <b>115</b>
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT	IF NR, SPECIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

1. BUILDING NAME (Common)		(Historic)	
Sturges-Wright House		Eliphalet Sturges House	
2. TOWN CITY		VILLAGE	COUNTY
Westport			Fairfield
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)			
93 Cross Highway 5320-2/13-1			
4. OWNER(S)			
Boylan, Frank & Constance <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private			
5. USE (Present)		(Historic)	
Residence		Residence	
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:	EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD	INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE	IF YES, EXPLAIN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
7. STYLE OF BUILDING		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	
Colonial/Colonial Revival		1764-7, ca. 1912	
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard facade	<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Brick	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle Sides	<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:	
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM			
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	<input type="checkbox"/> balloon	
<input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry		<input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)			
10. ROOF (Type)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable	<input type="checkbox"/> Flat	<input type="checkbox"/> Mansard	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Hip	<input type="checkbox"/> Round <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
(Material)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt	<input type="checkbox"/> Tin	<input type="checkbox"/> Slate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Built up	<input type="checkbox"/> Tile	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
11. NUMBER OF STORIES	APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS		
2	34x41		
12. CONDITION (Structural)		(Exterior)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY (Location)		WHEN ?	(Alterations)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
14. RELATED BUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
			studio
<input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house	<input type="checkbox"/> Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Garden	
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT			
<input type="checkbox"/> Open land	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood-land	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input type="checkbox"/> High building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS			

House is set behind a fieldstone wall. Garden to rear and west. Contributes greatly to character of the street.

17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The five-bay, central chimney. colonial saltbox is one of the most successful academic revival remodeling of a period house in Westport. Finished with a clapboarded facade and weathered shingled sides, the house was reworked ca. 1912. It was not originally a saltbox. Nine-over-twelve windows are used throughout and the overhanging eaves are boxed. The central entrance is set with a tripartite frontispiece and a shed-roofed porch with Tuscan columns and benches. A square, flush-sided bay with pilasters opens the west elevation. Of particular note is the unusual braced summer beam in the west chamber on the second level. The detail does not appear anywhere else in the house, suggesting that portions of the second level post and beam (see continuation sheet)

18. ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

Jeremiah Sturges gave his son Eliphalet 15 acres of Old Barlow's Long Lott "a little west of my dwelling house (non-extant) by the first cross highway" in 1764, and Eliphalet built the house, apparently using some salvaged materials. 2 1/2 years later Eliphalet Sturges sold the house and 4 acres to Daniel Sherwood 4th (FLR 14:497, 16:230, 28:206). Andrew Sturges bought the property from Sherwood in 1796, and it remained in the family until 1900. In 1908 it was purchased by George Hand Wright (1873-1951), dean of the Westport artists and the founder of the art colony. Wright, a renowned illustrator, was the first artist to move to Westport, and at his encouragement, many others followed. Because of his friendly, helping nature, he was one of the most liked and respected of the many artists who resided in Westport. Wright lived permanently at the (see continuation sheet) ?

SOURCES

Westport Historical Society: House file.  
Adams Manuscript.  
Tarrant. A community of Artists.

PHOTO  
COMPILED BY

PHOTOGRAPHER

DATE

Mary E. McCahon

May, 1988

VIEW

NEGATIVE ON FILE

southeast

CHC 6:11

NAME

DATE

Mary E. McCahon, Architectural Historian

June, 1988

ORGANIZATION

Westport Historic District Commission

ADDRESS

Town Hall Westport, Conn. 06880



20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

- None known
- Highways
- Vandalism
- Developers
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Renewal
- Private
- Deterioration
- Zoning
- Expropriation \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM  
For Buildings and Structures

115

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:		
UTM: 18/	/	/	/
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:	S	NR:	ACTUAL POTENTIAL

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Item 17

93 Cross Highway

framing was salvaged from an earlier building. The dining room has an early 20th century Colonial Revival paneled dado. Ceiling joists are exposed on the first level and the west fireplace is set with a Federal style mantel.

Item 19

Cross Highway farm, which he greatly improved, until his death in 1951. His widow, Anne, bequeathed the property to their nephew, Frank Boylan, the current owner, in 1955 (124:171). Mrs. Boylan is a portrait painter.

The present appearance of the house dates to the Wright ownership. Originally a central chimney, 5-bay colonial with the traditional 5-room plan on the first floor, the house was enlarged by a leanto and subsequent rear additions. It was not originally a saltbox. The west chamber on the second level is framed with massive gunstock posts and braced beams that are most unusual. Their presence in only that chamber suggests that they are reused or salvaged. It is not customary for houses to have varied framing.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

**CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT 06106

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM**  
For Buildings and Structures

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Item number: \_\_\_\_\_

PAL, Pawtucket, RI 02860  
June 2000

**Address:** 93 Cross Highway

**Name:** Eliphalet Sturges/ George Hand  
Wright House

**NR District:**

**Local District:**

**Neg No.:** 2:17

**HRS ID No.:** 0215





**ARTICLE II**  
**SPECIFIC HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND LANDMARKS**

**38-24 Historic landmark properties**

The property and buildings at 93 Cross Highway, to be known as the Sturges-Wright House, situated in the Town of Westport, County of Fairfield and State of Connecticut being shown and designated as Parcel B-1 on a certain map entitled "Resubdivision Map Prepared for Constance Boylan, Westport, Connecticut" dated January 23, 1995, revised through January 5, 1998, prepared by RKW Land Surveying, which map is on file in the Westport Town Clerk's office as Map No. 9234.

Historic District Commission Chairman  
Ms Maggie Feczko  
Town hall  
Room 108  
110 Myrtle Avenue  
Westport, Connecticut  
06880

**RECEIVED**

OCT 12 2010

HISTORIC DISTRICT  
COMMISSION

October 11, 2010

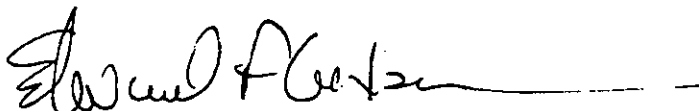
Dear Ms Feczko,

When I purchased the Eliphalet Sturges/George H. Wright House (circa 1764) at 93 Cross Highway last spring, my reasons varied from an intense personal connection to the house to a strong desire to protect it in perpetuity. With this in mind, I would like to formally request that it be considered for acceptance as a Local Historic Landmark Property. I have accumulated considerable background on the property, which I will make available to you upon request.

I can be reached at 202-714-0155 (cell) or land line 203-293-4306 or e-mail [egerber7161@gmail.com](mailto:egerber7161@gmail.com)

I look forward to hearing from you.

With best regards



Edward F. Gerber

Ms Carol Leahy  
Historic District Commission  
Staff Administrator



93 Cross Highway  
"Westport House Files"  
Westport Historical Society

**Report of the Joint meeting of the Health & Human Services, Environment and Public Protection  
Ctees.  
June 29, 2011**

Present:

**H & HS:** Jeff Wieser (Chair and Reporter); Amy Ancel; Arthur Ashman; Diane Cady; Jonathan Cunitz; Bill Meyer

**Environment:** Diane Cady, Chair; Cathy Talmadge; Michael Rea; Kevin Green; John Suggs

**Public Protection:** Dick Lowenstein, Chair; George Underhill; Judy Starr; Steve Rubin; Arthur Ashman.

Other RTM member present: Hadley Rose

Others present: Lead petitioner, Peter Knight and members of the public.

The meeting came to order at 7:35 pm. Jeff Wieser led the meeting explaining that the gavel was being rotated among the committee chairs over the course of the now eight months that the joint committees have been reviewing the petition. He explained that since late 2010, the joint committees have been

“seeking to respond to a petition, signed by more than 300 people, that asked the RTM to consider actions that would “create and implement a plan for the control of the Town’s deer herd, the current size of which threatens our health, safety, environment and quality of life.” Since then we have received word of petitions reportedly signed by more than 600 people asking us not to reduce the size of the deer herd. Over many hours, we have researched the issue through presentations by experts in many aspects of the field, and by many members of the public, including Staples students.”

There was no dissent to his characterization that the dialogue had been “responsible, thoughtful, open-minded, serious and thought provoking” among the committee members, but he concluded that the topic being discussed is a “multi-faceted topic that has many questions and very few proven answers.”

In opening the discussion and quickly representing the variety of opinions, Mr Meyer indicated his conclusion that there is indeed a problem; Ms. Ancel countered that the petitioners had not made their case that there is a problem as they enumerated in their petition; and Ms. Cady expressed her concern that Lyme is a serious problem and requires a response of some sort from the committee.

Mr. Rose indicated that if we were to vote on any subject during the evening, the votes would have to be by committee, and the 14 RTM members so assembled could not vote as a body. He concluded that we could take a straw poll among our members, en masse, and the joint committees agreed that they would proceed in this fashion.

With that clarification Dr. Ashman suggested that we should determine whether the committees felt “a need to control the deer population.” Dr. Cunitz moved the question:

**“The members of the RTM committees assembled here this evening agree with the petitioners that there is a need to control the deer population in the Town of Westport.”**

The motion was seconded by Ms. Cady. The vote was 9-5 in favor of the statement, voting as follows:

**Agree with the statement:** Wieser, Cady, Lowenstein, Meyer, Rea, Cunitz, Green, Ashman, Suggs

**Do not Agree with the Statement:** Talmadge, Underhill, Starr, Rubin, Ancel

With this understanding from the straw poll, we undertook to determine what options we had to respond to the petition. Dealing with the most difficult matter first, Mr. Rea moved to request another straw poll vote on the following statement:

**“The committees assembled are in favor of upholding the current Westport Hunting ordinance.”**

Mr. Meyer seconded. The vote was 13 - 1 in favor of the motion, with Mr. Lowenstein voting against the statement.

With the committees concluding that action is warranted to meet the petitioners’ concern, and further concluding that hunting could not at this point be a part of that action, Ms. Talmadge quipped that there are no funds in the Town budget to allow any other action. We did however continue to search for ways that we might move to fulfill the requirements of the petition. We started with an education campaign which would stress

- Driver’s education: when to be careful and how to look for deer in the vicinity
- Plants that are deer – resistant
- Ways to dress and act in the outdoors to reduce the chance of contact with ticks

Mike Rea suggested that as the petition asked the RTM and the Administration to act in concert, we should work with the First Selectman’s office. He suggested the appointment of a volunteer “Deer Control Warden, or Deer Control Board” that would have ongoing purview over the subject and stay

abreast of advances in techniques that might work in Westport. This was roundly applauded as a suggestion, and we agreed to follow up on this suggestion. (Ms. Starr, Ms. Ancel and Ms. Talmadge suggested calling it a “Deer Awareness Board.”)

Ms. Starr suggested that we review funding options from other governmental and environmental sources such as those that are interested in creating practices that will be a model for other towns. Ms. Ancel reminded us of a presenter from the Humane Society who indicated an interest in using a town like Westport as a test case for contraception and / or sterilization. Mr. Wieser indicated he has been in touch with Mark Cooper at the Health District. Mr. Cooper is interested in following up on a wider application of the Yale study currently being undertaken on the mice population throughout CT.

In summary we agreed that our recommendations should include

An education Program;

The creation of a board charged with monitoring the deer situation in town;

Study of the 4-poster system with a possible request to the CT DEP for a special permit to use this technology on larger Westport properties. It was mentioned that Earthplace might be a participant in this endeavor on the Partrick wetlands, among other independent, interested parties; and

Encourage interaction with the Health District for a greater understanding of the Yale study and further application of it, if and as the test results are found to be positive.

As a final topic, the lead petitioner asked if a form of controlled professional “culling” would be allowed under the current hunting ordinance. While it was expected that such an exception was not in line with the straw poll votes, we agreed to ask the Town Attorney for advice on this question.

[In subsequent communication with Gail Kelly, the Assistant Town Attorney confirmed that the current hunting ordinance, which prohibits hunting and trapping in Westport, would not allow a controlled “cull” of the deer herd.]

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Wieser, Chair, Health & Human Services Committee