

HISTORIC RESOURCES

BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

Please send completed form to: Stacey Vairo, National Register and State Register Coordinator,
State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Economic and Community Development,
One Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor, Hartford CT 06103

* Note: Please attach any additional or expanded information on a separate sheet.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Building Name (Common) Cornwall Historical Society Record No. 34285
 Building Name (Historic) Andrews, John T., Carriage Barn
 Street Address or Location 7 Pine Street
 Town/City Cornwall Village Cornwall Village County Litchfield
 Owner(s) Cornwall Historical Society, PO Box 115, Cornwall CT 06753 Public Private

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Recreation and Culture: museum
 Historic Use: Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural outbuilding
 Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road? Yes No
 Interior accessible? Yes No If yes, explain _____
 Style of building Bank carriage barn, Italianate/Stick style Date of Construction 1885

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

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard | <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding | <input type="checkbox"/> Brick | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone | <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten | <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco | <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone | <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete (Type _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut Stone (Type _____) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Vertical flush board siding</u> | | |

Structural System

- Wood Frame Post & Beam Balloon Load bearing masonry Structural iron or steel
 Other _____

Roof (Type)

- Gable Flat Mansard Monitor Sawtooth
 Gambrel Shed Hip Round Other _____

(Material)

- Wood Shingle Roll Asphalt Tin Slate Asphalt Shingle
 Built up Tile Other Originally wood shingle

Number of Stories: 1 1/2 Approximate Dimensions 24' x 35'

Structural Condition: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated

Exterior Condition: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated

Location Integrity: On original site Moved When? _____

Alterations? Yes No If yes, explain: Conversion to residence, later to office/museum use

FOR OFFICE USE: Town # _____ Site # _____ UTM _____

District: S NR If NR, Specify: Actual Potential

PROPERTY INFORMATION (CONT'D)

Related outbuildings or landscape features:

Barn Shed Garage Carriage House Shop Garden

Other landscape features or buildings: Stone retaining walls, open field to west, stone bollards along street line.

Surrounding Environment:

Open land Woodland Residential Commercial Industrial Rural

High building density Scattered buildings visible from site

• Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

See continuation sheet.

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

See continuation sheet.

Architect Richard Wolkowitz - 2006-8 rehabilitation/reuse Builder _____

• Historical or Architectural importance:

See continuation sheet.

• Sources:

Cunningham, Janice, *Connecticut's Agricultural Heritage: an Architectural and Historical Overview*, Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation & State Historic Preservation Office, 2012.

See continuation sheet.

Photographer Charlotte Hitchcock Date 8/19/2011

View Multiple Views Negative on File CTHP

Name Charlotte Hitchcock Date 8/22/2011

Organization The Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation

Address 940 Whitney Avenue, Hamden CT 06517

• Subsequent field evaluations:

Latitude, Longitude:
41.845656, -73.329623

Threats to the building or site:

None known Highways Vandalism Developers Renewal Private

Deterioration Zoning Other _____ Explanation _____

• **Interrelationship of building and surroundings:**

This carriage house is located in Cornwall Village, also known as “the Plain,” in the Town of Cornwall. It is sited on the west side of Pine Street on a lot of slightly less than an acre. The primary façade is the east side which faces the road. The carriage house was formerly associated with a 2 ½-story house at 9 Pine Street, adjacent on the south, now a separate property. 9 Pine Street is a simple vernacular wood-framed structure with its main gable roof oriented with the ridge-line north-south parallel to Pine Street. A large cross-gable dormer in the east slope of the roof dominates the east façade facing the street. The front entry door is centered below the peak of the dormer and has a simple surround with a 7-pane horizontal transom above the door. Siding is narrow wood clapboards painted white and windows are trimmed with square surrounds painted blue. The eaves have overhangs with eave returns forming the only decorative trim. A 1-story porch on the south side has been closed in, and some additions have been built at the west side.

The carriage barn is set further back from the street and to the north of the house. Grade slopes down toward the west exposing the west basement walls. Both properties extend westward 400 feet with open fields bordered by wooded perimeter areas. Pine Street does not have sidewalks or curbs. The street line is bordered along the front of 7 Pine Street by an area of light-colored sandy gravel for parking.

An asphalt walk leads from the street across a lawn to the front entry, while a secondary walk branches off and angles to the north corner of the building, passing a sitting area with a bench. Two slabs of stone are set flush with grade, one at the east end of the main walkway and a second forming an entry stoop or bridge to the building, with a small drainage area below it. A row of square tapered granite bollards, across the front and along the driveway, forms a border to the front lawn. The bollards appear in two historic photographs. In the 19th century a cast iron fence stood behind them and in the mid-20th century they were connected by chains.

An unpaved drive enters the property at the southeast corner and passes down-slope along the south side of the building to access the rear field area. A massive un-mortared fieldstone retaining wall projects south from the southeast corner of the barn, aligned with the front (east) wall, and jogs eastward and again south enclosing a lower level yard adjacent to the south basement wall. The stonework appears to be original as the top of the wall can be seen in the two historic photographic views. Beyond to the west is a mowed field which levels off and then slopes down into a wooded area.

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

Inventory of structures (C – contributing, NC – non-contributing):

Carriage Barn: late 19th c. C

Architectural description:

This is a 1 ½-story gable-roofed late 19th-century bank carriage barn. The original volume is a three-bay timber-framed 24- x 30-foot rectangle with a gable roof having its ridge-line oriented north-south parallel to Pine Street. A large cross-gable-roofed wall dormer is set into the east slope of the roof. In the mid-20th century, additions were built at the west side during conversion to a residence, including a shed-roofed addition across the northern two bays. The foundation of this formed the footprint of a 21st-century addition in 2006-8.

Exterior:

The primary façade of this carriage barn is the east eave-side with its central dormer. The main entry on this side is a wide opening centered on the façade. Located in this opening is a centered pass-through door, with eight window panes, flanked by a vertical four-over-four double-hung window to each side. Mounted wall lights are located to each side of the pass-through door. The door and the two windows are each topped by a horizontal two-pane transom window. These all occupy the opening which once held a pair of interior sliding barn doors. These were constructed of two panels above a single panel, with vertical planking behind stiles and rails having circular

ornamental treatments at the intersections and corners. The façade was altered during the conversion to a residence and the current configuration represents a restoration of the barn door opening and trim, with a new entry designed for current use.

An applied decorative molding, forming a flat arch with paired brackets supporting both ends, extends over the top of the original door opening. The large front-facing gable has deep roof overhangs and wide projecting cornice returns which wrap well onto the front of the structure. Paired decorative brackets support the cornice. Centered within this front gable is a pair of arched windows, topped by a paired arched window hood. A decorative truss ornament with a turned spindle king post accentuates the upper portion of the gable. The post extends above the ridgeline terminating as a finial.

The south gable-end has an exposed basement level. The decorative features of this side match those found on the east façade: wide projecting eaves and rakes with cornice returns, paired brackets, a pair of centered arched windows in the gable, and the truss and finial ornament. At the basement level two six-pane stable windows with beveled lintel trim are flanked by on the right (east) a plank door with iron strap hinges and on the left (west) a modern pass-through door with ten panes which is concealed behind a matching plank door when the building is locked. To the west is a projecting new addition constructed in 2008, a 1 ½-story gable-roofed wing.

A portion of the south addition is visible from the street. The style of this addition is a simplified interpretation of the detailing on the historic structure. Cornice returns are smaller, the paired window in the gable is a simple pair of rectangular four-pane sash, and simple boxed cornices. The roofline closely matches the original roof pitch. The addition occupies the basement and first stories projecting both south and west from the southwest corner. A single four-over-four double-hung window with a two-pane transom is in the east eave-side of the south addition, on the first story. The basement level of both the east eave-side and south gable-end are blank.

The west elevation consists of modern construction including a gable-roofed addition to the main block which echoes the cross-gable effect of the east side, a lower gable roof on the southwest addition, a shed-roofed 1-story section at the basement level off the southwest corner, and a shed porch roof over an exit door in the left (north) part of the elevation. The few windows on this side include pairs of four-pane sash in the attic area of the gables and in a stair landing. Two pass-through doors under the porch roof provide egress from a stair and access to a mechanical room.

The north gable-end matches the south in its upper floor and rake and cornice details. The ground floor retains two six-over-six double-hung windows from the mid-20th-century conversion, and also has a modern pass-through door for egress, exiting onto a square landing with three steps down to grade. Utility meters are mounted along this wall.

The exterior is clad in vertical wood flush-board siding, painted white. The roof is gray asphalt shingles. At the center of the ridge-line is a square cupola. The cupola itself is cross-gabled and the design mimics that of the lower rooflines. Paired arched louvered vents are present on each of the four sides of this cupola. The cupola was removed and replaced by a brick chimney during the mid-20th-century and has been substantially restored in 2006-8. Details are modeled on a historic photograph, though with less extensive ornament.

Interior:

As can be determined from the rehabilitation architect's demolition plans and from exposed framing members that have been incorporated into the design, the structure of the original carriage house was a square-rule timber frame similar to an English barn, with three bays. The barn doors in the east eave-side were in the center bay. Framing members visible in the basement include a variety of squared posts, metal lally columns, new timber posts, round log joists and sawn lumber joists, reflecting the different periods of construction and alteration. The north and east basement walls are mortared fieldstone, with an area in the northeast corner not fully excavated. In the center of the basement a large fieldstone chimney foundation has been left in place. A second floor level with a finished interior was in place in the mid-20th century for residential use. This has been retained for museum functions, with a new stair constructed in the west addition. At the ground level the interior has been reconfigured for museum use, with a gallery in the southwest addition, entry and meeting space in the original building, and lavatory and kitchenette in the northwest corner of the western addition.

• **Historical or Architectural importance:**

Applicable Connecticut Register Criterion:

2. Embodying the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.

Historical background:

This carriage barn was built c. 1885 in a late Italianate/early Victorian style to complement the adjacent home of John T. Andrews. Andrews was born in Bethany, Connecticut in 1811, graduated from Yale College in 1839, and became first a minister and later a teacher. For health reasons he left both professions and turned to farming and stonework. After Andrews's death the property was purchased in 1890 by Charles Marsh, the local undertaker, and his wife Ines. In 1954 the barn was converted to a home by their daughter, the town librarian Emily Elizabeth Marsh, a charter member of the Cornwall Historical Society. In 1966, the Society raised funds to buy the building from her estate, but could do little to adapt it for their specific exhibit and storage needs. With the support of the community and grants, the Society has recently renovated the building to address their functional needs and to substantially restore the exterior to its original appearance.

Architectural significance:

This carriage barn is a high-quality example of a type – the residential carriage barn of the late 19th century just prior to the replacement of the horse and barn by the automobile and garage. The setting is an intact streetscape of early- to mid-19th-century homes in a compact village center. Several of the houses have associated barns with features indicating former agricultural use. The Andrews Carriage Barn is unique among them in being a purpose-built carriage barn for a prosperous Victorian-era family. It is situated in its original location and is documented with photographic imagery of its original condition and of alterations made in the mid-20th century; these guided the recent rehabilitation of the exterior while the interior was adaptively reused.

• **Sources (*continuation*):**

Photographs by Alec Frost, Nathan Nietering, Charlotte Hitchcock.

Cornwall Assessor's Records, Town of Cornwall Assessor's Office site visit, April 21, 2011.

Cornwall Historical Society Archives, deed of purchase by Cornwall Historical Society, Inc., July 14, 1966.

Cornwall Historical Society Archives, STEAP Grant application and Cultural Capital Grant application, 2006.

Aerial Map of Cornwall, CT, accessed 8/19 2011 from website <http://www.bing.com/maps> .

Chamberlain, Paul H. Jr., "Has The Marsh House A Future With the Past?," Lakeville Journal, 1967 (copy courtesy of Cornwall Historical Society).

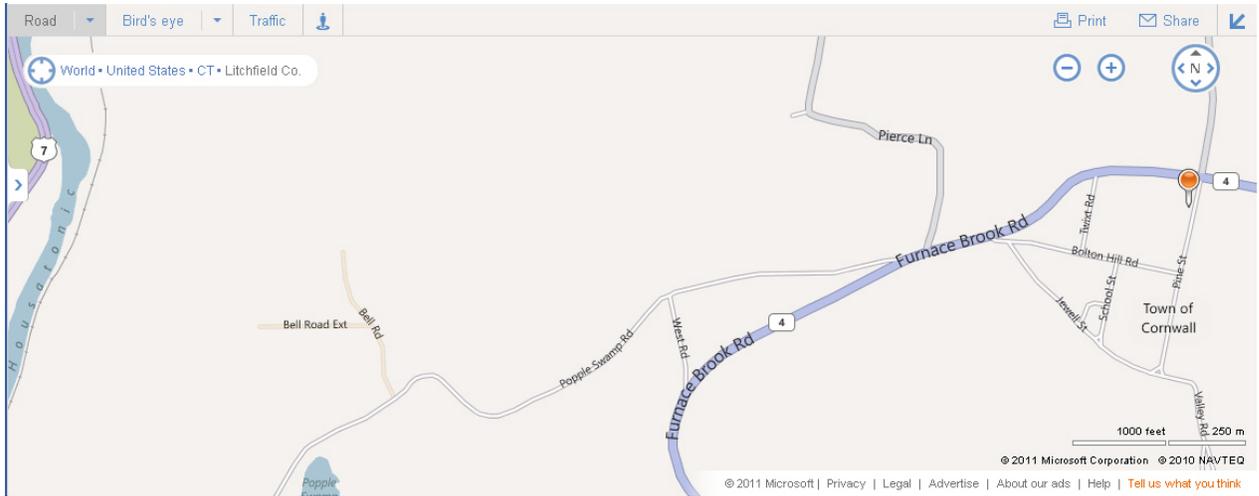
UTM coordinates: <http://itouchmap.com/latlong.html>

Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, Historic Barns of Connecticut Resource Inventory, 2010, <http://www.connecticutbarns.org/34285> .

Sexton, James, PhD; Survey Narrative of the Connecticut Barn, Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, Hamden, CT, 2005, <http://www.connecticutbarns.org/history>.

Wolkowitz, Richard, AIA, Architectural drawings including demolition plans and proposed plans, 2006.

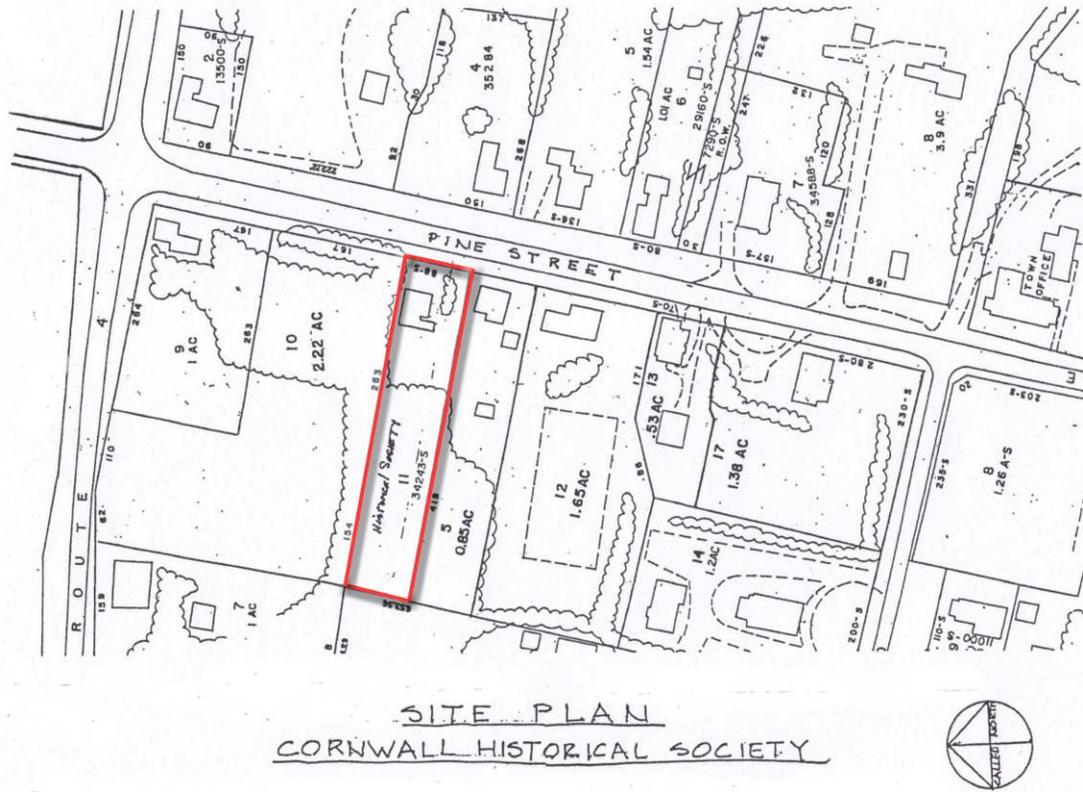
Visser, Thomas D., Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings, University Press of New England, 1997.



1. Location map of 7 Pine Street, Cornwall CT – from <http://www.bing.com/maps> accessed 8/18/2011.



2. South view – aerial “bird’s-eye” map of 7 Pine Street, Cornwall CT – from <http://www.bing.com/maps> accessed 8/18/2011. Photograph was taken prior to rehabilitation/reuse construction (2008).



3. Parcel map of 7 Pine Street, Cornwall CT, Cornwall Historical Society archives.



4. East view from Pine Street, camera facing west.



5. Southeast context view of 9 Pine Street, camera facing northwest. 7 Pine Street is at right, behind trees.



6. Southeast view of carriage barn, camera facing northwest.



7. South gable-end view with fieldstone retaining wall, camera facing northeast.



8. West view of rear addition, camera facing east.



9. Interior view of exposed timber framing at west wall of barn, camera facing east.



10. Interior view of exposed timber framing at west wall of barn, from southwest gallery, camera facing northeast.



11. Historic photograph of 7 Pine Street, Cornwall Historical Society archives.



12. Historic photograph, 1950s, Cornwall Historical Society archives.