**HISTORIC RESOURCES**

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)   **Cheney Family Farm**
Building Name (Historic)  **Mansfield, David, Farmstead**
Street Address or Location **144 Mansfield Road**
Town/City  **Harwinton**  Village **Campville**  County **Litchfield**
Owner(s)  **Brooke and Sean Cheney, 144 Mansfield Road, Harwinton CT 06791**

**PROPERTY INFORMATION**

Present Use:  **Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural outbuilding; Domestic: single dwelling**
Historic Use:  **Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural outbuilding; Domestic: single dwelling**

Accessibility to public:  Exterior visible from public road?  
Yes  No  
Interior accessible?  Yes  No  If yes, explain ________________________________
Style of building  **English barn, Vernacular style**  Date of Construction  **early 19th c.**

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

- Asbestos Siding
- Brick
- Wood Shingle
- Asphalt Siding
- Fieldstone
- Board & Batten
- Stucco
- Cobblestone
- Aluminum Siding
- Concrete (Type ___________________)
- Cut Stone (Type _____________)

**Structural System**

- Wood Frame
- Post & Beam
- Balloon
- Load bearing masonry
- Structural iron or steel
- Other  **Square rule framing**

Roof  **(Type)**

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

**(Material)**

- Wood Shingle
- Roll Asphalt
- Tin
- Slate
- Asphalt Shingle
- Built up
- Tile
- Other ________________________________

Number of Stories:  **1 1/2**  Approximate Dimensions  **24' x 32'**

Structural Condition:  **☑ Excellent**  ☐ Good  ☐ Fair  ☐ Deteriorated
Exterior Condition:  **☑ Excellent**  ☐ Good  ☐ Fair  ☐ Deteriorated

Location Integrity:  ☑ On original site  ☐ Moved  When?  __________
Alterations?  ☑ Yes  ☐ No  If yes, explain:  ____________________________________________

FOR OFFICE USE:

District:  ☑ S  ☐ NR  If NR, Specify:  ☑ Actual  ☐ Potential

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PROPERTY INFORMATION (CONT’D)

Related outbuildings or landscape features:
- ✔ Barn
- ☐ Shed
- ☐ Garage
- ☐ Carriage House
- ☐ Shop
- ✔ Garden

- ✔ Other landscape features or buildings: **Stone walls, blueberry patch**

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 ____________________________ Builder ____________________________

- Historical or Architectural importance:

See continuation sheet.

- Sources:


See continuation sheet.

Photographer Charlotte Hitchcock ____________________________ Date 12/11/2012

View Multiple Views ____________________________ Negative on File CTHP

Name Charlotte Hitchcock ____________________________ Date 12/15/2012

Organization Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation

Address 940 Whitney Avenue, Hamden CT 06517

- Subsequent field evaluations:

  Latitude, Longitude:
  41.745123, -73.101882

Threats to the building or site:
- ✔ None known
- ☐ Highways
- ☐ Vandalism
- ☐ Developers
- ☐ Renewal
- ☐ Private
- ☐ Deterioration
- ☐ Zoning
- ☐ Other ________________
- ☐ Explanation ________________
• Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

This farmstead is located in the western part of Harwinton, just north of the historical village of Campville and on a hilltop facing west. To the west the 77.74-acre site slopes down to the right-of-way of Connecticut Route 8, and the Naugatuck River. At this point the river is to the west of the road, which is a limited access highway. Some fragments of an earlier route remain along the river bank.

The farmstead includes a 28’ x 35’ 1 ½-story cape style house dating from c. 1770. The house has its ridge-line oriented north-south and its entry in the center of a five-bay east eave-side facing the road. Its post-and-beam framing can be seen in the attic (where hewn rafters are mortised into a hewn ridge-pole) and cellar (where the hand hewn girders and floor joists contrast with an area of newer framing where the central chimney mass has been removed). The house has aluminum siding and an asphalt shingle roof.

A small English barn is located west and slightly north of the house. To the south and west of the barn are fieldstone walls which appear to frame a farm road leading westward and downslope into an area of the site that is now wooded. Historic aerial photography from 1934 indicates that the pasture land extended further down the hill toward the west.

The area today is mostly wooded, with an open area of several acres surrounding the house and barn. A large blueberry patch north of the buildings was established some years ago and has been rehabilitated by the current owners, who are operating a “pick-your-own” berry farm in season.

The property is situated near the western border of Harwinton, approximately four miles southwest of the Litchfield-South Roads National Register Historic District, a collection of 56 historic resources dating to between 1790 and c.1940, and located along Burlington, Harwinton Heights, Litchfield, North, and South Roads at the historic town center.

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

Architectural description:

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Structure</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>c. 1770</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barn I</td>
<td>Early 19th c.</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Barn I:

This is a 1 ½-story gable-roofed three-bay English barn, 24’ x 32’. The ridge-line is oriented east-west, and the main entry is a tall door opening in the center bay of the south eave-side.

Exterior:

The pair of sliding doors in the main door opening is new, installed by the current owners since 2010. The south eave-side also has a hinged pass-through door in the east corner, accessing the livestock stalls in the east bay.

The east gable-end has a similar pass-through door at the center, flanked by a shuttered stable window opening on each side. There is a square attic window in the upper part of the gable-end. The north eave-side has one two-pane window set high in the wall of the center bay. The sash is a new replacement in an existing opening. The west gable-end has no openings.

Siding is vertical boards painted red; there is not a distinct siding divide on the gable-ends, although there is a pattern of joints at the location of the interior tie-girt where boards are nailed to the horizontal timber. The roof has no overhang on the gable-ends and a very slight overhang on the eaves. The foundation is un-mortared fieldstone; a few courses are visible at the west end where the grade slopes down slightly. The barn has a wood plank floor supported by floor joists supported a few inches above grade.
Interior:
The interior is a hand hewn square rule post and beam frame. The typical bents have a single interior post, slightly dropped tie-girts, and canted queen posts supporting canted purling plates at the mid-span of the common rafters. The queen posts are diagonally braced to the tie-girts near the outer ends. The rafters are hand hewn and appear to be mortised into the heavy purling plates. At the ridge, the rafters meet, apparently in a butt joint, without a ridge-pole.

The center and west bays are open full-height. The east bay has a loft floor beneath which there are stalls for livestock. A low partition along the inner face of the bay is faced with wide horizontal boards, on which there are inscribed initials “EEH CLA” which appear to be old. On the outer face of this partition there are manger compartments, leaving an unusually small area for the animals.

Historical or Architectural importance:

Applicable Connecticut State Register Criteria:
1. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
2. Embodying the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.

This barn is significant as an intact example of an early 19th-century English barn associated with an extant house of the Colonial period. The construction details of the canted queen posts and mortised rafters are excellent and well-preserved instances of typical detailing. The identification of the property with a locally prominent citizen adds significance to the site and structures.

Historical background:
The notes by Beverly Mosher indicate that this was historically the home of David Mansfield, a probate judge. The Beers map of 1874 shows D.E. Mansfield, and the modern road is evidently named for the family.

Census records show a continuous line of David Mansfields in Harwinton from the 1790 census up to 1940. Whether they continued to live in this small house is unknown. In the 1870 census three “Town Poor men” are listed along with David Mansfield, age 52 and a farmer, his wife Lucy, age 37, and children David, 13, and John, 12. This may indicate that they were busy running the farm at this site with the help of three laborers.

In the 19th century this area would have been on the outskirts of the village of Campville, where there were water-powered industries such as a sawmill. It was Harwinton School District No. 7; the school was located at the corner of today’s Mansfield Road and Camp Hill Road. A scattering of houses lined the road down to the Naugatuck River.

The 1874 map shows roads along the river. In the 1920s Route 8 was established as a two-lane “interstate route” connecting Vermont and Connecticut. Since the 1940s plans were made to build the Connecticut portion as a freeway; these were advanced after the major flood of August 1955, although construction continued on various stretches into 1982. The village buildings are mostly gone as a result of the flood and subsequent highway construction.

The current owners have restored the barn so that the interior and exterior are in good condition.

Architectural significance:
This barn is significant as an intact example of a small early 19th-century English barn associated with an extant house of the Colonial period. The square rule framing indicates a construction date somewhat later than the house, but in the early- to mid-19th century. The construction details of the canted queen posts and mortised rafters are excellent and well-preserved instances of typical detailing. The identification of the property with a locally prominent citizen adds significance to the site and structures.
• Sources (continuation):


Interview with Brooke Cheney, 12/11/2012, at the site.

Map resources:


Aerial views from:

Historical aerial photography and maps accessed at UConn MAGIC:
  http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/mash_up/1934.html
  http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/historical_maps_connecticut_towns.html


Print and internet resources:


1. Location map of 144 Mansfield Road, Harwinton CT – from [http://maps.google.com/] accessed 12/16/2012.

3. Northeast view of house with the east gable-end of the barn at right rear, camera facing west.

4. Interior view of the house cellar ceiling, showing sawn framing where the original chimney mass was removed.
5. Southeast view of barn, camera facing northwest.

6. Northwest view, camera facing southeast, with back of house at left rear.

8. Interior view of west gable-end, from the center bay, camera facing west, showing the post of the western interior bent.
9. Interior view of west gable-end, camera facing west.

10. Interior view of northwest corner, camera facing northwest.
11. Interior view of the bent and low partition east of the main doorway, camera facing southeast. Note livestock pens beyond at ground level and loft floor above.

12. Interior detail view of the low partition at east side of the main doorway, camera facing east. Note inscribed initials.
13. Interior view of the east bay with loft floor above, camera facing south. Note whitewashed framing, indication of use for dairy.

14. View of stone walls south of the barn, old roadway leading west; camera facing west.