**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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Name (Common)</th>
<th>Freunds Farm Market</th>
<th>Record No. 52416</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building Name (Historic)</td>
<td>Warner-Freund Farmstead</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Address or Location</td>
<td>324 Canaan Norfolk Road (US Route 44)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town/City</td>
<td>North Canaan</td>
<td>Village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner(s)</td>
<td>Theresa &amp; Matthew Freund, 324 Canaan Norfolk Rd, East Canaan CT 06024</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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) Yes (No) No If yes, explain __________

Interior accessible? (Yes) Yes (No) No If yes, explain __________

Style of building: New England barn, Vernacular style

Date of Construction: Late 19th c.

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

- ✔ Clapboard
- ✔ Asbestos Siding
- □ Brick
- □ Wood Shingle
- □ Asphalt Siding
- □ Fieldstone
- □ Board & Batten
- □ Stucco
- □ Cobblestone
- □ Aluminum Siding
- □ Concrete (Type ____________) (Material)
- □ Cut Stone (Type ____________) (Material)
- ✔ Other: Dutch lap, vertical wood siding

**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: ____________

**Number of Stories:** 2 1/2

Approximate Dimensions: 40' x 56'

**Structural Condition:** (Excellent) ✔ Good (Fair) □ Deteriorated

Exterior Condition: (Excellent) ✔ Good (Fair) □ Deteriorated

**Location Integrity:** (On original site) □ Moved When? __________

Altering? (Yes) Yes (No) No If yes, explain: __________

**For Office Use:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town #</th>
<th>Site #</th>
<th>UTM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District: (S) S  (NR) NR If NR, Specify: (Actual) Actual (Potential) Potential</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROPERTY INFORMATION (CONT’D)

Related outbuildings or landscape features:
- Barn
- Shed ✔
- Garage □
- Carriage House □
- Shop ✔
- Garden □
- Other landscape features or buildings: **Blackberry River flows through south pasture.**

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 ______________________________________ Date 11/1/2012, 12/11/2012

View Multiple Views Negative on File CTHP

Name Charlotte Hitchcock Date 12/23/2012

Organization Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation

Address 940 Whitney Avenue, Hamden CT 06517

- Subsequent field evaluations:

*Latitude, Longitude:*

42.010924, -73.271341

Threats to the building or site:
- None known ✔
- Highways □
- Vandalism □
- Developers □
- Renewal □
- Private □
- Deterioration □
- Zoning □
- Other ________________
- Explanation ________________
Freunds Farm is located on the south side of Canaan Norfolk Road (US Route 44) in the village of East Canaan, near the town line between North Canaan and Norfolk. The road roughly parallels the Blackberry River which runs westward in the valley south of the farm, to join the Housatonic River at North Canaan Village. The floodplain of the river forms a flat fertile valley underlain by the marble/limestone bedrock that is characteristic of the Housatonic River Valley, known as the “Marble Belt.” The immediate area is also the site of active mining of the stone. Freunds Farm is one of several substantial dairy farms that continue in operation here. The Canaan Village Historic District, 3.5 miles to the west, includes the village center of North Canaan; the Union Depot in North Canaan Village is individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The farmstead includes a historic late 19th-c. barn and Farmhouse, now surrounded by a complex of modern dairy facilities. The Farmhouse is located facing north toward the road, and a retail store is located to the east of the house, with a parking area entering south off the main road. The farm consists of 400 acres of land, some protected through the sale of development rights to the state. Additional hay fields are leased from members of the owners’ extended family.

The Farmhouse is a 2 ½-story gable-roofed building of simple Folk Victorian style with its ridge-line oriented north-south, and the north gable-end facing the road. There is a 2-story wing projecting from the west eave-side and a 1-story wrap-around porch at the north and west sides. Windows have ornamental multi-pane upper sash over one-pane lower sash. The front entry is in the left (east) of two bays under the porch, and there is a second entrance into the west wing also from the porch. The house is covered in composition shingle siding; the roof is asphalt shingles. The porch has a cobblestone foundation and turned posts with a simple balustrade and turned spindles ornament below the roof eaves.

The Blackberry River runs along the south edge of the main barn complex, and additional structures are located on the south side of the river, accessed by a bridge. The village center of East Canaan is .7 mile to the west and the roadside is developed with a mix of residential and commercial uses. Forested hills rise to the north and south of the river valley. The state line with Massachusetts is approximately three miles to the north.

• 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>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farmhouse</td>
<td>Late 19th c.</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barn I</td>
<td>Late 19th c.</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail store</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cow sheds/greenhouses</td>
<td>Late 20th c.</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Barn I:

This is a 2 ½-story eave-entry gable-roofed New England barn. Its ridge-line is oriented east-west, with the east and west gable-ends having entrances at the ground level.

Exterior:

The east gable-end opens to an open yard. The ground level door, a pair of sliding leaves, is off-center to the right and flanked by two stable windows on each side; a hay door is located above. Further above there are three pairs of tall narrow windows with trim opening into the loft level. These were originally each filled with a stacked pair of two-pane sash (four panes vertically in each side of the pair of openings), some of which can be seen stored in the barn. At the peak is a very large trapezoidal hay door under a projecting hay hood with a hay track. This door appears to be of the type that opens inward, hinged at the lower edge, although it is no longer operable. The lower
wall of the ground level below the stable windows is concrete; the upper part of the wall has a mix of Dutch lap horizontal siding and clapboard siding.

The north eave-side is banked, with a fieldstone retaining wall at the east end supporting a ramped grade surface that meets the barn wall at the sill height of the ground floor windows. A row of square six-pane stable windows with trim runs along the north side. Above there is a pass-through door accessing the loft level and a stoop and steps leading from it to grade. There are several additional openings near the eaves. The cave on this side has a boxed soffit and there is a simple wide trim board with a molding below the soffit. The gable-end is mostly covered by an attached greenhouse cow shed built in 1968. This was formerly the milking parlor but a new milking parlor has replaced it, so it is used as a free-stall barn. The south eave-side is encompassed by a pole barn which abuts it at a right angle.

Siding is painted red with white trim; roofing is asphalt shingles.

Interior:

The barn is laid out as a typical late 19th-century dairy barn with stanchion space at the ground level and hay loft above. The lower level has been converted to stalls for calving, an office, and a heating boiler which is fueled by gas derived from a cow manure methane digester system. Whitewashed surfaces including a finished ceiling are indications of the use as a dairy stable.

The upper loft level is composed of four bays. The easternmost interior bent differs from the rest in that it has a single interior post and a heavy continuous hand hewn tie-girt, dropped below the plate elevation. Queen posts support longitudinal purling plates at the mid-span of the common rafters, which appear to be sawn dimension lumber. The other interior bays are framed with full-height posts braced in the outer aisles. Some upper cross tie-girts have been removed to facilitate the movement of the horse fork, and some stabilizing cables have been added more recently. The south wall appears to have vertical board siding, which is visible from the interior. The loft floor is wood planks.

• Historical or Architectural importance:

Applicable Connecticut State Register Criteria:

1. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past –history of immigrant & Jewish farmers.
2. Embodying the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.

The Warner/Freunds barn is significant because it is an intact example of a typical late 19th-century barn on a farmstead that continues to be a working dairy farm after over a century in one family. The farm history gains added significance from its association with the ethnic history of Jewish farmers in Connecticut.

Historical background:

The historic barn is known as the “Warner Barn” for the earlier owner from whom the first Freunds purchased the property. William Warner was among the first grantees of land in Canaan in 1737-8, and the name appears on the 1874 Beers Map identifying a property on the north side of the road adjacent to this site. Based on the construction of the barn, and the tradition that attributes it to the Warners, it appears to have been built in the late 19th century.

Matthew Freund, current owner, is descended from the Freund and Brown families. Joseph Brown (b. 1886), moved his family from Hartford in the early 1900s, becoming one of a very few Jewish families in the Canaan area. The nearest synagogue was in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, but from among the local community he managed to gather a minyan of ten men for prayers. Joseph Brown and his wife Bessie (b. 1891), born in Russia and speaking Yiddish as their first language, first appear in the North Canaan census records of 1920. In 1930 they had five children whose names were transcribed differently in 1940 – Jesse (b. 1913), Jack (Jacob, b. 1921), Gretel (Gertrude, b. 1923), Esther (b. 1925), and Max (Abraham, b. 1929). The Browns owned a considerable amount of land, and the gambrel barn at 340 Canaan Norfolk Road is the Browns' barn, built to replace one that burned. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, dairy farms prospered in the area because the railroad line –originally built to support the area's iron mining, and marble quarries – allowed milk to be transported as far as New York City.
Esther Brown married Eugene Freund. The Freunds were another Jewish family, who had moved from Brooklyn, New York. Eugene had gone to college at Cornell, then was in the Army during World War II, and came home with an Army friend who lived in nearby Sheffield, Massachusetts. Eugene had an accident and, needing medical care, was introduced to Esther because she was in nursing school. Eugene and Esther Freund became the parents of Matthew, who married Theresa Hanlon, also a member of a local family. Between them, they are related to many families in the area.

Freunds Farm is still a dairy farm with 300 cows, part of the Cabot Creamery Cooperative. The farm has a bakery and catering business. They also have produce and sell a patented product, the Cowpot™, which is a seedling starter pot made from composted manure, that decomposes naturally when planted.

**Architectural significance:**

The Warner/Freunds barn is significant because it is an intact example of a typical late 19th-century barn on a farmstead that continues to be a working dairy farm after over a century in one family. The farm has balanced preservation of its historic barn and farmhouse with using innovative modern farming and environmental technologies. The farm history gains added significance from its association with the ethnic history of Jewish farmers in Connecticut.

**Sources (continuation):**

Photographs and field notes by Todd Levine 11/01/2012 and Charlotte Hitchcock 12/11/2012.

Interview with Theresa Freund 12/11/2012, at the site.

**Map resources:**

Town of North Canaan Assessor’s Records.


Historical aerial photography and maps accessed at UConn MAGIC:

- [http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/mash_up/1934.html](http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/mash_up/1934.html)
- [http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/historical_maps_connecticut_towns.html](http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/historical_maps_connecticut_towns.html)


**Print and internet resources:**


Cabot Creamery Cooperative web site: [www.cabotcheese.coop/Freunds_Farm](http://www.cabotcheese.coop/Freunds_Farm).


Town of North Canaan web site: [http://www.northcanaan.org/nc/history.html](http://www.northcanaan.org/nc/history.html).


3. Site detail showing the historic resources, Barn I and the Farmhouse – base image from Google Maps.

4. Northwest view of the Farmhouse with Barn I at right rear.
5. East view of retail store building, camera facing west.


9. Interior view of ground level stable in Barn I, camera facing east.

10. Interior view of greenhouse stable adjacent to Barn I, camera facing southwest.
11. Interior view of Barn I main loft level, eastern interior bent with heavy tie-girt, center post, and queen posts, camera facing east. Note interior of hay door at rear.

12. Interior view of western bays, camera facing west. Note the full-height posts with bracing in the side aisles.
13. Interior view of roof framing, camera facing south. Note the side aisle bracing, longitudinal purlin, and hay track with horse fork pulley mechanism.

14. Context view of Barn I with cow stable attached at left, camera facing west. Rear of Farmhouse is at right.