### 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)** Andrew-Ewen Farm/Shamrock Farm

**Building Name (Historic)** Meadowbrook Valley Farm; Andrew, Dennis, Farmstead

Street Address or Location **615 Lambert Road**

**Town/City** Orange

**Village**

**County** New Haven

**Owner(s)** Sharon M. & James H. Ewen Jr., 615 Lambert Road, Orange CT 06477 ◼ Public ◼ Private

#### 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-New England hybrid, Vernacular Victorian style

**Date of Construction** 1898

**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 Block masonry)
- ☑ Cut Stone (Type ________)
- ☑ Other Vertical wood siding

**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:** 35' x 150'

**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: Replacement of foundations & lower walls, conversion to workshop

#### 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 walls

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 1/03/2012

View ________________________________ Negative on File CTHP

Name ________________________________ Date 1/05/2012

Organization ________________________________

Address 940 Whitney Avenue, Hamden CT 06517

- Subsequent field evaluations:

Latitude, Longitude: 41.283763, -73.019554

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

The Andrew-Ewen Farm is located in the Town of Orange, just east of the Orange Center Local and National Register Historic District comprising the town Center and Green. The Andrew-Ewen Farm at its peak included approximately 500 acres surrounding the extant farmstead complex. Over the years, parcels have been split off due to inheritance by family members, taxes, etc. Recently a 44-acre parcel has been purchased by the Town of Orange using State open space funding, leaving a 3.4-acre parcel surrounding the Farmhouse and Barn and another 14 acres still owned by the Ewen family. The northern part of the property is leased to James Zeoli, currently the town’s First Selectman, for vegetable-growing and a farm stand.

Lambert Road runs north-south along the west edge of the property. To the east, the Indian River runs southward through the 44-acre open-space parcel. To the south, Tyler City Road runs east-west, connecting to the town center. The Farmhouse is sited at the southwest corner of the site, near the corner of Lambert and Tyler City Roads. The barn is to the north, sited parallel to Lambert Road and close to the roadway.

The Farmhouse has its main entry in the west gable-end façade facing Lambert Road. The south eave-side faces Tyler City Road. The core of the 2 ½-story building is documented as a c. 1820 farmhouse. There appear to have been numerous renovations, as the overall massing today reflects a vernacular mid-Victorian house with a steeply pitched cross-gable roof, arched attic windows, and two-over-two double-hung window sash. The west façade is a three-bay side-hall type, with the door in the right (south) bay and a stair located along the south wall, as indicated by an ornamental arch-topped window with decorative muntin pattern, placed slightly below the second floor elevation. A perpendicular wing extends north from the north side, a modern addition forming an L-shaped footprint. One-story porches extend across the west side of both the main block and the north wing. The building has vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The interior of the main block has fireplaces in the front (west) and middle (south) parlors – the front parlor fireplace mantel is Federal in style, consistent with the c. 1820 date. The south parlor has a fireplace of more Victorian style, reflecting later renovation.

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

Architectural description:

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

- Farmhouse  c. 1820, later 19th c.  C
- Barn  Early 19th c., 1898  C

Barn:

The barn has two main blocks – a 24’ x 46’ 2-story gable-roofed southern section and a 35’ x 106’ 1 ½-story taller gable-roofed northern section. Both roofs are oriented north-south, and the west eave-side walls are aligned close to the roadway of Lambert Road. Roofs are asphalt shingles and walls are a mix of original vertical wood siding, painted gray, with areas of concrete block masonry replacement and infill. The structural frame has a total of 11 bents and 10 bays, which are identified by number from south to north.

South block – Exterior:

This is a three-bay 2-story gable-roofed structure, much altered. It appears that a 24’ x 46’ English barn was constructed in the early 1800s. It was either built originally or adapted with a second floor in which seed could be processed for a local wholesale seed company. The upper floor of the south gable-end and west eave-side and roof pitch are preserved and show the original appearance. The west eave-side has three six-over-six double-hung windows alternating with two hay doors. A photograph of c. 1905 shows a barn door at the ground level where there is now an overhead door. The ground floor wall has been replaced with concrete block masonry; the leftmost bay has two small square windows set into the block wall. The south eave-side has two double-hung windows at the second floor, altered to one-over-one, with a hay door at the center. Above in the attic is an arch-topped window, originally multi-paned but now one-over-one, flanked by two six-pane attic windows. Siding is vertical boards with an ornamental saw-cut border formed by the attic siding where it terminates in a siding divide over the second floor.
windows. The steep roof pitch remains on the west side but has been altered to a lower pitch on the east; the line of the original still visible in the siding. The ground floor wall has been replaced with concrete block masonry. A brick foundation wall remains below the block wall, and has four in-filled openings, possibly old basement windows. Grade slopes down toward the east, exposing several feet of this basement or foundation wall. The east side of the original barn has been removed or concealed by an addition that brings the east wall flush with the wall of the northern block. In the right (north) corner is a door leading into the barn, with fieldstone steps which formerly functioned as a ramp for the cows to enter the barn. Several other small modern windows are in the concrete block masonry wall of the ground floor level. Above is one window in the wood-sheathed upper level.

South block – Interior:

Much of the original structure has been replaced. The east wall has been removed and a new wall constructed further east aligning with the larger northern section. Its wall posts are replaced by concrete masonry piers. The sill beams of the second floor can be seen along with the cut-off ends of the original outer siding. Bent 1 at the ground level has been replaced by concrete block masonry. Bent 2 has a clear span at the ground level, with a wood and iron truss in the second floor (the iron nut is visible from below) carrying the load in lieu of an interior post; this would likely have been a later 19th-century alteration. Bent 3 has two metal interior columns now encased in a concrete block masonry wall running east-west in the line of the bent. The eastern of these columns is bent due to damage from the hurricane of 1938. The sill girder of the second floor can be seen above.

Floor joists at the second floor level run north-south and are closely-spaced, indicating an significant activity on the second floor, probably the drying and shelling of seed corn for sale to a wholesale seed business. Bent 4 is the location of the original north wall of this structure. The wall posts (one centered and one at the northeast corner) have been replaced by concrete block masonry piers. Above these the sill girders can be seen with the cut-off ends of original vertical board siding. The eastern ten-foot width of this space is formed by the extended eastern wall.

This barn’s lower floor served as the dairy cow stable. The floor in the 20th century had the layout for a stanchion barn, with a center aisle to collect waste and two rows of cows facing out toward the windows with mangers and a circulation lane at the outside walls. The floor is now level concrete, with the cow stable features having been filled level in recent years to create a level surface for a workshop which occupies the southern two bays.

North block – Exterior:

This 35’ x 106’ 1 ½-story structure has its gable-roof ridge-line oriented north-south continuing the alignment of the earlier south block. The west eave-side faces the road and is located close to the pavement line. The barn consists of seven bays (bays 4 through 10), with the central bay 7 having a gable-roofed wall dormer with an arch-topped double-hung window. An ornamental saw-cut trim pattern forming a siding divide and matching the south gable-end of the south block, runs the length of the west side above the head of the original tall barn doors (the doors have been shortened in the last few years). There are two sliding barn doors, one in bay 6 south of center and one in bay 9 (center of the three northern bays). The two southernmost bays 4-5 have been combined with the south block internally, and the exterior reflects this, with concrete block masonry walls at grade. Bay 4 has a 1-story sliding door, and bay 5 to the left (north) has two small square windows. At the second floor level above the sliding door there are two small four-pane windows.

The north gable-end has a boarded-up arched opening at the gable peak and no other openings. Grade slopes down toward the east, exposing the mortared fieldstone foundation wall, in which there are inset battered concrete piers at the locations of the major posts of the structural frame.

The west eave-side is encompassed by a shed-roofed addition (see below for interior). The northern two-thirds of this has a concrete block foundation with wood siding above. There is a sliding door approximately 15 feet south of the right (north) corner. The southern portion is open, a three-bay open porch with a concrete slab floor. Above this shed roof, the centered wall dormer has an arch-topped double-hung window.
North block – Interior:
The interior frame of the north block is a tall seven-bay square rule post and beam structure. The typical bents are constructed with two tall circular sawn interior posts terminating at a dropped tie-girt. Queen posts offset toward the outer walls carry longitudinal purlin plates which in turn support the one-piece common rafters at mid-span. The center bay 7 has a wall dormer in both west and east sides.

The second floor framing that exists in the south block extends into two bays of the north block, as far as bay 5. North of this the space is open full-height to the peak 50 feet above, where there is a hay track. The floor is wood planks in the northern bays and concrete in the southern bays. The main function of this barn was hay storage.

East shed:
The shed that runs along the east side was formerly framed with a cantilevered floor extending the level of the main barn. A removable panel opened a gutter through which manure dropped to the ground and was collected under the barn for later removal. Due to deterioration of the framing, the cantilevered floor has been removed and a concrete slab pouredl.

Silo foundations:
Two silos of cypress staves formerly stood along the east wall of the south block. The concrete foundation rings are still extant. The silos were built in the early 1950s and removed in the late 1970s, the wood being reused for some very durable fencing.

• Historical or Architectural importance:

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

The site, with its barn and farmhouse, is significant for the long history of ownership and operation by the Andrew family, with historical roots from the early 1800s. The north block of the barn constructed in 1898 is a dramatic monumentally-scaled example of the type of barn that prosperous farmers of the Victorian period were able to construct both for the functional storage of hay, and as a symbol of their progressive farming techniques.

Historical background:
The Ewens, Jim and Sharon, are now the fifth generation to live at the farm. It is no longer a working dairy farm but is leased to a farmer who grows vegetables and has a farm stand.

Merwin Andrew (1793-1839) purchased the house and land from Colonel Alpheus Clark in 1838 for $3600. Clark was living there and had been given it by his father, Elias Clark (1752-1817). In Rockey’s History of New Haven County, there is a reference to Colonel Clark living on the “present Wellington M. Andrew estate.” Since that time the house and barn have remained in the same family, although the acreage has gradually been reduced. Merwin Andrew lived in Orange (the Bryan-Andrew House, 131 Old Tavern Road, listed on the National Register) and purchased this house for his son Dennis (1819-1883), who took ownership in 1839. By the time Dennis died, a commercial milk route was established; thus it is inferred that he established a dairy operation. A pencil drawing from c. 1860 shows the southern block with another structure oriented perpendicular to the road extending toward the east (removed for construction of the north block).

The next owner, Wellington M. Andrew (b. 1843), graduated from Yale College in 1868. He worked as a civil engineer in California for a time and then returned to Connecticut around 1870 to help his ailing father. Wellington M. continued and expanded the dairy business and in 1898 erected the northern block, as shown by the historic photograph of the barn raising. As shown in historic photographs, the north barn had twin gable-roofed cupolas and the south block had at one time a pair of attic dormer vents on each side. Welllington M. Andrew married Flora Booth Treat; thus the family is related to the Treats (see Treat Farm, 361 Old Tavern Road).
In addition to the land surrounding this site, the Andrew family owned rights to salt marsh land in West Haven, where hay was harvested. At its peak, the Andrew milk route consisted of about 80 customers in the New Haven area. Bottled milk was delivered several times a week; many of the customers were of Italian and Irish descent, as evidenced by Wellington Andrew’s log of debits and credits which has survived. Around 1930 the milk route was sold to Clark Dairy; milk production continued until about 1972. The Andrew-Ewen Farm was also known as Meadowbrook Valley Farm.

In the 1920 census, Wellington M. Andrew at age 76, his wife Flora age 59, and son Wellington B. (b. 1891) and daughter Helen (b. 1902) were in the household. By 1930 Wellington B. was listed as head of household, with Flora still living with him, and sister Helen as well. James Ewen (b. 1908) was working as a farm employee along with another farmhand. Helen married James Ewen. They had two sons, Richard and Robert, by the time of the 1940 census, and then a third, James, Jr.

Another commercial enterprise during the 19th century was the raising of seed from corn and other grains. Orange had several seed companies and the Andrews raised seed for the Asgrow Seed Company (originally Clark and Woodruff Seed Company).

Architectural significance:
The site, with its barn and farmhouse, is significant for the long history of ownership and operation by a single family, with historical roots from the early 1800s. The continuous functioning of working agriculture is nearly unique in a town where commercial development along US Route 1 and suburban housing development have altered much of the landscape beyond recognition. The barn itself and the historic house it is associated with, are significant as extant examples of their type, in a setting that protects the agricultural landscape through the public ownership of the adjacent parcel. The north block constructed in 1898 is a dramatic example of the type of barn that prosperous farmers of the Victorian period were able to construct both for the functional storage of hay for a commercial dairy herd, and as a symbol of their progressive farming techniques. The farm gains significance from its ownership by the Andrew family.

• Sources (continuation):
Photographs and field notes by Charlotte Hitchcock 1/03/2013.
Interview with Sharon and Jim Ewen 1/03/20132, at the site; historic photographs and art courtesy of the Ewens.

Map resources:
Town of Orange Assessor’s Records http://data.visionappraisal.com/OrangeCT/ Parcel ID: 63/ 2/ 1A
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:
Ewen, James, “The Ewen Barn,” unpublished manuscript, provided by owner, 2013.


Rockey, John L., History of New Haven County, W. W. Preston, New York, 1892.


1. Location map of 615 Lambert Road, Orange CT – from http://maps.google.com/ accessed 1/07/2013.

3. Detail Site Plan Sketch showing contributing resources – base image from Google Maps.

5. Southwest view of Farmhouse with Barn at left rear, camera facing northeast.

7. Interior view of Farmhouse Federal-style west parlor fireplace, camera facing northeast.
8. Southwest view of Barn with south block in foreground, camera facing northeast.

9. Southeast view of Barn south block, camera facing northwest. Note the silo foundation at right.
10. Interior view of Barn south block, camera facing southwest. The double girder is located at Bent 4 and is the north end of the south block and south end bent of the north block. Note the sawed-off exterior siding of the earlier south block.

11. Southwest view of Barn north block, camera facing northeast. Note sliding doors, recently shortened.

14. West view of Barn, camera facing east.

15. Interior view of Barn north end Bents 10 and 11, camera facing north.
16. Interior view of Barn showing Bent 6 in foreground, Bent 5, and Bent 4 with attic of south block beyond, camera facing south.

17. Interior view of Barn north block, camera facing south, showing Bent 8 in foreground, camera facing southeast.
18. Pencil drawing c. 1860 showing southwest view of the Farmhouse (center) and the Barn south block with a small cupola. The transverse barn structure would be demolished in 1898 to make room for the north block.

19. Historical photograph of the barn-raising in 1898, camera facing southeast. Annotations are by Jim Ewen. The three bays shown are the southern part of the seven-bay frame. The south block is at right (Section A) and the structure at rear (Section B) has been partially demolished to make room for the new timber frame.
20. Historical view of barn-raising in 1898, camera facing west, showing lunch during the barn-raising.

22. Watercolor painting by Vera Weirsman c. 1970, facing southwest, showing Farmhouse prior to north wing addition and showing Barn with silo.

23. Historical photograph c. 1905 showing Wellington B. Andrew and Helen Andrew.