**General Information**

Building Name (Common): Norton Hill Farm

Building Name (Historic): Norton Hill Farm

Street Address or Location: 338 Wells Hill Road

Town/City: Salisbury

Village: Lakeville

County: Litchfield

Owner(s): Bill & Karen Lundeen, 338 Wells Hill Road, Lakeville, CT 06039

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: poured)
- Cut Stone (Type: )
- Other: horizontal wood siding

**Historic Use:**

- Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural outbuilding
- Domestic: single dwelling

**Present Use:**

- Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural outbuilding
- Domestic: single dwelling

**Accessibility to Public:**

- Exterior visible from public road: Yes
- Interior accessible: Yes

**Style of Building:**

- New England barn, Vernacular style

**Date of Construction:** c. 1750

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

**Approximate Dimensions:** 18' x 36'

**Structural Condition:**

- Exterior: Excellent
- Interior: Good

**Location Integrity:**

- On original site

**Alterations:**

- Yes

**Conversion from a residence to a barn.**
PROPERTY INFORMATION (CONT’D)

Related outbuildings or landscape features:

- Barn
- Shed
- Garage
- Carriage House
- Shop
- Garden

☑️ Other landscape features or buildings: corn crib

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 1/26/2013

View Multiple Views Negative on File CTHP

Name Kristen Young and Charlotte Hitchcock Date 2/10/2013

Organization Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation

Address 940 Whitney Avenue, Hamden CT 06517

• Subsequent field evaluations:

Latitude, Longitude:
41.948368, -73.411202

Threats to the building or site:

☑️ None known
☐ Highways
☐ Vandalism
☐ Developers
☐ Renewal
☐ Private

☐ Deterioration
☐ Zoning
☐ Other ________________
☐ Explanation ________________
Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

The barn sits on approximately a four-acre parcel on the east side of Wells Hill Road. A driveway extends to the east off the road and ends at the west side of the wagon shed. There are several buildings on this property including a farmhouse, barn, wagon shed, a few small sheds, and a corn crib. The house is to the north of the barn. The wagon shed is to the northeast of the barn, and Shed I is directly to the east. Sheds II, III, and the corn crib are to the southeast. Surrounding the property are open fields used for agriculture.

The c. 1800 Farmhouse sits close to the road and has a central chimney layout with a gable-roof addition attached to the east eave-side. The five-bay, 1 ½-story house has a ridge-line that runs approximately north-south, parallel with this portion of Wells Hill Road. The main façade faces west, and the main entry consists of a side-hinged wooden pass-through door with trim. A five-pane transom window is just above the entry. Flanking the entry are twelve-over-twelve double-hung windows with trim. The house is clad in clapboard siding painted yellow with white trim. It has a cut stone foundation and asphalt shingles on the roof.

This property is located in the Lakeville section of the Town of Salisbury, which is in the south portion of the town. The property is a few miles to the north of the border of the Town of Sharon, and to the west of the border of Falls Village in the Town of Canaan. It is also to the west of the Housatonic River. The surrounding area includes large open fields and a few residential properties.

Salisbury has four Local Historic Districts. The Factory Street /District No. 16 and Salisbury Center Historic District (also NR - National Register) are to the north of Wells Hill Road while the Lakeville Historic District (also NR) is to the west near Wononskapomuc Lake. The Lime Rock Historic District (also NR) is to the south near the intersection of Wells Hill Road and Lime Rock Road (Route 112). The Lime Rock Racetrack and several industrial sites such as the Mount Riga Ironworks Site are listed on the National Register of Historic Places as well. Another site nominated in this thematic group of Agricultural Heritage sites is the Benjamin Churchill Farmstead / Whippoorwill Farm at 189 Salmon Kill Road.

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>Farmhouse</td>
<td>c. 1800</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barn</td>
<td>c. 1750</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wagon shed</td>
<td>c. 1800</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn crib</td>
<td>c. 1800</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheds I, II, III</td>
<td>c. 1800</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Barn:

This is an approximately 18’ x 36’, 1 ½-story, gable-roof New England barn whose ridge-line runs approximately north-south, parallel with this portion Wells Hill Road. The barn is clad in horizontal wood board siding. It has a concrete foundation and asphalt shingles covering the roof.

Exterior:

The main entry is located on the north gable-end of the barn and is reached by a ramp. The entry consists of a pair of exterior-hung sliding doors with X-bracing. To the east is a three-pane stable window with trim. To the west is a six-over-six double-hung window with trim. Above the entry is a side-hinged hay door with trim. A louvered vent is in the gable attic of the north gable-end of the barn.

Near the north corner of the west eave-side of the barn is a six-over-six double-hung window with trim. To the south of this, just below the eave of the roof and heading to the south, are five three-pane windows with trim. There are no other features on this side.
Near the west corner of the south gable-end of the barn is a narrow concrete block chimney. To the east is an exterior-hung sliding door with a twelve-pane window and X-bracing. Near the east corner is a three-pane window with trim. Above the entry is a hay door with trim, and in the gable attic is a louvered vent.

Two three-pane windows with trim are found near the south corner of the east eave-side of the barn. A six-over-six double-hung window with trim is to the north and two three-pane windows with trim are near the north corner. There are no other openings on this side.

**Interior:**

The interior of the barn is accessed by the sliding doors located on the north gable-end of the barn. The flooring is concrete and the walls are constructed of wood planks. Stalls are on both the east and west sides of the barn. Only one stall is located on the west side, in the north end of the barn. On the south end is storage space and a wood burning stove. The stalls extend along the east wall of the barn. A built in ladder found near the east corner of the south gable-end of the barn leads to the loft above.

The loft has wood plank floors and walls. The post-and-beam frame is connected by mortise and tenon joints with tree nails. End tie girts meet at the plate and both rest on gunstock posts which are seen throughout the barn, indicating the c. 1750 construction date. Hand hewn marks are visible on the timbers found in the barn. The hand hewn common rafters meet at the peak and are connected by tree nails. Decorative features found in the loft level show evidence of this structure originally being used as a house. In the upper story of the barn, along the eave-sides, the frame suggests that shed-roof extensions were added to create extra room when the building was converted into a barn.

- **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 is a unique example of a New England barn that was converted from an 18th-century house. The original materials of the barn have been well maintained and remain intact. The land surrounding the barn is still used for agricultural purposes and has changed little throughout time. The property gains significance due to its association with the Norton family, a prominent family in this area at the time.

**Historical background:**

This property was originally owned by Thomas Norton from Farmington. In 1755, he gave 200 acres of land, in Salisbury, to his son Lot Norton, and he began a farm which was called Norton Hill Farm. Lot Norton’s son Lot Norton, Jr. was born in 1769 in a c. 1750 house which is now the barn. At some point in the late 1700s, Lot Norton, Jr. acquired the property and c. 1800 he had a second house constructed. This c. 1800 house currently remains on the property and continues as a residence. Lot Norton, Jr.’s son Lot Norton III was born in 1803. After Lot Norton, Jr. died, the property was deeded to Lot Norton III. In 1851, Lot Norton III sold 100 acres of the property to Elbert Eggleston, and moved closer to his son Thomas Norton.

The Egglestons owned the property into the 20th-century. During Elbert Eggleston’s ownership the c. 1750 house was converted into a barn. The Dillworth family acquired the property after the Egglestons. In 1950, the Gomez family purchased the property. They ran a farm, and owned property on both the east and west sides of Wells Hill Road. In 1978, Bill Lundeen purchased the property, including the buildings, which is now approximately four acres. The Lundeen family continues to own this property.

The barn originally was constructed as a house, and functioned as such until Elbert Eggleston converted it to a barn. What was once the basement of the house has since been filled in with stones from the original center chimney. After its conversion, the barn was used to house animals, farm equipment, and animal feed. Currently the barn is used for storage, although it retains an equestrian layout with horse stalls.
Architectural significance:

This is a unique example of a New England barn that was converted from an 18th-century house. The original post-and-beam frame has been well maintained and is intact. The frame includes gunstock posts and hand hewn marks found throughout the timbers. These features are rare in the State of Connecticut due to the rarity of 18th-century barns still being extant. Decorative features from when this structure functioned as a house are still visible. The land surrounding the barn is used for agricultural purposes and has changed little throughout time.

This property gains significance through its association with the Norton family. The Norton family is a well-known and significant family in the area who were highly involved with local and state government. Lot Norton, Lot Norton, Jr., and Lot Norton III all held public offices in town and served in the Connecticut General Assembly.

• Sources (continuation):

Photographs and field notes by Kristen Young - 1/26/2013.

Interview with Bill and Karen Lundeen - 1/26/2013, 338 Wells Hill Road, Salisbury, CT.

Map resources:

Aerial views from:


Historical aerial photography and maps accessed 2/10/2013 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:

Connecticut State Library accessed 2/10/2013 online: iconn.org or http://www.cslib.org/iconnsitemap/staff/SiteIndex.aspx#directories


5. Northwest context view of the Farmhouse (at left) and the Barn (at right rear). Camera facing southeast.

7. North context view of Shed II (left), Shed III, the Corn crib, and the Barn (right). Camera facing south.

8. West eave-side (main façade) of the Farmhouse. Camera facing east.

10. West side of Shed I. Camera facing east.


18. Interior view of the stalls on the east wall of the Barn. Camera facing east.
19. Interior view of the built-in ladder, that leads to the loft, in the southeast corner of the Barn. Camera facing southeast.

20. Interior view of the southwest corner of the Barn loft. Note the tie girt meeting the plate and resting on the end post. Camera facing southwest.

22. Detail interior view of a gunstock post on the west side of the Barn. Camera facing west.

24. Interior view of the roof of the Barn. Note the hand hewn common rafters pegged together at the peak.