

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Raynham (Kneeland Townsend House)
AND/OR COMMON
same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 709 Townsend Avenue _____ NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN _____ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
New Haven _____ VICINITY OF Third
STATE Connecticut CODE _____ COUNTY New Haven CODE _____

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. Henry Hotchkiss Townshend, Jr. * Mrs. Robert Jose (daughter)
STREET & NUMBER 709 Townsend Avenue 757 Townsend Avenue
New Haven _____ VICINITY OF Gardener's Cottage
STATE Connecticut

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. New Haven Hall of Records
STREET & NUMBER 200 Orange Street
CITY, TOWN New Haven STATE Connecticut

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE State Register of Historic Places
DATE 1975 _____ FEDERAL STATE _____ COUNTY _____ LOCAL _____
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Connecticut Historical Commission
CITY, TOWN Hartford STATE Connecticut

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Raynham, the familial home of the Townshends, is located at 709 Townsend Avenue, New Haven, Connecticut. It is in the East Shore area, more commonly known as the Annex. The annex was a part of the original New Haven Colony, before it became part of the Town of East Haven and was later reannexed by the City of New Haven.

Raynham is surrounded on three sides by the only remaining residential neighborhood on the New Haven waterfront. It dominates the mostly frame and masonry one and two family houses which comprise the immediate neighborhood. Nearly all the land on which these smaller houses stand was once a part of Townshend family holdings, but, over the years, much has been sold off and developed. The fourth side of the property is bounded by Tweed-New Haven Airport.

In 1804, Kneeland Townsend built a small Federal style structure facing West on land that he and his brother Isaac had purchased from Joseph Tuttle in 1797. The Federal structure had a three bay pillared portico with barrel vaulting in the center of a triangular gable. This portico had a two story tall balustraded balcony. The front door had a decorated fanlight and sidelights. The Federal structure was remodelled in 1856-8. It is in this remodelled form today except for three dormers added in 1925.

Raynham is a three and one half story wood frame structure. The building has planked wood siding which is painted tan. The roof is red shingles whose hue closely resembles that popular when it was remodelled. The foundation is stone, probably traprock, a common local building material. There is evidence that the foundation was redug during the remodelling.

Raynham's west facade remains the front of the house and faces Townsend Avenue. The facade holds the majority of the early Victorian Gothic details. (See photograph #1.) A three bay porch spans the front of the structure. The stilted segmented Gothic arches are supported by clustered columns which form ten piers. The porch is topped by a gingerbread balustrade. The front door, in the central bay, is arched in a fashion similar to the porch and the heavy double doors are surrounded by more Gothic piers and details on the surface of the building. (See photograph #2.) The front entry is flanked by very large, shuttered rectangular windows. At both ends of the facade are semi-hexagonal bays whose windows are detailed with arches and balustrades which echo those of the porch.

The second floor has three windows with shutters. The central one is smaller and has a hood with gingerbread trim which restates the design of the balustrade below. Above this window is an even smaller and narrower attic window, which is under the peak of the gable. The gable is flanked by hipped roofs that rise above a bracketed overhang. The gable has an elaborate gingerbread vergeboard and is topped by a finial.

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The south elevation is nearly as rich in detail as the west facade. These are the two elevations which present themselves first to visitors coming onto the property through the south gate, and the impression they impart is certainly that of luxury. A masonry terrace has been built along most of the length of the foundation. It is slightly elevated to be at the same level as the floor of the dining room. It is nestled within the space created by the semi-hexagonal bay to the West and the southern end of the east wing, forming a U-shaped area screened by hedges.

There are five windows on the second floor. The hipped roof has a bracketed overhang similar to that on the facade. The chimney which can be seen in the south parlor, the dining room, and in two second floor bedrooms emerges through the roof and is surmounted by tall, fancy chimney pipes. To the right of the chimney is a balconied dormer with gingerbread gable. The design of the balcony and vergeboard matches the rest of the house's Gothic style trim. Further east are two small rectangular attic windows located below the third floor gable of the east wing. A chimney, which protrudes above the gable, services the kitchen. Although this may be the site of the kitchen in the original structure, the two subsequent renovations and the uniformity of the foundation make speculation moot.

The east elevation, the longest of Raynham, was created by the 1856-58 enlargement. (See photograph #4.) The ground level extends slightly forward of the foundation of this, the rear, wing. There is a screened, gingerbread-trimmed porch off the kitchen, the cellar stairwell with similarly trimmed double glazed door, and a central rear door. The door is crowned by a fanlight and flanked by sidelights which are in the design of the Federal front entrance of 1804. (See photograph #5.) The porch and rear entrance were, however, part of the 1925-30 additions. Next to the door is a sitting area which has a brick floor and a full awning.

The second floor has four rectangular, shuttered windows, two on each side of a screened porch. The attic is located over the central rear door.

A bracketed overhang begins on the third story roofline, reiterating the overhang on the south elevation. There are chimneys at either end of the sloped roof which is punctuated by three dormers and a tower. The dormers, one to the right and two to the left of the tower, were added in the 1920's to give more air and light to the rooms on the third floor. Each dormer has two rectangular windows to achieve this purpose. The tower rises two stories skyward. It has a small gingerbread-balconied window at the dormer level. (See photograph #6.) Above is a heavily bracketed widow's walk with a wooden railing in a repetitive ex pattern. There are pairs of pointed windows on all four sides of the tower. The roof has a bracketed overhang matching the trim found on the rest of the

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structure. The four-sided, sloped roof has still smaller, pointed windows whose tops are set out from the roof itself. The tower ends in a finial.

The east elevation is the most massive and, overall, the least decorated. Only the porch, tower, and a few details contain the Gothic designs. This is the side of Raynham which faces the farm land and out buildings, and is clearly utilitarian. However, there is a visual balance which is enhanced by the addition of dormers, and which may have been lacking before they were added and only a tower rose from the roof.

The north elevation is shaded by trees and hidden by bushes. Stylistically, it is not as elaborate as the south elevation or the facade, but it is of the same design. The foundation is stone and, as in the south elevation, it extends forward below the east wing. This part of the wing has a shuttered window on each side. A small, raised, open porch with arches, piers, and a balustrade is similar to the front porch in design. There are three windows between the porch and the semi-hexagonal bay at the western end of this elevation.

The second story has three large rectangular, shuttered windows. The roofline, which is part of the third story, is decorated with the same bracketed overhang as on the other elevations. There is a tiny attic dormer window set into the roof on this story and the fourth chimney of Raynham, which is for the fireplaces in the Glory Room, den, and two bedrooms. This chimney, too, is capped by fancy fluepipes.

The entire structure is in fine condition. The wooden gingerbread elements and other architectural details remain intact. Since the house has been continuously owned by the Townshends since it was built, it is very easy to document its architectural development.

The interior of Raynham is as well-preserved as the exterior. The western section of the house is the oldest portion of the structure which is the shaft part of a T-form. The crossbar of the T-shape is the east wing which is the major addition of the construction of 1856-8. One enters Raynham through a long central hall flanked by parlors with Gothic style arches. The room to the left is known as the north parlor or Glory Room, boasting its original golden floral wallpaper. Several family bridal portraits explain the name of the parlor. (See photogrph #7.) To the right is the south parlor which was painted black in 1925. Traditionally used for family funerals, the room has a somber air. The black marble fireplace in the room is surmounted by a double arched, carved mahogany and mirror mantle with a cornice of carved acorns. (See photograph #8.)

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Beyond the formal parlors, the hall has double doors with pointed arches. Each door is glazed with narrow panes of etched and cut glass in a floral cascade pattern. The stairwell rises from the central hall to the second floor. It has a newel post which is heavily carved with oak leaves and acorns, a common Gothic motif.¹

The rooms in the front wing are more regular and symmetrical than those in the 1856-58 addition. The more rambling floor plan of the Victorian wing is typical of the period in which it was built, and the Gothic motifs appear almost exclusively in the public front rooms. There are simplified Gothic traceries on several ceilings. There remains six functional radiators patented in 1854, which were installed in the 1856 remodelling. The kitchen was remodelled in the 1920's and contains detailed wooden cabinets and a 1930 Frigidaire. The dishroom or pantry connects the kitchen with the dining room, which was remodelled in the 1920's to include an Italian style tiled fireplace, a built-in china cabinet with carved lower doors, and a free standing sideboard. These three pieces are all in the same style. There is an original Franklin Stove in the study. One artisan is responsible for painting the fireplace to appear marble and the woodwork throughout the east wing to assume a rich wood grain.

The second floor has six bedrooms with fireplaces, some of which sport elaborate cast iron grates below white marble mantles. The third floor has three servants rooms, an additional bedroom, and attic space over the western part of the house. The tower contains stairs to the widow's walk and a ladder which rises into the top of the tower.

The grounds of the Raynham estate contain nine other structures which enhance both the beauty and the function of the estate and farm.

Near the southwest gate is a small, roofed, gingerbread gazebo called the Summer House. (See photograph #11.)

1. The Oxford English Dictionary, 1971, states: "hence 'akran' appears to have been originally 'fruit of the unenclosed land, natural produce of the forest,' mast of oak, beech, etc., as in High Gothic, extended in Gothic to 'fruit' generally, and gradually confined in Low German, Scandinavian, and English to the most important forest produce, the mast of the oak."
page 21, Compact Edition.

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Directly behind the main residence is a long, connected set of structures which include a carriage house, a barn with extending wing, and a kennel. The carriage house was built as part of the 1856-8 remodelling was built to hold three carriages. (See photograph #12.) In 1925, the second floor was remodelled into an apartment for the chauffeur. The entrance to the second floor is on the west elevation of the building. (See photograph #13.) Two more bays for carriages extend this structure to connect with an ell-shaped barn. (See photograph #14.) The barn has two large sets of doors. On the far side of the barn, out of view, is a fenced-in area known as the washyard. The other section of the ell is animal stalls located on a level below. This wing had a new foundation of cinderblock added to support the original timbers. (See photograph #15.) The stalls are entered from the east. The kennels extend down a slope beyond the barn. (See photograph #16.)

The piggery and caretakers house face the barnyard. They were built with batten siding, are two and one half stories, and look quite similar to one another. (See photograph #17.) The piggery contains both a well and the root cellar. A dirt floor remains, although it was converted in 1925 into a servant's apartment. The wooden, fanlike trim over the door resembles that over the west door to the carriage house.

East of the caretaker's house, facing the gate near the kennel, is the pigeon coop and quail house. It is a small one and a half wood structure built as a corn crib. (See photograph #18,) Next to the coop is a one story wood structure used as a woodshed.

On the north side of the estate is the Gardener's Cottage. The two and one half story structure is built on a slight slope. It is, in effect, a simple, shuttered house. Parts of the interior have recently been remodelled, but most of the building remains unaltered since it was constructed. (See photograph #19.)

There is a tennis court near the Gardener's Cottage. Between it and the residence is a small one story wood structure called Spider Inn, used at one time as an office. There is a vineyard and a large garden in the area. (See photograph #20,*)

All the structures are painted the same color, which Calvert Vaux labeled a shade of faun.² This beige color is offset by an earthy terracotta red which adorns the trim and shutters throughout. The main house, barn (with washyard), piggery, and corncrib were part of the original 1804 farm. The carriage house, caretaker's house, gardener's cottage, kennel extension, and woodshed were part

2. Vaux, Calvert, Villas and Cottages, New York, 1857, pages 131 ff.

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of the 1856-8 additions. The gazebo (Summer House), Spider Inn, and tennis court were part of the 1925-30 alterations.

The extensive grounds of Raynham are picturesque. Behind the house is a large cast iron fountain. (See photograph #21.) There are urns that match this fountain along one of the several serpentine walkways. (See photograph #22.) The paths are surfaced in either herring-bone patterned brick or finely textured gravel. They wander about cultivated flowerbeds, decorative shrubs, and ornamental shade trees. The entire estate combines to give a very real sense of another time.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1804 - original section
 1856-58 - enlargement

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE 1925-30 - alterations

Raynham--the property and the structure--is a center of the Annex section of the city of New Haven. The Annex, the only predominantly residential neighborhood on New Haven's waterfront, is also known as the East Shore. It was part of the original New Haven Colony, purchased in 1638 from the Quinnipiac Indians.

On part of the land was established the first known Indian reservation in North America. Artifacts found on the land indicate that it was used by the Indians who, for many years, hunted and farmed it. The artifacts include projectile points, tools, agricultural implements, objects received in trade with the colonists, and an entire burial ground on "Grave Hill", a few hundred feet north of Raynham. This small hill has been renamed twice: first, Beacon Hill in 1775, when a signal was installed atop it, and later, during the Revolutionary War, Fort Wooster. It was on this site that New Haven's residences successfully resisted a British landing attempt on 5 July 1779. Further to the south of Fort Wooster and Raynham was Black Rock Fort, known now as Fort Nathan Hale Park, where a skirmish between local revolutionists and loyalists from Long Island took place in 1781. In 1864, new fortifications were built, some of which remain. Fort Nathan Hale and a nearby structure, the Morris House, are in the National Register of Historic Places.

Part of the East Shore area was given in 1640 by the New Haven Colony to William Tuttle. The farm was sold by his descendent Joseph Tuttle to Isaac and Kneeland Townsend in 1797. The Townsend brothers were prosperous merchants. The family has since included merchants and bankers, a Yale professor, and a sea captain who also studied the history of the Quinnipiac Indians. The Townsends built much in New Haven during the nineteenth century. The Townsend Block, at the corner of Chapel and College Streets, right off the New Haven Green, is one of a trio of Greek Revival commercial structures which, built in the 1830's, still survive in the downtown area. A member of the Townshend family was first to be buried in the Grove Street Cemetery when it opened in 1791. The family has remained among the prominent families of New Haven.

In 1804, Kneeland Townsend built a small Federal style structure on the land that he and his brother had purchased seven years earlier. This residence had a three-bay pillared portico with barrel vaulting in the center of a triangular gable. The portico had a two-story balustraded balcony. The front door had, as was the fashion, decorated sidelights and fanlight. "The Federal structure was perhaps the work of Peter Banner, a master from Boston and formerly of London. Banner lived in New Haven for about ten years around the turn of the century and built a brick row at Yale, across from Kneeland and Isaac's store. The house resembled other structures thought to be designed by him"¹ The Federal farm of 1804 was named

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Atwater, Edward, History of the City of New Haven to the Present Time,
W.W. Munsell & Co., New York, 1887
- Brown, Elizabeth Mills, New Haven: A Guide to Architecture and Urban
Design, Yale University Press, New Haven, 1975
- Crofut, Florence, Guide to History and the Historic Sites of Connecticut,
Yale University Press, New Haven, 1937

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 15 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME _____

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1 1 8 | 6 7 6 | 4 1 8 | 4 5 7 1 | 4 7 0

B 1 1 8 | 6 7 6 | 3 6 0 | 4 5 7 1 | 1 6 0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 1 1 8 | 6 7 6 | 1 8 0 | 4 5 7 1 | 1 9 5

D 1 1 8 | 6 7 6 | 2 2 0 | 4 5 7 1 | 5 0 0

E _____

F _____

G _____

H _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Noel S. Sutherland, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Connecticut Historical Commission

DATE

7/78

STREET & NUMBER

59 South Prospect Street

TELEPHONE

203-566-3005

CITY OR TOWN

Hartford,

STATE

Connecticut

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE Director, Connecticut Historical Commission

DATE August 15, 1979

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST *Patricia Anderson*
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 7/11/80

DATE 7/3/80

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'Prospect Hill', renamed 'Bayridge', and finally named Raynham in 1882, after the estate of the English Townshend family from which the American branch is descended.

The floor plan of the Federal structure closely resembled what Isham and Brown, in their book Early Connecticut Houses, called the Late Connecticut Plan.²

The Federal farmhouse was enlarged and remodelled in the Carpenter Gothic style in 1856-58. It was not uncommon for a family that had fared as well as the Townsends to both enlarge and to keep up with the current styles. The details on the building closely resemble those to be found in Calvert Vaux's pattern book, Villas and Cottages, which was issued in a new edition in 1857.³ Marked similarities can be noticed between Raynham and two designs in particular: #19, the "Irregular Wooden Country House", and #21, the "Simple Picturesque Country House."

What is most uncommon about the remodelling is the choice of a strong Gothic design. Ithiel Town's Trinity Church on the Green of 1815 was a break with the New Haven traditional styles used in church architecture. It represented a pioneering effort of the Gothic Revival in the United States. But New Haven had a large Congregational population which was not sympathetic to the Gothic ideals. They preferred a cleaner line and a less textured surface. The three churches on the New Haven Green, built in the same decade, reflected the influence of the Romantic Movement on American architecture. Center and United Churches served the Congregationalists; Trinity was Episcopal. The implicit medieval religiosity of the Gothic arch was too much reminiscent of the persecution the Congregational Church came to America to escape.

The Victorian Gothic style, which was very popular elsewhere, never quite took hold in New Haven. Very few Gothic Revival structures--and especially those as elaborate and detailed as Raynham--were built and maintained. The Townshend family has continuously, through seven generations of ownership, maintained the structure and the integrity of Raynham.

The landscaped grounds of Raynham still capture the sense of large picturesque scale and grandeur of the provincial Victorians. Clipped hedges and vast, rolling lawns are punctuated by decorative shrubs, ornamental trees, and flowerbeds. Well-groomed, serpentine walkways in a herring-bone pattern of brick and fine gravel wander over the grounds. There were more formal gardens in the nineteenth century than today, because the ever-increasing maintenance costs have forced the Townshends to turn some under (rather than present to those who stroll through the grounds something less than perfect.) There remains, however, a strong sense of what had been.

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The farm still operates, although production is much reduced. A full-time gardener/caretaker and his wife live in the caretaker's cottage and maintain the land that is still farmed. The kennels are operating, the coop keeps fowl, and wine is produced from the vineyards. A variety of vegetables are cultivated annually, and hay is still grown on approximately one acre. Several nineteenth century farm tools remain; some are in use. Raynham is the largest single parcel of privately-owned property in the city of New Haven, and is the city's only remaining farm.

1. Townshend, Doris B., Townshend Heritage, New Haven Colony Historical Society, New Haven, 1971, page 87
2. Isham, Norman, and Brown, Albert, Early Connecticut Houses, Dover Publishers, New York, 1965
3. Vaux, Calvert, Villas and Cottages, New York, 1857

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"Raynham" is among Connecticut's best preserved Gothic Revival estates. The growth of the main house, originally built in the Federal period, and the landscaping of the gardens reflect changing taste in architectural and landscape design during the mid-nineteenth century. In addition, it is also significant to the property's integrity that the house has remained in the ownership of the same family for seven generations.

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Boundary Description

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A D D E N D U M

Description:

Beginning at a point on the east edge of Townsend Avenue, 70.4 feet north, more or less, from the intersection of Townsend Terrace and Townsend Avenue, proceeding in a northerly direction, 956 feet, more or less, to the southern property line of the property known as 765 Townsend Avenue, Easterly, 637 feet, more or less, parallel to the southern property lines of the properties known as 105, 115, 123, 129, 139 Tuttle Drive, and approximately 40 feet parallel on the property line of 147 Tuttle Drive, which is a point approximately 50 feet east of the center of the brook. Southerly, parallel to said brook and 50 feet east in a constant manner, approximately 985 feet, more or less, to a point on the northern property line of the property known as 80 Townsend Terrace, (which is 25 feet west of the point between the properties of 84 and 80 Townsend Terrace). Westerly, 760 feet, more or less, parallel, along the northern property lines of the properties known as 80, 72, 66, 60, 52, 46, 38, 30 Townsend Terrace and two parcels combined known as 663 Townsend Avenue, returning to the original point known as 70.4 feet north, more or less, from the intersection of Townsend Terrace and Townsend Avenue.

These parcels are described in greater detail in the Land Records of the City of New Haven, Volumes 1921, Page 241, et seq., and Volume 698, Page 487, located at 200 Orange Street, New Haven, Connecticut.

Justification:

Although the Townsend property extends further east than the land included in the boundary justification, this boundary was chosen to include only buildings and landscape features associated with "Raynham." The property to the west of "Raynham" consists of a hill and a large wooded area.