

WALLINGFORD HISTORIC
PROPERTIES COMMISSION
2024-2025

Regular

Kimberly Lode-Dellaselva, Chair
Cheryl Christie Collett, Vice Chair
Tara Knapp, Clerk
Barbara Sibley
Joan Bushey

Alternate

Bob Prentice

Town of Wallingford
Historic Properties Commission
45 South Main Street
Wallingford, CT 06492

ANNUAL REPORT

March 2025

The Wallingford Historic Properties Commission respectfully submits this 2025 Annual Report of activity, which occurred during the previous session of March 2024 to March 2025. The Historic Properties Commission is pleased to serve the Town of Wallingford as outlined in Wallingford Ordinance #466.

OVERVIEW:

Establishment of the Commission:

The Wallingford Historic Properties Commission (HPC) was established by the Wallingford Town Council by Ordinance #466 of the Wallingford Code Part II, Chapter 127.1-3 on January 26, 1999 and in accordance with Connecticut General Statute (CGS) Section 7-147.

The Town Council appointed the first roster of 5 regular and 3 alternate members on March 27, 2001. The Commission's Regulations and Rules of Procedure were approved and adopted 10/18/01; revised 6/26/2013.

Purpose of the Commission:

The purpose of the Commission is to preserve and protect the significant historical qualities of the buildings under its jurisdiction so that the public may enjoy their presence within the Town of Wallingford for generations to come. Providing for a greater awareness of Wallingford's cultural and architectural heritage, these sites are reflective of the 17th, 18th, 19th centuries and of the professionalism of the early historic preservation movement.

Scope of Jurisdiction:

The Commission shall administer and shall have only such powers and duties as may directly relate to the specific historic properties designated by the Wallingford Ordinance or by amendments thereto. Only those properties listed in the Wallingford Ordinance are affected by HPC Regulations and Procedures. The three properties included are:

538 North Main St – Known as *Nehemiah Royce House (c.1672)*

153 South Main St – Known as *Franklin and Harriet Johnson Mansion (c.1866)* *Barn demolished Jan. 2011

1211 Barnes Rd – Known as *Joseph Blakeslee House (c.1780)* *House demolished 11/17/08

Powers and Duties:

The Commission has those powers, will perform those functions and will be subject to such limitations as provided by the Connecticut General Statutes under Chapter 97a, titled "Historic Districts and Historic Properties" (CGS Section 7-147) and as it may be amended from time to time. The Commission shall review and act upon all applications for Certificate of Appropriateness. Unless exempted by CGS Section 7-147, no building or structure, earthworks or site of recognized historic or archaeological importance, within the boundaries of a historic property shall be erected, altered, removed or demolished until after an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness has been submitted to and approved by the Commission.

BUDGET:

RECEIVED FOR RECORD

AT 12:45pm

Kristen Parag UG DOWN CLERK

3/26/25 AND RECEIVED BY

2024 Budget: Zero (\$0.00)

The commission has no budget allotted by Town Council. All members serve without compensation. Expenses incurred in 2024 from generating the Annual Report, letters and mailings were paid for by members of the Historic Properties Commission.

2025 Expected Budget: Zero (\$0.00). The commission has no budget allotted by Town Council.

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Commission Members: March 7, 2024 – March 6, 2025

Regular Members: Cheryl Christie Collett, Tara Knapp, Kimberly Lode-Dellaselva, Barbara Sibley, Raymond Ross

Alternate: Bob Prentice

Officers: March 7, 2024 – March 6, 2025

Chair: Kimberly Lode-Dellaselva; *Vice-Chair:* Cheryl Christie Collett; *Clerk:* Tara Knapp

ACTIVITIES: March 7, 2024 – March 6, 2025

March 7, 2024: The annual commission meeting was held on March 7, 2024.

An overview of each of the properties was discussed. There were no new updates to discuss.

Officers were selected for the next term of March 2024 to March 2025.

March 20, 2024: In follow-up to discussion during annual meeting, a letter was sent to Mayor Cervoni and Town Council stating that two alternate seats remain open on the commission and identifying that Commissioner Ray Ross has not attended a meeting in four years. He was originally appointed to the commission as the representative for the Wallingford Historic Preservation Trust.

August 19, 2024: The Wallingford Historic Preservation Trust Board of Trustees requested in a letter to Town Council to replace Commissioner Ray Ross with a new delegate to represent WHPT. The new nominated representative is Joan Bushey, a member of the WHPT.

September 10, 2024: Wallingford Town Council approved the appointment of Joan Bushey as the Wallingford Historic Preservation Trust delegate to the Wallingford Historic Properties Commission.

March 2024 – March 2025: No WHPC meetings occurred.

PROPERTIES:

Blakeslee Property - 1211 Barnes Rd.: Owner, Town of Wallingford.

No applications for certificate of appropriateness received. No known activity.

Royce House – 538 N. Main St.: Owner, Wallingford Historic Preservation Trust, Inc.

Johnson Mansion- 153 S. Main St.: Owner, Wallingford Historic Preservation Trust, Inc.

We thank the Town of Wallingford for the opportunity to serve the community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Lode-Dellaselva

Kimberly Lode-Dellaselva, Chairman
Wallingford Historic Properties Commission

Historic Properties Commission:

Kimberly Lode-Dellaselva, Cheryl Christie Collett, Tara Knapp, Barbara Sibley, Joan Bushey
(Alt) Bob Prentice

cc: State of CT, State Historic Preservation Office; Mayor Vincent Cervoni, Town of Wallingford; Town Council Members

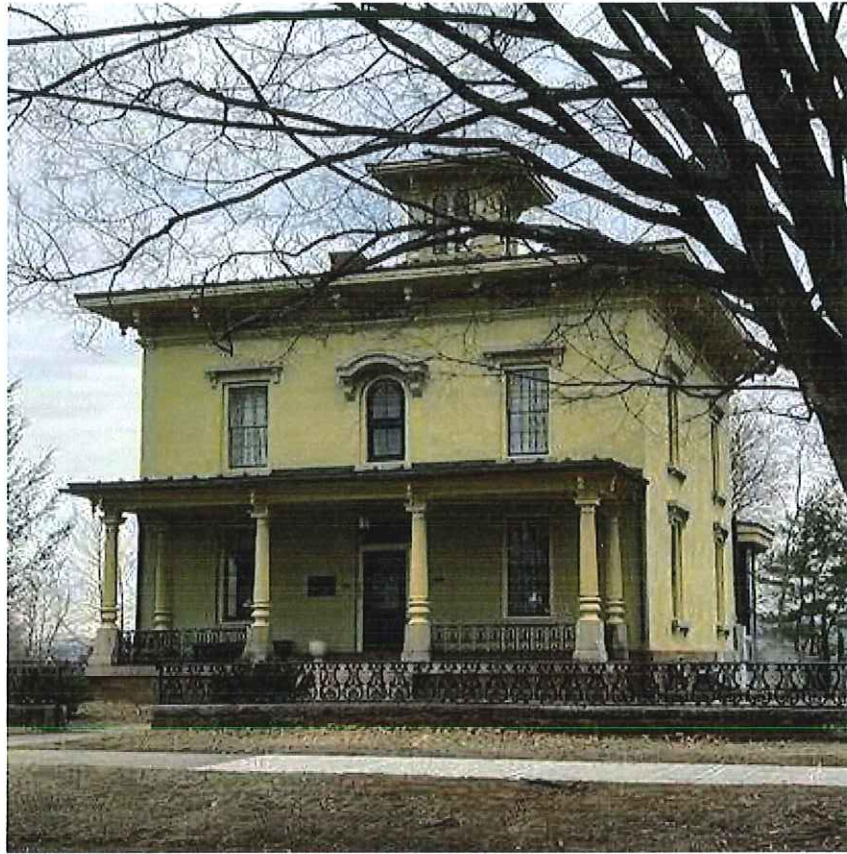
Attachments:

Addendum A: Images of the Johnson and Royce Properties
(No image of Blakeslee Property – Demolished 11/17/08)

Addendum A

Images (March 2025)

Franklin and Harriet Johnson Mansion, Wallingford CT



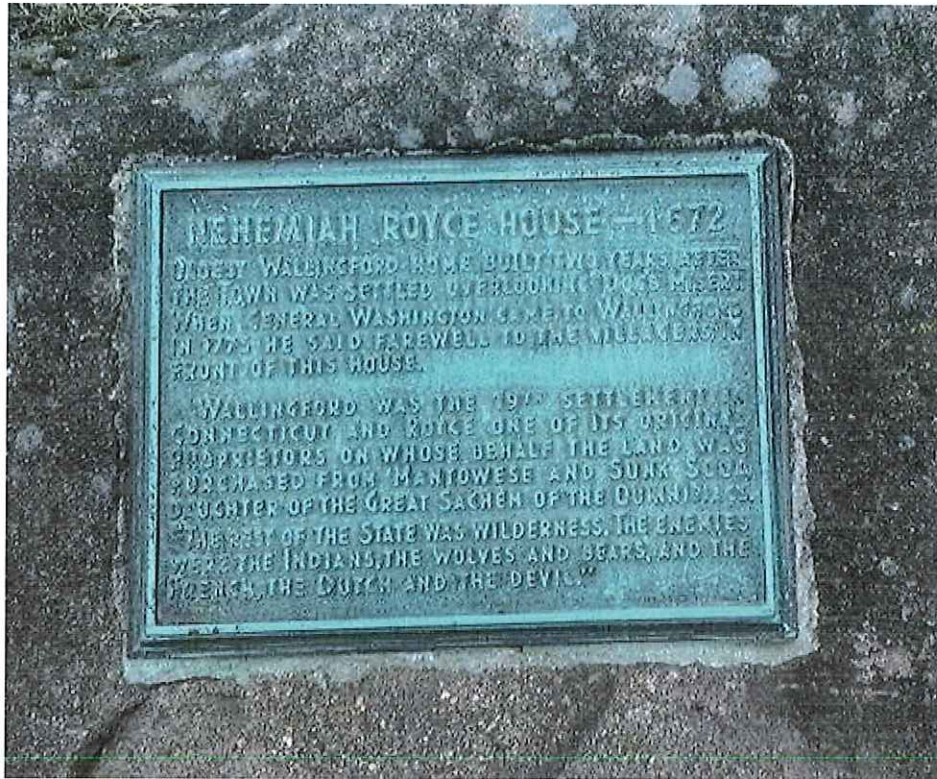




Nehemiah Royce House, Wallingford CT







NEHEMIAH ROYCE HOUSE - 1672

Oldest Wallingford home built two years after the town was settled. In 1670, 1703 present when General Washington came to Wallingford. In 1704 he said farewell to the village from front of this house.

Wallingford was the 19th settlement in Connecticut and Royce one of its original proprietors on whose behalf the land was purchased from Mantowese and Sunk Suck daughter of the Great Sachem of the Quinnipiac. "The rest of the State was wilderness. The enemies were the Indians, the wolves and bears, and the French, the Dutch and the Devil."