

UP TO DATE 7/77

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM  
(NATIONAL HISTORIC  
(Type all entries in complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Rhode Island
COUNTY:	Newport
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House

AND/OR HISTORIC: Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 17 Broadway

CITY OR TOWN: Newport 1st Congressional District

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Rhode Island	44	Newport	005

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Newport Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER: 82 Touro Street

CITY OR TOWN: Newport

STATE: Rhode Island

CODE: 44

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Newport City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER: Washington Square

CITY OR TOWN: Newport

STATE: Rhode Island

CODE: 44

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Building Survey (six photos 16 sheets)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1936  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Division of Prints and Photographs

STREET AND NUMBER: Library of Congress/Annex

CITY OR TOWN: Washington

STATE: D.C.

CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Rhode Island

COUNTY: Newport

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House as originally built was a two story, massive frame structure with a steeply pitched roof. It had a typical Massachusetts and Newport ground plan of a single room on either side of a central chimney. The chimney was constructed of brick but its pilastered top and mammoth size as well as the fireplaces with coves and rounded walls are typical of the earliest Rhode Island practice.

The steeply pitched roof extended out in front to form a high plaster coved cornice, illustrated in the often used builder's manual, Moxon's Mechanic Exercises of 1698. A study of the roof framing revealed that this cove was evidently part of the original construction.

A paneled door, surmounted by a simple pediment and flanked by two plain pilasters was probably added in 1782 when Lyman enlarged the house by adding a two-story lean-to across the back. He also put in three pedimented dormer windows in the front roof which were removed in the restoration. The sash windows were installed in 1772 by Wanton.

On the interior, there is much evidence of transitional style. The stairway, although built against the chimney, is done in three runs which is luxurious in comparison with the ladder-like steepness of seventeenth-century stairs. The closed stringcourse with heavy moldings of cyma profile and short thickly turned balusters reveal a Jacobean flavor.

The framework was originally exposed in all of the rooms. This was masked in solid mid-eighteenth century fielded paneling. At this time the framing beams, including the summer beams, were also encased in paneling. The main parlor had extra detailing of fluted pilasters, framing an overmantel above the fireplace.

During the restoration of 1927, the framework in the upper north chamber was unmasked to show the chamfered ceiling beams and massive gunstock corner posts. The vertical boarding of the sheathed walls is painted to imitate paneling, marbled in dull red and gray. The cupboards flanking the fireplace in the dining room were altered so they could be opened to reveal the seventeenth-century brick fireplace, with the rounded side walls, and the curve of the cove between the mantel and chimney girt. The early diamond pattern of the paint in the early eighteenth-century kitchen ell was also restored.

BOUNDARY

The Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House is located on a corner lot with a small terraced garden behind. The boundary is drawn to include the

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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((NATIONAL HISTORIC  
LANDMARKS) (Continuation Sheet)

STATE Rhode Island	
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FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

7. Description second page

house and all its grounds beginning at the northwest corner at the intersection of Broadway and Stone Streets then continuing east along the south curb of Stone Street to the house located at the northeast corner on Stone and Spring Streets, then south along the wall of the house to its end, turning east and following the wall of the house to Spring Street, then south along Spring Street until the beginning of the fence which marks the southern boundary, then west along this fence until it intersects Broadway, then north along the eastern curb of Broadway to the point of beginning, as shown on the sketch map.

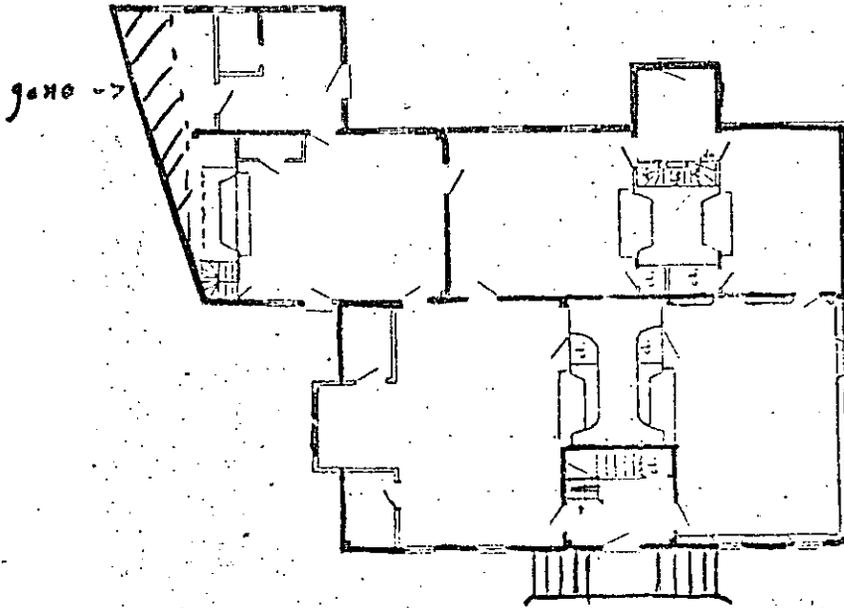
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM  
(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)  
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Rhode Island	
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Description



Floor plan of Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House from HABS drawing.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1700, c 1765

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House, probably built around 1695, is one of New England's best Jacobean houses, highly significant as a representation of architectural transition from the seventeenth-century to the eighteenth-century. While its framing methods illustrate the construction of houses of the early period, the elaboration of structural detail and ornamentation reflects the changes which began early in the eighteenth century and developed into Georgian design of the mid-century. Although other seventeenth-century structures may survive in Newport, none presents to such degree the lines and character of its original period. Few houses survive anywhere which so carefully preserve the early decorative features of a colonial house. The effort at architectural transition reflected by the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House makes building a valuable surviving link between the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

HISTORY

The earlier known mention of the house occurred in 1700 in a note from a town meeting which indicates that a Stephen Mumford probably built it just prior to 1700. The early method of framing supports the belief that the house he sold to Richard Ward in 1724 was the same one. The next record of ownership shows that Samuel Marryatt, tailor, owned it before 1749, the year he sold it to William Earl.

In 1765, Martin Howard, Jr., an English loyalist and author of the pro-British, "A Letter from a Gentleman at Halifax" was living in the house for it was in that year that an angry mob attacked the house, smashing the doors, windows, and furniture when news of the Stamp Act reached Newport. By his own record, Howard had refinished the house and he was probably responsible for the installation of paneling in the south parlor and chamber above.

One month after the attack, John Wanton purchased the house at public auction. He made repairs and may have added the pedimented door. His daughter, Polly, married Daniel Lyman in 1781 and their daughter, Harriet, married Benjamin Hazard. The house remained in the Hazard-Lyman family until 1927 when it was bought by the Newport Historical Society. It was restored the same year by Norman Isham to preserve features of the various historical periods and is still operated as a

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LANDMARKS)

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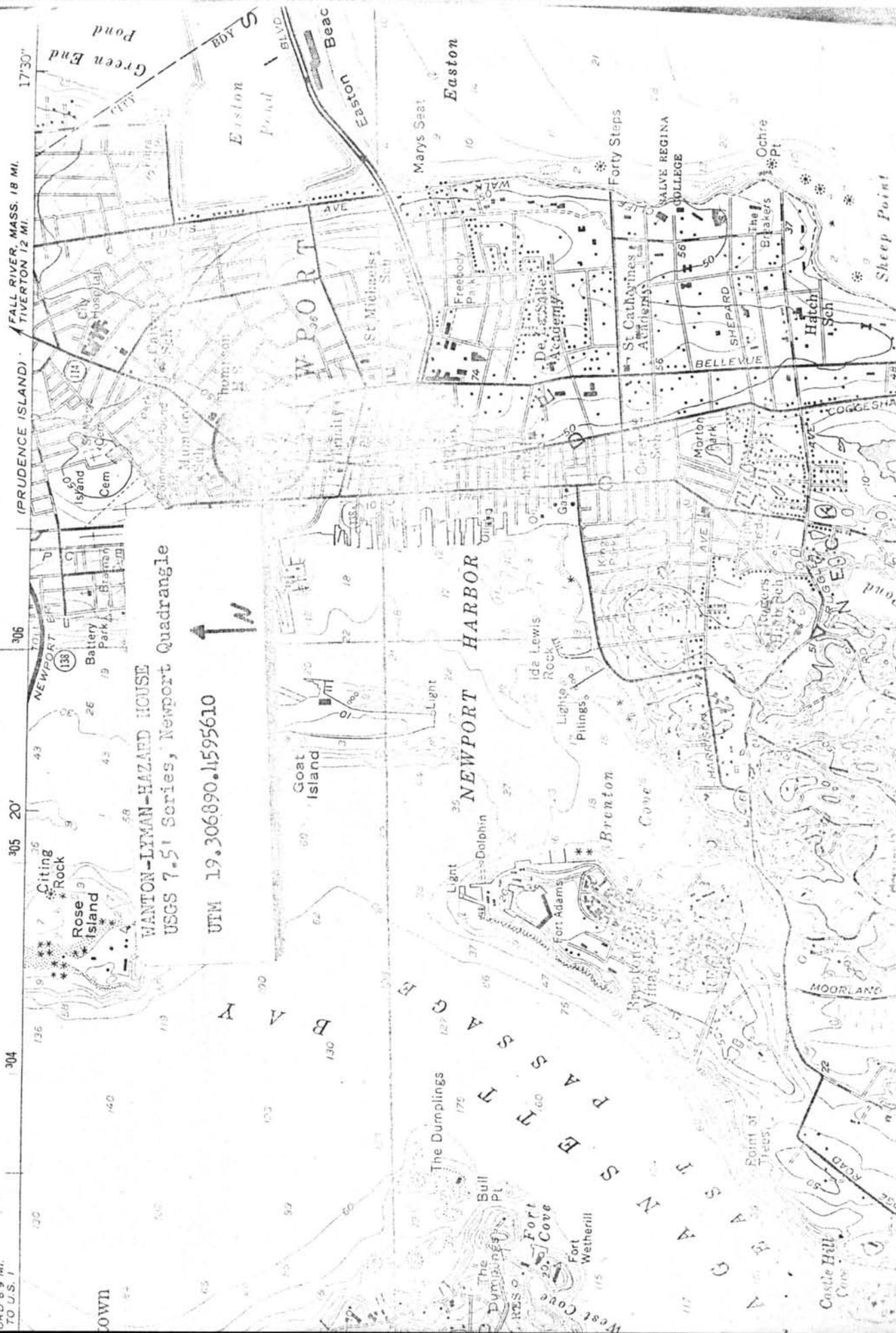
(Number all entries)

8. Significance second page

house museum.

UNITED STATES  
THE INTERIOR  
SURVEY

ORD 89 MI.  
TO U.S. I



WANTON-LYMAN-HAZARD HOUSE  
USGS 7.5' Series, Newport Quadrangle

UTM 19.306890.4595610



FALL RIVER, MASS. 18 MI.  
TIVERTON 12 MI.

17°30"

304

305 20'

306

17°30"



UNITED STATES  
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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS  
SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET

This sheet is to be used for giving additional information or comments, for more space for any item on the regular form, and for recording pertinent data from future studies, visitations, etc. Be brief, but use as many Supplement Sheets as necessary. When items are continued they should be listed, if possible, in numerical order of the items. All information given should be headed by the item number, its name, and the word (cont'd), as, 6. Description and Importance (cont'd) . . .

STATE	NAME(S) OF SITE
Rhode Island	Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House

7. Importance and Description (cont'd.)

The Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House was purchased by the Newport Historical Society from the Hazard family in 1927 and was restored under the direction of Norman M. Isham. The north bedchamber has been restored to show the original ceiling beams and the massive corner posts of the late 17th century. The house and its garden are maintained in excellent condition. Furnishings are of the 18th century, with a few earlier pieces. The house is open to the public from May 15 to October 15.

UNITED STATES  
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NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

1. STATE <b>Rhode Island</b>		2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. <b>VI, English Exploration and Settlement to 1700</b>	
3. NAME(S) OF SITE <b>Wanton - Lyman - Hazard House</b>			4. APPROX. ACREAGE
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) <b>17 Broadway, Newport, Newport County, Rhode Island</b>			
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) <b>Newport Historical Society, 82 Touro Street, Newport, Rhode Island</b>			
7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant) <b>The Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House, built probably around 1695, is one of New England's best Jacobean houses and is highly significant as a representation of architectural transition from the 17th to the 18th century. Its sturdy frame construction harks back to the houses of the early period of New England settlement while its elaboration of structural detail and ornamentation reflects the changes which began early in the 18th century and developed into the Georgian buildings of the middle Colonial period. Although later research indicates that there may be other 17th century structures in Newport, the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House is the only one which presents to such a degree the lines and character of its original period.</b>  <b>The earliest known mention of the house dates from 1724 when it was transferred from one Stephen Mumford to Richard Ward, who, in 1740, became governor of the Colony of Rhode Island. By 1765, the house was occupied by Martin Howard, the Tory Stamp Master of Newport. The building was extensively damaged in the Stamp Act riots of 1765 and it is probable that subsequent repairs included the casing of the beams and the installation of the mantel panelling.</b>  <b>The house was originally a two and one-half story structure with a room on either side of the massive chimney and, probably, a kitchen ell on the rear. The chimney is of brick rather than stone. As brick was not common in Rhode Island before the 18th century, its use here represents a well-preserved early example of brickwork in the Colony. The characteristically steep pitch of the roof remains unchanged and the only major changes in the house's original exterior are the addition of a lean-to across the back and the installation of dormers, sash windows and the classic doorway which dates from 1732. The roof was kicked out in front to take a huge plaster coved cornice, indicating an attempt on the part of the original builder to break away from the simple treatment of the 17th century. The effort at architectural transition reflected by the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House makes the building a valuable surviving link between the 17th and 18th centuries. (cont'd.)</b>			
8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works) <b>Antoinette F. Downing, <u>Early Homes of Rhode Island</u> (Richmond, 1937); Hugh Morrison, <u>Early American Architecture</u> (New York, 1952); <del>XXXX X. Stevens and Jonas Bergner, <u>Two Papers on the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House</u>, <u>Bulletin of the Newport Historical Society</u>, no. LIX, October 1926.</del></b>			
9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Attach best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.) <b>Historic American Buildings Survey (six photos, 1936); Maud L. Stevens and Jonas Bergner, <u>Two Papers on the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House</u>, <u>Bulletin of the Newport Historical Society</u>, no. LIX, October 1926.</b>			
10. PHOTOGRAPHS* ATTACHED: YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		11. CONDITION <b>Good</b>	
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) <b>Charles E. Shedd, Jr.</b>		12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.) <b>Historic house - museum</b>	
		13. DATE OF VISIT <b>October 28, 1957</b>	
		15. TITLE <b>Historic Sites Historian</b>	
		16. DATE <b>January 14, 1960</b>	

\* DRY MOUNT ON AN 8 X 10 1/2 SHEET OF FAIRLY HEAVY PAPER. IDENTIFY BY VIEW AND NAME OF THE SITE, DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH, AND NAME OF PHOTOGRAPHER. GIVE LOCATION OF NEGATIVE. IF ATTACHED, ENCLOSE IN PROPER NEGATIVE ENVELOPES.

(IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED USE SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET, 10-317a, AND REFER TO ITEM NUMBER)

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STATE

Rhode Island

NAME(S) OF SITE

Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House

7. Importance and Description (cont'd.)

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