United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Westerly Downtown Historic District, Amendment (Boundary Increase)

other names/site number Nardone Motors

2. Location

street & number 12 Canal Street  □ not for publication

city or town Westerly  □ vicinity

state Rhode Island code RI county Washington code 009 zip code 02891

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this □ nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant □ nationally □ statewide □ locally. (□ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not meet the National Register criteria. (□ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is: □ entered in the National Register □ determined eligible for the National Register □ determined not eligible for the National Register □ removed from the National Register. □ other (explain)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
## 5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>private</td>
<td>buildings</td>
<td>1 buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>public-local</td>
<td>district</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>public-State</td>
<td>site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>public-Federal</td>
<td>structure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>object</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Name of related multiple property listings

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

- **N/A**

### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

- **0**

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

- COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store

### Current Functions

- WORK IN PROGRESS

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

- EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

### Materials

- foundation: CONCRETE
- walls: CONCRETE
- roof: SYNTHEHTICS: rubber
- other

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark “x” in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Criterion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☑</td>
<td>A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Criteria Considerations

(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B removed from its original location.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C a birthplace or grave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D a cemetery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F a commemorative property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Period of Significance

ca 1934

Significant Dates

ca 1934

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Nardone Construction, builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  approximately 1 acre

UTM References  
(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description  
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification  
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Frederick Biebesheimer, FAIA

organization  
date  20 November 2006

street & number  73 Washington Street, F2 telephone  860-434-7707

city or town  New London  state  Connecticut  zip code  06320

Additional Documentation  
Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property’s location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items  
(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner  
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name  William Gash/12 Canal Street LLC

street & number  PO Box 188  telephone  860-303-0388

city or town  Stonington  state  Connecticut  zip code  06378
DESCRIPTION

The two-story, flat roofed building at 12 Canal Street (formerly 46 Canal Street) was built ca 1934 as an automobile showroom for Nardone Motors. It is situated on a narrow site bounded by Canal Street on the east, the Pawcatuck River on the west, an Amtrak right-of-way on the north, and a commercial building on the south.

The front (east) elevation of the building is three bays wide and constructed of buff brick in a running bond; pilasters in slightly contrasting ochre brick divide the three bays. The principal entrance is centered on the east façade and consists of a pair of aluminum-frame, glass doors with matching side lights (The original fifteen-light wood door with equal matching side lights entry door and one side light are stored in the building.). A semi-circular sign panel worked in brick is located over the entrance. Paired, large, single-pane, fixed show windows are located to each side of the entry. The second floor windows were originally metal sash with operating vents but have recently been replaced with vinyl, one-over-one windows.

The first floor walls on the south, west and north elevations are of poured concrete construction with a stucco exterior finish. The second floor walls are of a buff brick matching the east elevation and were originally pierced by two, double-hung, wood windows (one example remains) which have also recently been replaced with vinyl, one-over-one windows.

Two original doors exist on the south elevation and one on the west elevation. Three vehicle doors provide access to the building; two of these have temporary doors installed while one appears to retain an original overhead door. The only other building detail is a wood molding at the roof line on the north and south elevations. Overhead loading doors have been installed on the south and west elevations.

The interior of the first floor, which contained an automobile showroom and repair shop, is an open plan with steel columns and beams supporting the second floor. A narrow set of stairs leads to both the second floor and to a small basement used for mechanical equipment. The second floor is also an open plan, with steel columns and beams supporting exposed wood roof rafters and diagonal roof sheathing.
List of Photographs

The information for numbers 1–5 below is the same for each photograph:

1. Westerly Downtown Historic District Amendment (2)
2. Washington County, Rhode Island
3. Frederick Biebesheimer, photographer
4. October 2006
5. Original negative at: Frederick Biebesheimer
   73 Washington Street, F2
   New London, Connecticut 06320

The following information is specific to the indicated photograph:

6. East and south elevations, view looking west.
7. Photograph #1

6. West elevation, view looking north.
7. Photograph #2

6. West and north elevations, view looking east.
7. Photograph #3

6. Interior view of first floor, looking east.
7. Photograph #4

6. Interior view of second floor, looking southeast.
7. Photograph #5
SIGNIFICANCE

The building at 12 Canal Street (formerly 46 Canal Street) is adjacent to the current boundary and, when added to the district, will contribute to the Westerly Downtown National Register Historic District. The property is located between the western boundary of the district and the Amtrak right-of-way. This modest, early-20th century property (ca1934) is similar in appearance to other buildings in the same block and has retained its architectural integrity except for recent reversible changes to the fenestration and entrances. Historic photographs and remaining historic fabric document these historic fenestration and entrance details. Twelve Canal Street, along with its neighbors, illustrates the development of the central business district after the turn of the century and merits inclusion in an amended district boundary.

Amadeo and Gus Nardone built the building at 12 Canal Street as a Chrysler Plymouth automobile dealership. The contractor was Nardone Construction. The Nardone Motors Auto Dealers is listed at 46 Canal Street in the 1936–1937 Westerly directory but not in the 1934–1935 directory, suggesting a construction date during this period.

While the overall architectural details of the building are plain, it is an example of a simplified, two-part commercial building of the period. Emphasis is focused on the front elevation, including divided-light wood door and side lights, semi-circular sign board, large show windows, contrasting brick pilasters, and a simple cornice. Common to other similar structures in the district, the non-public sides of the building are more utilitarian.
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Property</th>
<th>City/Town</th>
<th>County and State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Westerly Downtown Historic District Amendment (2)</td>
<td>Westerly</td>
<td>Washington County, RI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section Number</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Page 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The parcel added to the district by this amendment is identified by the Town of Westerly Tax Assessor’s Office as Plat 56 Lot 24.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes all of the land historically associated with the Nardone Motors Building.