

Gales Ferry National Historic District #1

Visual Inventory

Gales Ferry Historic District west of the railroad cut is architecturally significant as a well-preserved collection of historic buildings, dating from c. 1750 to 1930, which illustrate the development of the village as a small river trading port and its associations with the 19th century whaling and sealing trade from about 1750 to 1880. The district is distinguished by several exceptional examples of architectural styles, including the Federal, Greek Revival, and Italianate, which are individually significant and display a high level of craftsmanship.¹



Colonial Gambrel - Benajah Davis House, c. 1750



Vernacular Cape - John Allyn, Jr., House, 1795

¹ <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/132353528>

It derives further significance from its later long continuous association with the Yale-Harvard Regatta held annually on the Thames River after 1878. Many noteworthy houses contribute to the historical integrity of the district as representative examples of vernacular architecture from the late 18th century to the early 20th century. A few are fine examples of the work of local carpenter/joiners and all have consistency of scale, form, and materials.



Federal - Daniel Copp House, c. 1796



Cape - Thomas Geer House, c. 1796; large addition, c. 1890



Colonial/Federal - Guy C. Stoddard House, c. 1820



Cape - William Browning House, 1827



Cape - Abel Bolles House, 1842



Greek Revival - Stephen Gray House, 1842



Greek Revival - Capt. Austin Lester House, 1846



Late Greek Revival - Rebecca Bailey House, 1857



19th-century vernacular - John Bradford House, c. 1850



19th-century vernacular - William Bracewell House, c. 1850



Victorian Vernacular - Sarah Vincent House and adjoining Tradeshop, c. 1850



Italianate w Mansard Roof - Capt. Latham Brown House, c. 1875



Cape - Addition to Samuel Greer House, c. 1890



19th-century vernacular - Samuel Brown Store, 1899



Victorian Vernacular - John MacDougal House, 1903



Victorian Vernacular - Lucy B. Hempstead House, c. 1910



20th-century vernacular - Delphine Fish House, c. 1910



Colonial Revival, c. 1920