

CT Trust Resource ID: 1335

HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY – BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

State Historic Preservation Office, DECD, One Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor, Hartford, CT 06103

*Note: Please attach any additional or expanded information on a separate sheet.

Inventory form modified for the Creative Places - Arts & Letters Project

GENERAL INFORMATION

Building Name (Common): Charlton, Capt. Richard, House; Dodge, Ozias, Studio

Other Name(s) (Historic): Charlton, Capt. Richard, House

Street Address or Location: 12 Mediterranean Lane, Norwich

Town/City: Norwich Village: Norwichtown County: New London Designation(s): SR, SRHD, NR, NRHD, LHD

Owner(s): HERNANDEZ, ANGELA E

Public/Private: Private

Latitude: 41.5487 Longitude: -72.0981

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Domestic: single dwelling

Historic Use: Domestic: single dwelling; art studio

Accessibility to public: No Exterior visible from public road? No

Interior accessible? If yes, explain: NA

Style of building: Cape Cod cottage Date of Construction: c. 1750

Material(s) (Indicate use or location when appropriate) Clapboard, Brick, Fieldstone

Structural Systems(s): Post & Beam

Roof(Type): Gable (Material): Wood Shingle

Number of Stories: 1 1/2 Approximate Dimensions: 20' x 30'

Structural Condition: Excellent

Exterior Condition: Excellent

Locational Integrity: On original site Moved, When: NA

Alterations?: No If yes, explain: NA

Related outbuildings or landscape features: Shed

Surrounding Environment: Residential

Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

This house is located on a .15-acre parcel to the northwest of Mediterranean Lane on a steep slope rising toward the north. The slope up to the house is terraced with stone walls. It is a contributing resource in the Norwichtown National Register and Local Historic District and individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places. For description see National Register nomination:

<http://pdfhost.focus.nps.gov/docs/NRHP/Text/70000723.pdf>

Other notable features of building or site:

The house is a 1 1/2-story center chimney Cape Cod Cottage-type wood-framed and gable-roofed house. The façade is five bays with a centered door and side lights, flanked by two six-over-six windows on each side. The south end has a bay window at the main level, off-center toward the east. Siding is horizontal wood clapboard with corner board trim. The foundation is stone, the chimney above the roof is brick, and the roof is wood shingles. For further description see National Register nomination:

<http://pdfhost.focus.nps.gov/docs/NRHP/Text/70000723.pdf>

Architect: Unknown Builder/Maker: Unknown

Historical or Architectural importance:

This house is significant as an 18th-century sea captain's house and in the 20th century for its association with Ozias Dodge. It was the studio of Ozias Dodge (1868-1925), restored by Hannah and Ozias Dodge, subsequently the long-time home of Raymond Baily Case (ateacher at Norwich Free Academy), and later owned by Blanche Browning.

For further historical significance see National Register nomination: <http://pdfhost.focus.nps.gov/docs/NRHP/Text/70000723.pdf>

Hannah Sprague Dodge (1877-1963) grew up in Yonkers, NY and met Ozias Dodge when she was sitting for a portrait by Charles Dana Gibson. A family friend of the Spragues, Robert Porter Keep, the superintendent of the Norwich Free Academy, was a guest at their wedding. It was he who invited the Dodges to Norwich, where he was looking for a new director of the Norwich Art School, a division of the

Norwich Free Academy (founded 1854). Ozias became that director in 1897.

'At the time, Norwich must have seemed a paradise for the young couple. The city's economic success was still in full flower, yet it was surrounded by a rural and rustic landscape familiar to the Vermont of Ozias' youth. The Norwich families with pre-Revolutionary Era roots, made wealthy by manufacturing, shipping and commerce, were educated, traveled regularly, owned beautiful homes and family heirlooms and entertained in high style like those of Hannah's girlhood in New York. It was a small city; nevertheless, it boasted a beautiful museum which had opened eleven years earlier' (Zoe 2006).

The Dodges moved into a house on Mediterranean Lane, where other Academy faculty lived, and had a son, John. They entertained often, creating themed, costumed dinner events to which they invited new friends and colleagues. (Zoe 2006). Ozias Dodge left his academic position for a full-time art career, working in the studio at 12 Mediterranean Lane where he developed innovative techniques in etching, and then died in 1925.

Sources:

Interview by C. Hitchcock with Vivian Zoe at the Slater Memorial Museum, 10/24/2014.

Norwich Tax Assessors Records and GIS Viewer. Accessed at: <http://gis.vgsi.com/NorwichCT/Parcel.aspx?Pid=1441> .

Dodge, Hannah Sprague, obituary notice. 11/26/1963. New York Times.

Dodge, Hannah. 1958. Ozias Dodge 1868 – 1925. Norwich: Norwich Free Academy.

WPA Architectural Survey: Norwich historic building 021. Accessed at:

<http://cslib.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p4005coll7/id/4754/rec/27> .

Zoe, Vivian. 2006. 'Biography: Ozias Dodge.' AskArt web site. Accessed at:

http://www.askart.com/artist/ozias_dodge/19920/ozias_dodge.aspx?stm=dodge,%20ozias .

Luyster, Constance. 1970. Charlton, Captain Richard, House National Register Nomination No. 70000723. National Park Service. Zoe,

Vivian. Winter, 2011. 'The Slater Museum and Connecticut Artists: Unbreakable Bonds, Part II.' The Muse: Newsletter of the Slater Memorial Museum. Norwich: Slater Memorial Museum.

Photographer: Charlotte Hitchcock **Date:** 10/12/2014

View: South view

Form completed by: Charlotte Hitchcock **Printed On:** May 17, 2016

Organization: Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation

Address: 940 Whitney Avenue, Hamden CT 06517-4002

Threats: None known

Subsequent field evaluations:



12 Mediterranean Lane, southeast view

FOR OFFICE USE:

Town # _____ Site# _____ UTM _____
District ☐ S ☐ NR If NR, specify: ☐ Actual ☐ Potential