

## **Wilder Village Historic District**

*Historic Tour No. 4  
in the Town of  
Hartford, Vermont*

Wilder is one of five villages in the Town of Hartford and is located on the banks of the Connecticut River in the northeast part of town. It is named for mill owner Charles Wilder who, along with his brother Herbert, owned Olcott Falls Company, a paper mill in the 1880s. When Charles died in 1897, he left the Town \$12,000 to build a bridge over the Connecticut River providing the village name was changed from Olcott Falls to Wilder. At the Hartford Town Meeting of 1898, voters unanimously approved the name change.

Wilder also left \$30,000 for a building that would serve as a library and a place for social gatherings. In 1899, the Wilder Club and Library (#70) was built with a library, bowling alleys and billiard tables in the basement, and an auditorium and stage upstairs. Movies were shown in the building from 1920-27.

Two village waterfalls were used as early as 1785 to power corn and saw mills. Over the next centuries, the falls would play a major role in the growth of the village and its industries. By 1810, canals were built to transport boats around the falls by the White River Falls Company, organized by Millis Olcott of Hanover, New Hampshire, after whom the village originally was named after.

In 1865, The Chandler Paper Mill was started by Israel Gillette and Horace French, but washed out in the 1872 flood. In the early 1870s, the Gillette family began establishing rights to land around the falls, which opened the door to development. Deed records show that most of the land within historic district had been controlled by the Gillette family well into the 20th century.

The Olcott Falls Company, known locally as the Wilder Paper Mill, was originally built in 1883, and continued to contribute to the growth of the village, as many buildings were added to the complex over the next several years. By 1889, Wilder Village had 50 homes, a school house, post office, dry goods and grocery store, public hall, livery stable and Congregational church. Mill jobs drew a mix of workers including French Canadians, Irish, Polish, Italians and Scots. By 1883, the Olcott Falls Company employed more than 300 workers in a village of about 600 inhabitants.

Residential development was part of the Village's growth as mill workers needed housing. Olcott Falls Company built a boarding house (#170) in 1883. In the late 1880s, a grid of rectangular house lots was laid out for future development. Levi Hazen of West Hartford created a plan in the

late 1880s for 141 lots on twelve streets. The Hazen family was instrumental in buying and developing land throughout Hartford.

Mill life and town-wide growth continued, and at its height, the paper mill ran 24 hours a day, producing 45 tons of wet pulp and using nearly 300 cords of timber daily to keep up with the demand from daily city newspapers. In the 1880s, Mill workers were paid about \$1.50 a day and a boarding house next to the mill charged workers \$3.50 a week. In 1899, the paper mill was sold to the International Paper Company.

Mill life at Olcott Falls Company came to a standstill in 1927 when a strike by workers precipitated its shutting down. Olcott Falls Power Company operated the building after the mill closed, and in 1942, sold it to Bellows Falls Hydro-Electric Company. The dam and mill were converted to a hydroelectric plant and all the mill buildings were razed, except an office and the 1910 power plant. A modern Wilder Power Station was built in 1950, which cost \$16 million, and still operates today.

The Historic District you see today is a village that essentially was planned for employees of the paper mill. Most of the buildings that remain are residential and bear the style of that era. A common architectural form is late 19th century vernacular, gable-front houses. The larger houses that were built for middle and upper class families still stand on Hartford Avenue and Norwich Avenue. The Wilder Village Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on November 22, 1999.



C. 1900

**1. United Church of Christ (Congregational Church) 2087 Hartford Avenue, 1890:** In 1888, the Townspeople formed the Congregational Church in Olcott (Wilder) and built this important village landmark, which was dedicated on June 13, 1890. The church exhibits both Queen Anne and Stick Style architecture, with a clock on a gabled dormer at the base of the roof, on each side. The first floor double doors have raised panels filled with diagonal stickwork, capped with a Queen Anne style colored glass transom.

**2. House, 28 Gillette Street, c. 1880 (by 1906):** This house was owned by Helen Hayes Palmer in the early 20th century and once had an ell and a porch. It has had several modern changes. The

Palmer operated a general store around the corner on Hartford Avenue. A c. 1910 barn is located behind the main house.

**3. House, 42 Gillette Street, c. 1880 (by (1906):** This dwelling is the same as its neighbor (#2), but has retained more of its original architectural features.

**4. Cahill-Paul House 58 Gillette Street, c. 1890:** D.O. Gillette sold the lot to John W. Cahill in 1888, after two other owners, John T. Paul, an agent for International Paper Company, purchased it in 1906, and lived in it until 1960.

**5. Kinsman House, 66 Gillette Street, c. 1900:** Charles Kinsman acquired this property from the heirs of his late wife, Susan, daughter of Daniel Gillette. Gillette invested heavily in village real estate. The two-bay wide porch is supported by Roman Doric columns.

**6. House, 80 Gillette Street, c. 1880:** In 1943, this private home became a parsonage when Helen Hayes Palmer bequeathed it to the Federated Church. The earliest known deed shows the property was sold by W. Church to Joseph Coutermarsh in 1888.

**7. Amasa Cambridge House, 98 Gillette Street, c. 1887:** The land was originally sold by Daniel Gillette to Amasa Cambridge. From 1893 until 1948, it was owned by the United Church. Northwest of the house is a c. 1930 garage.

**8. Richardson-West House, 351 Norwich Avenue, c. 1884:** Land for this house was purchased from Daniel Gillette in 1884 by Stillman and Mary Richardson.

**9. Joseph Quimby Double House, 93 Gillette Street, c. 1911:** This double house was built on two house lots purchased by Quimby in 1911.

**10. House, 67 Gillette Street, c. 1890:** This house was built like its neighbor (#11) with a wing behind the main house. A 20th century porch is on the east side. The land was part of two lots purchased by B.E. Lewin from Edward Gillette.

**11. St. John House, 61 Gillette Street, c. 1890:** Built with the same plan as its neighbor (#10), the overall look of the house changed after its barn burned in 1997. The land was acquired by John St. John in two transactions with Edward Gillette and Charles Kinsman.

**12. Harry Elliot House, 35 Gillette Street, c. 1914:** Harry and Eva Elliot bought this bungalow in 1935 at a time when he operated an auto livery in the village. The house lot was originally part of a larger parcel extending to Hartford Avenue.

**13A. Garage, 23 Gillette Street, c. 1930:** Like its neighbor, the land was once part of a larger parcel, sold by Angie Gillette to Harry and Eva Elliot.



*(#1) Wilder Church.*

**14. Goss Tenement, 65 Hawthorn Street, c. 1890:** Annie Goss bought the land in 1890 and sold it in 1906 to George Coyle who worked at International Paper. The building is a multi-family house and matches another tenement at 2018 Hartford Avenue, built at the same time.

**16. Dean House, 39 Hawthorn Street, c. 1917:** The land for this house was sold from Daniel Gillette's estate in 1893 to Charles Cambridge. The house was built after Lydia Menut married Charles Dean. Menut purchased the west half of the land in 1915.

**17. Charles Cambridge House, 29 Hawthorn Street, c. 1885:** The earliest known deed for this house was in 1894. At that time it was sold by Bertha and Charles Cambridge to Anna Cambridge. Behind the house is a c. 1930 garage.

**18. Abbott House, 13 Hawthorn Street, c. 1892:** The house is on two house lots Edward Gillette sold to B.E. Lewin in 1892, who then sold it to Clara Abbott. Nelson Abbott, a coal dealer, probably had the house built shortly thereafter. The house has had numerous changes over the years.

**19. Campbell House, 34 Hawthorn Street, c. 1910:** The house is similar to others on the south side of Hawthorn Street. Allen Hazen built speculative houses on land acquired from Charles Hazen in 1909, and sold this one to Charles and Elizabeth Campbell around 1915. It has decorative molding above the second story windows and a barn attached to a small wing.

**20. Dionne House, 48 Hawthorn Street, c. 1915:** This is one of four houses Allen Hazen built on Hawthorn Street. Originally identical to its neighbor on the east, its decorative detailing is covered by aluminum siding. Hazen sold the house to Paul Dionne in 1918.

**21. Johnson House, 62 Hawthorn Street, c. 1915:** Like the Dionne House, this one has lost its decorative detailing through the application of aluminum siding. It was built at the same time by Allen Hazen. Southwest of the house is a c. 1950 garage.

**22. House, 76 Hawthorn Street, c. 1915:** One of the four properties Allen Hazen built on this street, it is a well-preserved example of modest worker housing in Wilder Village. Hazen sold the house lot and house to Fred Chapman in 1916. Southwest of the house is a c. 1920 garage.

**23. Coffin House, 77 Locust Street, c. 1940:** Allen Hazen sold the land to Everett Chapman in 1919. In 1940, Chapman sold the land to Earle and Ella Coffin who built the Cape Cod-style house. A c. 1950 garage has a gable front sheathed in board-and-batten siding.

**24. House, 65 Locust Street, c. 1950:** This Cape Cod-style house has an off-center wooden door entrance.

**25. House, 37 Locust Street, c. 1910:** The exact origins of this house are unknown. Records show land with building(s) was sold by Allen Hazen to Charles Campbell in 1919. A c. 1950 garage steps back in two sections.

**27. House, 81 Division Street, c. 1895:** The land was sold to John Brooks by Oren Taft in 1892.

**28. House, 63 Division Street, c. 1895:** This house shared the lot with its neighbor to the west (#27). Both houses were probably built by Thomas and Sarah Goold, as they purchased both properties in 1895.

**29. Hoyt House, 78 Division Street, c. 1900 (by 1906):** The lot had several owners between 1891 and 1903. Joseph LaChance (also known as Joseph Locke) who purchased the property in 1913, worked at International Paper. Emma Hoyt purchased the property in 1932.

**30. Coutermarsh Tenement House, 64 Division Street, c. 1906:** Mary Coutermarsh bought the lot as an investment, and sold it after the house was built to John Gillday in 1907. Gillday was known for buying many rental properties in Wilder Village. It has a c. 1930 garage on the southwest corner.



**31. Coutermarsh Property, 58 Division Street, c. 1892:** This building was owned by a blacksmith, Timothy Murphy, and a papermaker, John Bircher. The earliest deed shows that Emily and Clara Gillette sold the lot to William Chandler in 1892. Chandler sold the house to Queen Coutermarsh in 1893. The house has a c. 1920 hip-roofed garage.

**34. Labby House, 77 Fern Street, c. 1890:** This house's name may have come from Charles LaBay who purchased the lot from the Enos Gillette Estate in 1889. A c. 1930 garage is at the end of the driveway.

(#103) Hartford Avenue.

**35. Charles Labby House, 57 Fern Street, c. 1887:** Charles Labby and his wife, Agnes, bought the house in 1889 and sold it in 1904 to Wilfred and Odelia St. Armand. The house has a porch and an attached barn on the northeast side.

**37. Garrity-Fifield House, 78 Fern Street, c. 1890 (by 1906):** The earliest deed on this property shows William Garrity acquired it in two transactions, buying the west half in 1888 from the estate of Enos Gillette and the east half in 1894 from James Jordan. He continued to own this side-gabled house until 1922.

**38. House, 58 Fern Street, c. 1870:** This house's side-gabled cottage style suggests it may predate many of the village's 19th century houses. It has had a lot of changes over the years, with all windows replaced and a wing with an enclosed porch added. It was in common ownership with 78 Fern Street until 1941.

**39. Henry White House, 50 Fern Street, c. 1890:** The White family has owned this house for several generations. Henry White purchased the land from Henry B. Gillette in 1889.

**40. Morsey House, 40 Fern Street, c. 1890 (by 1906):** The Morsey House property was an investment for Sarah and Thomas Goold. The Goolds rented the property at first and then sold it in 1909 to Raymond Morsey. A 1909 date is on the earliest known deed.

**42. Dulac-Kapise House, 50 Depot Street, c. 1902:** This two-story gable-front house with characteristics of the Queen Anne style was converted to a multi-family residence. Sarah Goold sold the lot to Alphonse Dulac in 1902 for \$165. After the house was built, Dulac sold it to Louis (and Nellie) Minor, a paper mill employee.

**43. House, 35 Depot Street, c. 1870:** The side-gabled form of this duplex house is early 19th century, earlier than many of the village structures.

**46. House, 89 Depot Street, c. 1890 (by 1906):** This house is shown on the 1906 map of the village.

**47. Wilmot Store/Tenement, 99 Depot Street, c. 1902:** This tenement building originally included a store when built in 1902 by Allen Wilmot.

**50. Hunt House, 27 Norwich Avenue, c. 1906:** This house was a village post office sometime between 1907 and 1922. It was built for F.B. and Emma Hunt after they purchased the lot from Byron Lewin in 1906. North of the house is a c. 1923 garage.

**51. Dickerman-Palmer House, 49 Norwich Avenue, c. 1892 (by 1906):** Lewis and Emma Dickerman bought the lot from Mayette Marston in 1892. The house was constructed shortly thereafter, when it was sold to Bloomfield Palmer.

**52. Joseph Ellis House, 65 Norwich Avenue, c. 1890:** Joseph Ellis worked as a janitor in Hanover, NH, and purchased the land from Susan and Charles Kinsman in 1890. The Kinsmans were land speculators.

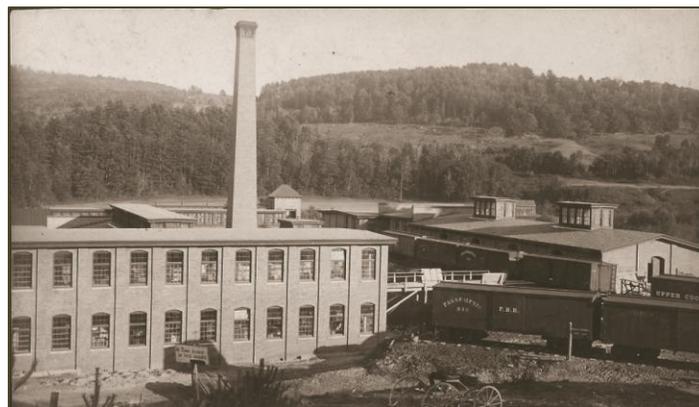
**53. Charles and Emma Thurston House, 93 Norwich Avenue, c. 1891:** Charles Thurston built the house after he purchased this land in 1891 from Susan Kinsman. It remained in the Thurston family until 1946.

**54. Horace Pease Property, 127 Norwich Avenue, c. 1894 (by 1906):** Horace Pease apparently purchased this site for a rental property from Henry B. Gillette in 1894. The house was built by 1912. The house has a side entrance with a glass and panel door, fitted with stained glass.

**55. Thurston Property, 135 Norwich Avenue, c. 1906:** Charles Thurston built this house after he bought two lots from Edward Gillette and John S. Rand in 1899. The other house is at 165 Norwich Avenue. The property remained two lots until subdivided in 1962.

**56. Thurston Property, 153 Norwich Avenue, c. 1906:** This house was built by Charles Thurston with the same plan as the house he built at 65 Norwich Avenue.

**57. Harlow House, 177 Norwich Avenue, c. 1900:** Charles E. Harlow was an engineer for International Paper Company. He and his wife, Addie, purchased the land through two transactions in 1898 and 1899 and built the house. They sold it in 1918.



*Wilder Mill.*

**59. Alger-Fletcher Tenement, 217 Norwich Avenue, c. 1921:** Arthur Alger bought the land from Marinda Turner in 1921 after a fire destroyed buildings on the property, and built the two-family house in 1921. Northeast of the house is a c. 1921 shed-roofed building.

**61. Dana-Kilbourn House, 249 Norwich Avenue, c. 1891:** Built by Charles Dana on land he bought from Edward Gillette in 1891, is a two-bay wide house with a porch and a barn. Gilbert Kilbourn, a machinist, bought the property in 1907, and lived there until 1943.

**62. George and Mary Coyle House, 285 Norwich Avenue, c. 1907:** The house is well-preserved with its original detached barn. Originally developed on two parcels purchased from John Bacon in 1906 and Charles Dana in 1907, the Coyle family owned the property until 1961.

**63. Herrick House, 282 Norwich Avenue, c. 1894:** The land for this house was purchased by Achsa Herrick in 1893 from Byron Lewin.

**64. House, 238 Norwich Avenue, c. 1875:** The earliest deed shows Horace Pease purchased the house from Viola and Lumen Page in 1898. Lawrence and Ella Palmer bought this property in 1909 from Lewis Dickerman, and owned it until 1917. The Palmers operated a general store in Wilder Village.

**65. Henry Armstrong House, 212 Norwich Avenue, c. 1895:** The earliest deed for this house shows Charles Hazen purchased it from Edward Gillette and J.B. Rand in 1892. Northeast of the house is a c. 1895 two-story barn.

**66. Former Methodist Episcopal Church, 198 Norwich Avenue, c. 1890:** Once a church, this house had a 60-foot tower on its southeast corner. The Methodist Episcopal Church of Olcott (Wilder) bought the land from Daniel Gillette in 1890. In 1931, church trustees sold the property. Northwest of the house is a c. 1930 garage.

**67. Wilder School, 160 Norwich Avenue, 1912:** When the previous wooden Wilder School was condemned by the State Board of Health, this eight-room structure was built. It was designed by Hurd & Gove architects who also designed the Hartford Village School. The school population was growing during that time, from 142 in 1907-08 to 202 in 1911-12.

**68. Jacobs House, 120 Norwich Avenue, c. 1890:** The earliest deed for this property shows that T.B. Parrott bought it from Simon Jacobs in 1898. West of the house is a c. 1940 two-car garage with a shed addition.

**69. Henry Armstrong House, 102 Norwich Avenue, c. 1891:** Built for Henry Armstrong, a coal dealer who bought the land in 1891, this house remained in the Armstrong family until 1944.

**70. Wilder Club and Library, 78 Norwich Street, 1899:** Charles Wilder donated \$30,000 to provide the village with a library and place for social gatherings. Library trustees authorized an additional \$3,000 for wiring, heating, plumbing, ventilation and bowling alleys. The building was designed by Hartford architect Louis Sheldon Newton on land purchased in 1897 from Arthur and Martha Alger. The single-story brick building is an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style. An entrance portico is supported by four Roman Doric columns that have a Palladian-style window on each side. It still retains a public library, a stage, a basement meeting room, and an (unusable) bowling alley.

**70A. Wilder War Memorial, c. 1920:** Southwest of the library building is a World War I memorial erected by the Wilder Men's Club.

**71. Thomas P. Goold House, 54 Norwich Avenue, 1895:** Built for prominent Wilder merchant Thomas Goold and his wife, Sarah, he was manager and treasurer of Goold & Co. His business operated a grocery store and a men's clothing store. The house was drafted by Philadelphia architect Emily Elizabeth Holman, and is one of a few known professionally-designed buildings in the village. Hartford Historical Society has some of the original building specifications, bill of materials, and a tinted water color sketch. The house is a good example of the Queen Anne style, with an asymmetrical gable front and a variety of projections and decorative details.

**72. William Bowden Store, 36 Norwich Avenue, c. 1891:** In the early 1900s, a barber occupied one of the storefronts, and the rear section was offices. William Bowdon bought the land in 1891. The Bowdon family owned it until 1936. Southwest of the main building is a c. 1950 garage.

**73. Old Post Office Building, 4 Norwich Avenue, c. 1891:** This building was demolished in 1999 to provide space for a new post office. It had served as a post office/variety store, a beauty shop and apartments. The building had shared a lot with the Palmer-Cannell-Bracey General Store until the land was subdivided in 1970.

**74. Palmer-Cannell-Bracey General Store, 2 Norwich Avenue, c. 1891:** This building was demolished in 1999. The site once had a general store and a second floor tenement. It was converted in 1959 to six apartments. It was built for Orren Taft and George Tarbell who bought the land from Frank Marston in 1891.

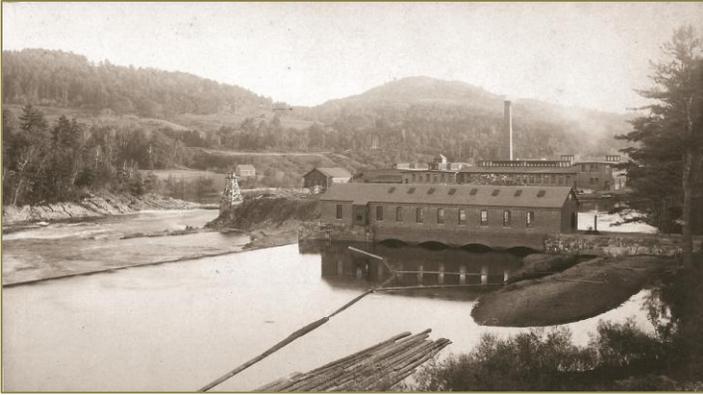
**75. House, 1741 Hartford Avenue, c. 1890 (by 1906):** The exact date of construction is unknown. It was owned in 1908 by Thomas Goold, a well-known local businessman, and sold by the sheriff at auction after the property was attached. It now is multi-family tenement.

**78. House, 1809 Hartford Avenue, c. 1880:** The house was owned by Orren Taft prior to 1900 and then bequeathed to the First Universalist Society. Eighteen years later, the Society sold it.

**79. Bircher-Whitney House, 1829 Hartford Avenue, c. 1886:** Built by John T. Brooks in 1886, he sold it to James Bircher. The Bircher family continued to live in the house until 1944 when it was sold to Mabel Whitney. In 1979, Michael Mansur purchased the property and converted it to rental housing.

**80. Jordan Tenement (Lyford House), 1845 Hartford Avenue, c. 1890 (by 1906):** This late 19th century style house was built prior to a 1906 village map. By 1915, George Jordan, a janitor at the Wilder Club, owned the building with his wife, Helen. In 1922, it was sold to John Gillday who owned many properties in the village. Harry and Katherine Lyford bought the property in 1943. East of the attached garage is a c. 1920 detached building.

**81. Hadley House, 1857 Hartford Avenue, c. 1890 (by 1906):** This house was one of several rental properties owned in Wilder by John Gillday. The earliest deed known shows that Thomas Goold sold the property in 1909 to Melince Hadley. The building was known as Hadley Tenement.



*Wilder Mill showing Generator House.*

**82. Beauchaine-Hoyt House, 1867 Hartford Avenue, c. 1903:** The name for this building comes from Joseph and Emily Beauchaine who built the house, and from Emma Hoyt who purchased it from Joseph Locke in 1932. Locke worked at the local paper mill.

**83. Emily Hatch House, 1897 Hartford Avenue, c. 1892 (by 1906):** This house has the same plan as its neighbor at 1867 Hartford Avenue. The land was sold in 1892 by Susan Kinsman to John Brooks. By 1899, Emily Hatch purchased the property, and lived in the house until her death in 1922.

**84. Charles Goss Double House, 1911 Hartford Avenue, c. 1910:** Charles Goss was owner of the local general store on Norwich Avenue and built this double house after buying the property in 1908 from Horace Pease.

**85. House, 1931 Hartford Avenue, c. 1887:** This house was built for Joseph Lovell after he bought the land from Ben Gillette in 1887. It is a small, gable-front cottage with a porch and wing. East of the house is a c. 1910 barn.

**86. Eastman-Wilmot-MacAulay House, 1953: Hartford Avenue, c. 1888:** This house was once a livery stable and tenement owned by Allen Wilmot in 1891. Angus MacAuley bought the house in 1899 and lived there until 1944.

**88. Harry Kenyon House, 1997 Hartford Avenue, c. 1910:** This house was one of several land parcels conveyed by Charles Hazen to Allen Hazen in 1909. Hazen invested in the area by constructing and selling a number of buildings in the Village. Myrtie Kenyon bought the house in 1913. Harry J. Kenyon worked as a mill repairer. The Kenyon family continued to own the house until 1953.

**89. Newton Property, 2017 Hartford Avenue, c. 1890:** Edward B. Newton purchased the land from Susan Kinsman in 1888 and the house was built shortly thereafter. It remained in the Newton family until 1965.

**90. Newton Property, 2033, Hartford Avenue, c. 1890:** This multi-family house is on the same lot plan as 2017 Hartford Avenue. The land was sold in 1887 to Edward B. Newton by Susan Kinsman. The attached c. 1910 garage has another garage at the rear.

**91. Edward LaPointe House, 2043 Hartford Avenue, 1935:** This house is a rare Vermont example of the Tudor Revival style. It is wood-shingled, has a round-arched doorway and on the south side, two quarter circle windows. Edward and Rose LaPointe built the house after buying the land from Harry and Eva Elliott in 1935. The LaPointe family owned it until 1974.

**92. Double House, 2072 Hartford Avenue, c. 1900:** An early deed refers to Susan and Charles Kinsman selling the land in 1909 to Laura Smith. Behind the house is a c. 1940 small garage.

**94. Palmer Store, 2046 Hartford Avenue, c. 1890:** Also referred to as Leon Abbott's Store, the Palmer family owned this general store from 1898 to 1939. Leon and Irma Abbott owned it from 1941 to 1950. The building has had many changes and was converted to a multifamily residence in recent years.

**95. Goss Tenement, 2018 Hartford Avenue, c. 1900:** This tenement was designed with the identical plan as the building at 65 Hawthorn Street (#14), and was built by the same person, Edward Goss. Behind the house is a c. 1910 garage with a gable front.

**97. Brown-Turner-Hutchinson House, 1948 Hartford Avenue, c. 1890:** A well-preserved house with a three-sided bay window next to the entrance it was built for Pembroke and Elizabeth Brown. In 1898, they sold the property to Hazen and Minnie Gusha. Joseph and Marinda Turner bought it in 1905. Harry and Marie Hutchinson were the next owners, and their family owned the property from 1921 to 1978. West of the house is a c. 1930 garage.

**98. Leon Demeritt House, 1924 Hartford Avenue, c. 1900:** This house was built for Leon Demeritt who assembled two land parcels in 1898 and in 1901. In 1926, Donat and Marguerite Trottier bought the property and family members lived there until 1965. Donat operated a barber shop in the village. The house has examples of both clapboard and decorative shingle siding. Southwest of the house is a c. 1920 garage.

**99. Eben Sargent Property, 1902 Hartford Avenue, c. 1900:** Eben Sargent originally bought two parcels from David Chapman in 1898. This house was identical to its neighbor on the south side, until it underwent major renovations in 1995.

**100. Eben Sargent Property, 1898 Hartford Avenue, c. 1900:** Deeds indicate Sargent built this tenement house between 1898 and 1923, the same time he built a house at 1902 Hartford Avenue (#99). Family members owned the house until 1963. West of the house is a c. 1900 barn.

**101. Goss-Cusson House, 1874 Hartford Avenue, 1916:** This house was owned by Lulu Patterson Goodwin in 1916, who married Dr. Rollin Goss, a mill physician. Charles and Agnes Cusson bought the property in 1948. A house with its gambrel end to the street, it has a pair of diamond-paned attic windows.

**102. Relihan House, 1860 Hartford Avenue, c. 1890:** The earliest deed shows it was owned by Mortimer Brooks in 1889 and changed hands several times over the years. Jeremiah Relihan bought the house in 1905 and his family owned it until 1945.

**103. Brooks House, 1844 Hartford Avenue, c. 1886:** John Brooks purchased the land in 1886, and conveyed the land and house to Charles Brooks in 1888. The front of the second story is cantilevered, supported by three plain posts, and has a recessed porch. Southwest of the house is a c. 1920 garage with folding four-panel doors.

**104. Bowdon House, 1836 Hartford Avenue, c. 1890 (by 1906):** Lorenzo Rines bought the property in 1887 and sold it two years later to William Bowdon.

**105. Sargent-Ricker House, 1816 Hartford Avenue, c. 1893:** This is one of five identical rental houses built by Epen Sargent on the west side of Hartford Avenue between Fern Street and Ravenswood Terrace. The house has a porch supported by split posts with acorns at the top.

**106. Sargent Tenement, 1808 Hartford Avenue, c. 1893:** This house was built by Epen Sargent using the same plan as its neighbors. Southwest of the house, a c. 1905 barn originally housed a butcher shop.

**107. Sargent Tenement, 1796 Hartford Avenue, c. 1893:** This house was built by Epen Sargent using the same plan as its neighbors. Southwest of the house is a c. 1940 garage.

**108. Sargent Tenement, 1780 Hartford Avenue, c. 1893:** Built by Epen Sargent using the same plan as its neighbors. The house's c. 1940 garage also is identical to the one at 1796 Hartford Avenue, and retains its decorative cornerboards and molding on the overhead door.

**109. Sargent Tenement, 1770 Hartford Avenue, c. 1893:** This is the southernmost of the five houses built by Epen Sargent. Although altered with the addition of an enclosed porch, the house still has several original features unlike the others. These include clapboard siding, simple cornerboards, a plain frieze, original lipped lintels, and 2/2 windows.

**110. Dutile-Bowles House, 1740 Hartford Avenue, c. 1890: (by 1906):** This house has a plain frieze under overhanging eaves. Decorative pilasters flank the windows which have recessed panels below and moldings above. Edward Goss sold the property to Theodore Dutile in 1902, and was sold a few times before Jessie Bowles purchased it in 1923. It was owned by Bowles family members until 1964.

**111A. Garage, c. 1950:** West of the house at 135 Locust Street is a single-car garage.

**112. House, 130 Locust Street, c. 1900 (alt. c. 1940):** The house's rear portion was originally a barn. In the early-to-mid-20th century it was expanded and converted to a residence. The single-story, low-gable front appears to have been added c. 1940-50.

**113. House, 138 Locust Street, c. 1900 (alt. c. 1940):** This building was once a hen house. Both this house and the one at 130 Locust Street were originally outbuildings for the main house at Hartford Avenue and Locust Street (#98).

**114. House 143 Division Street, c. 1928:** Built for Harry J. Carbonneau, this house had an entrance porch in the rear. Carbonneau sold the property to George and Margaret Rogers. Fred and Mary Rogers acquired it in 1948. Fred worked as a carpenter.

**115. House, 1866 Hartford Avenue, c. 1930:** This house is behind the Relihan House (#102). Deeds show the property was sold by Clara Gillette Stephens to Mary Ellen Relihan in 1937.

**116. Couture House, 133 Fern Street, c. 1930:** The Couture House is a good example of a period hipped roof bungalow. The center entrance retains its original glass door. Lucian Couture, a carpenter, bought the property from Malvina Landry in 1926 and had the house built. Couture family members continued to live in the house until 1977.

**119. Fountain House, 167 Fern Street, c. 1890:** Joseph Fountain bought the land from Henry B. Gillette in 1890 and the house was built shortly thereafter. It is one of the original houses on this part of Fern Street. Fountain, who worked in the local paper mill, also owned the adjacent property

at 177 Fern Street. Philomena Fountain sold the house to Aurore and Arthur Jarvis in 1923. Jarvis worked as a carpenter.

**120. Fountain-Lackey House, 177 Fern Street, c. 1907:** Similar to the adjacent house to the east, this one was built for Joseph Fountain after he bought the land from Emily Gillette in 1907. It was sold to Frank and Bertha Lackey in 1924. Lackey worked as a farmhand and his family owned the property until 1972. This house has its gable end to the street and modern addition on the west side. Behind the house is a c. 1920 wood-frame garage.

**123. Kingdon-Benedict House, 134 Fern Street, c. 1937:** Raymond and Laura Kingdon bought the land in 1937 and had the Cape Cod-style house built. Both worked for Cross-Abbott Co. grocers in White River Junction. Albert and Elizabeth Benedict bought the property in 1948. Albert Benedict worked at Ward Baking Company.

**125. House, 40 Ravenswood Terrace, c. 1890:** This house is apparently built on a consolidation of two adjacent house lots. Either Philip Blais or Joseph Minor families owned the house in the late 19th or early 20th centuries. The property was bought by Jessie Bowles in 1923 from Placide Adams. Bowles family members owned it until 1947.



(#103) Looking north up Hartford Avenue.

**126. Jarvis House, 1726 Hartford Avenue, c. 1907:** This is one of the few examples of a 1 1/2-story, 3x2-bay, side-gabled house in the district. Phidine Jarvis bought the property from Theodore Dutille in 1907, and the Jarvis family owned it until 1958. North of the house is a c. 1910 small garage that retains its history.

**127. Couture House, 1706 Hartford Avenue, c. 1890:** This house was owned by the Couture family for 80 years. Joseph Couture, who worked at the local paper mill, bought the house from George Coyle in 1902. Northwest of the house is a c. 1910 garage with a shed addition.

**128. House, 1686 Hartford Avenue, c. 1890:** Deeds show this house was owned by Carleton P. Frost of Hanover, NH. After he died in 1896, Gilman and Edwin Frost owned the house. Northwest of the house is a c. 1950 garage with a small shed in the rear.

**129A. Garage, 1707 Hartford Avenue, c. 1910:** Northeast of the house at 1707 Hartford Avenue is a garage with a wooden door and a sliding door.

**131. Dulac House, 136 Horseshoe Avenue, c. 1903:** This house is different than most of its neighbors. The 1 1/2-story building has a small gable-front on its western half. Its entrance has the original glass-and-panel door. Edmund Dulac bought the land from Henry Gillette in 1903 and built the house shortly thereafter.

**132. Pease Property, 112 Horseshoe Avenue, c. 1900:** Horace Pease built the house as a rental property after he bought the land from Henry B. Gillette in 1884. He sold the house in 1912 to Placide Adams, a White River Junction building contractor. The house has a style typical of Wilder Village houses.

**134A. Garage, 72 Horseshoe Avenue, c. 1920:** West of the house at 72 Horseshoe Avenue is a detached, gable-front garage with clapboard siding.

**135. House, 38 Horseshoe Avenue, 1928:** This simple house may have replaced an earlier dwelling destroyed by fire in 1928. The property was in common ownership with 72 Horseshoe Avenue (#134). Mrs. E.O. Adams owned the property from 1929 to 1973.

**136. Lambert-Gauthier House, 1695 Hartford Avenue, c. 1890:** Land for this house was purchased by Damose and Marguerite Lambert in 1890 from Henry B. Gillette. In 1906, it was sold to Edmund Gauthier. The Gauthier family owned the property until 1984. Behind the house is a c. 1930 flat-roofed garage.

**137. House, 18 Chestnut Street, c. 1890:** An early deed shows Alonzo J. Corliss bought the property in 1890 from Daniel O. Gillette. The 1 1/2-story house has had numerous changes over the years.

**138. House, 2131 Hartford Avenue, c. 1900:** An early deed shows Willard Avery bought the property in 1887 from Joseph and Millie Turner and sold it five years later to Harvey Doubleday. Behind the house is a c. 1950 garage.

**139. Kinsman Property, 2119 Hartford Avenue, c. 1900:** This property was owned by Charles C. Kinsman for many years until he died in 1949. A c. 1900 1 1/2-story barn is located behind the house.

**140. Lincoln House, 2109 Hartford Avenue, c. 1900:** Early owners of this house were Charles Lincoln in 1907, a steamfitter at the paper mill, and Conrad Goodrich in 1923, a music teacher.

**141A. Barn/Garage, 167 Chestnut Street, c. 1910:** Southwest of the house is a c. 1910 building with two sets of double doors and a loft over the west door. A c. 1910 small shed is east of the house, and a c. 1910 garage faces Chestnut Street.

**142. House, 416 Norwich Avenue, c. 1920:** The earliest known deed shows the Olcott Falls Company bought the land in 1924. The adjacent land, now part of this property, was sold to the Diocese in 1897 by the Daniel Gillette estate. Olcott Falls bought the property in 1938. The Foursquare house has a c. 1920 garage with an addition behind it.

**146. Quimby Property, 364 Norwich Avenue, c. 1900:** This house was one of several tenements in north Wilder owned by Joseph Quimby in the early 20th century. The house has had various additions.

**147. Quimby Property, 356 Norwich Avenue, c. 1910:** This Foursquare type house has the characteristic box-like form. Charles Kinsman sold the land to Joseph Quimby in 1896. Sarah Noyes bought it in 1924 from Ella Quimby and continued to own it until 1970.

**150. House, 407 Norwich Avenue, c. 1900:** Fred and Mabel Mayette bought this gable-front dwelling in 1944.

**151. Mayette House, 397 Norwich Avenue, c. 1945:** This ranch house was built on part of the land bought by Fred and Mabel Mayette from Mary Coyle in 1944. Fred Mayette worked as a machinist in West Lebanon, NH.

**152. Coyle House, 369 Norwich Avenue, c. 1930:** George Coyle was superintendent of International Paper's mechanical department.

**153. Quimby Property, 355 Norwich Avenue, c. 1891:** One of several tenements owned by Joseph Quimby in north Wilder, he bought the land for this house from Daniel O. Gillette in 1891 and Warren French in 1900. He sold the building to Edwin Hazen in 1920, who along with Gillette and Quimby, invested in village real estate.

**154. House, 128 Gillette Street, c. 1900:** This house may have been built prior to 1888 when Warren Russell purchased the property from Charles Moody. In 1895, the property was sold to William Ludlam, and then to Blanche Roberts in 1931. It remained in her family until 1981.

**155. Brooks-Atwood House, 482 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1897:** When Olcott Falls Company sold this property to Abbie Brooks in 1897, it stipulated that it could not be used to sell liquor, for immoral purposes or to create nuisances that would offend those in the residential district. Olcott Falls Company, a paper mill, invested in several Wilder properties. Brooks sold this asymmetrical house to Katie Atwood in 1900, who owned it until the end of her life 20 years later.

**156. Tarleton-Bacon House, 470 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1903:** This is an unusual house in the district because it has a broad, 2 1/2-story gable-front massing. The land was sold to Grafton Tarleton in 1897 by the Olcott Falls Company. The house was probably built after John L. Bacon bought the land in 1903.

**157. House, 434 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1930:** This property was part of a larger piece sold to Harry Elliott by Olcott Falls Company in 1928. Northwest of the house is a c. 1930 garage.

**158. House, 414 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1930:** Like its neighbor, this property was part of a larger parcel bought by Harry Elliott from Olcott Falls Company in 1928. The house has the same plan as the adjacent house.



*(# 74) Historic view north up Norwich Avenue from Depot Street.*

**159. Southwick House, 394 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1950:** This house lot was subdivided in 1950 from the adjacent property to the north when Frederick Southwick bought the land from Henry and Charlotte Leavitt. Southwick built the Cape Cod-style house.

**161. Mill House, 350 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1870:** This house is one of at least 15 houses built by the paper mill, Olcott Falls Company, in the late 19th century. In 1929, Olcott Falls Company sold several houses, including this one, to Harry Elliott. Elliott rented out the house.

**162. Mill House, 328 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1870:** This is another house built by the local paper mill in the late 19th century. Like 350 Passumpsic Avenue, it is a 1 1/2-story, gable-front house with a porch and wing. Olcott Falls Company sold this property to Mildred Sumner in 1929.

**164. House, 286 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1928:** This property was one of several bought by Harry and Fay Elliott from Olcott Falls Company in 1928-29.

**165. Mill House, 246 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1890:** Harry Elliott bought this former mill house from the Olcott Falls Company in 1928. He sold it a year later to George and Mary Cooper. Northwest of the house is a c. 1930 garage with shiplap siding and double vertical board doors.

**166. House, 208 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1886:** A sign on this house claims it was built in 1886, but has not been verified. Deeds only show the property was bought by Richard and Margaret Paul in 1936 from the Olcott Falls Company. This 3x2-bay, side-gabled house with clapboard siding is unusual for the District. The center entrance has a wooden door with an upper Queen Anne style window.

**167. Sweet House, 154 Passumpsic Avenue, C. 1940:** This is another house lot sold by the Olcott Falls Company. Lawrence Sweet and Cora Sweet purchased the land in 1930. He worked as a janitor and laborer. By the late 1960s, part of the ranch-style house included a beauty shop. South of a modern garage is a c. 1940 garage.

**170. Boarding House, 68 Passumpsic Avenue, 1883:** Known as the Paper Mill Boarding House, the lot originally had an ice house and shed in the rear and an attached barn. Lawrence and Cora Sweet bought it in 1931 from the Olcott Falls Company.

**172. Alexander House, 127 Passumpsic Avenue, 1951:** This Cape Cod-style house was built on one of five lots purchased by William Young from Roger Lovell in 1951. Shortly thereafter, William and Mary Young sold it to Frederick and Ramona Alexander. Frederick Alexander worked for the Central Vermont Railroad.

**173. Mill House, 143 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1880:** This well-preserved, L-shaped house is one of the mill houses built and sold in the 19th century by the Olcott Falls Company. The Bellows Falls Hydro Electric Corporation purchased it in 1942. Behind the house is a c. 1920 small shed.

**174. Mill House, 179 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1880:** This former mill house, like its neighbor (#173), was purchased in 1942 by Bellow Falls Hydro Electric Corporation from the Olcott Falls Company. Northeast of the house is a c. 1930 garage.

**175. Woods House, 201 Passumpsic Avenue, 1950:** Robert and Regis Woods bought this Cape Cod-style house from Roger and Virginia Lovell in 1951. Robert Woods worked as an electrician for New England Power Company. South of the house is a c. 1950 detached garage with an overhead door, and a gable front. It is one of the best preserved garages of this type on this section of Passumpsic Avenue.

**176. Parker House, 221 Passumpsic Avenue, 1950:** This is one of five Cape Cod style houses Roger and Lillian Lovell bought as an investment. It sold in 1951 to Arthur and Lillian Parker. The

lot was one of many sold by Olcott Falls Company's to Bellows Falls Hydro Electric Corporation in 1942. Southeast of the house is a c. 1950 gable-front shed.

**177. Jurras House, 243 Passumpsic Avenue, 1950:** This Cape Cod style house is the northernmost of three Cape Cod houses, with the same three-bay front as its neighbors. It is on one of five house lots bought by Roger Lovell from New England Power Company in 1950. Lovell built the house, which then was purchased by Thomas and Maxine Jurras in 1951. He was a teacher and assistant principal at Hartford High School. The detached c. 1950 garage has its original overhead doors, and is the best preserved garage of the comparable Cape Cod properties.

**178. Mill House, 275 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1880:** This house is one of 15 built by the Olcott Falls Company for its workers in the late 19th century. Vernon and Lucille Sargent bought it in 1929. Unlike similar buildings in the neighborhood, the house does not have a porch. Northeast of the house is a c. 1930 garage.

**179. Mill House, 297 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1880:** One of several mill houses, it was acquired in 1929 by Harry B. Elliott as an investment. That same year he sold it to Knute and Susan Alquist.

**181. Mill House, 339 Passumpsic Avenue, c. 1880:** This mill house was sold by the Olcott Falls Company to Warren and Inez Peavey in 1931.

**182. Mill House, 205 Gillette Street , c. 1880:** A former mill house, it is one of several bought by Harry Elliott in 1929. It was purchased in 1948 by Alfred and Cecelia Duclos, whose family owned the property for 50 years. Southwest of the house is a c. 1930 garage of concrete blocks.

**183. Mill House, 221 Gillette Street, c. 1880:** One of the better-preserved mill houses in the neighborhood, this mill house has projecting eaves, a wing and shed garage. As is seen on many of the mill houses, at the base of the projecting eaves there is a distinctive bracket with balls on the front edge. Deeds show the house was part of the property bought by Nellie and Jessie Haff in 1956 from Clara Stephens.

*This web site recreates a brochure prepared with local funds from the Town of Hartford and a matching grant from the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation through the U.S. Department of the Interior under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.*

*Hartford is one of thirteen Certified Local Governments in Vermont and therefore is eligible for these grant funds through the Hartford Historic Preservation Commission.*

*For more information, contact the Hartford Department of Planning and Development Services, 171 Bridge St., White River Junction, VT 05001 or (802) 295-3075.*

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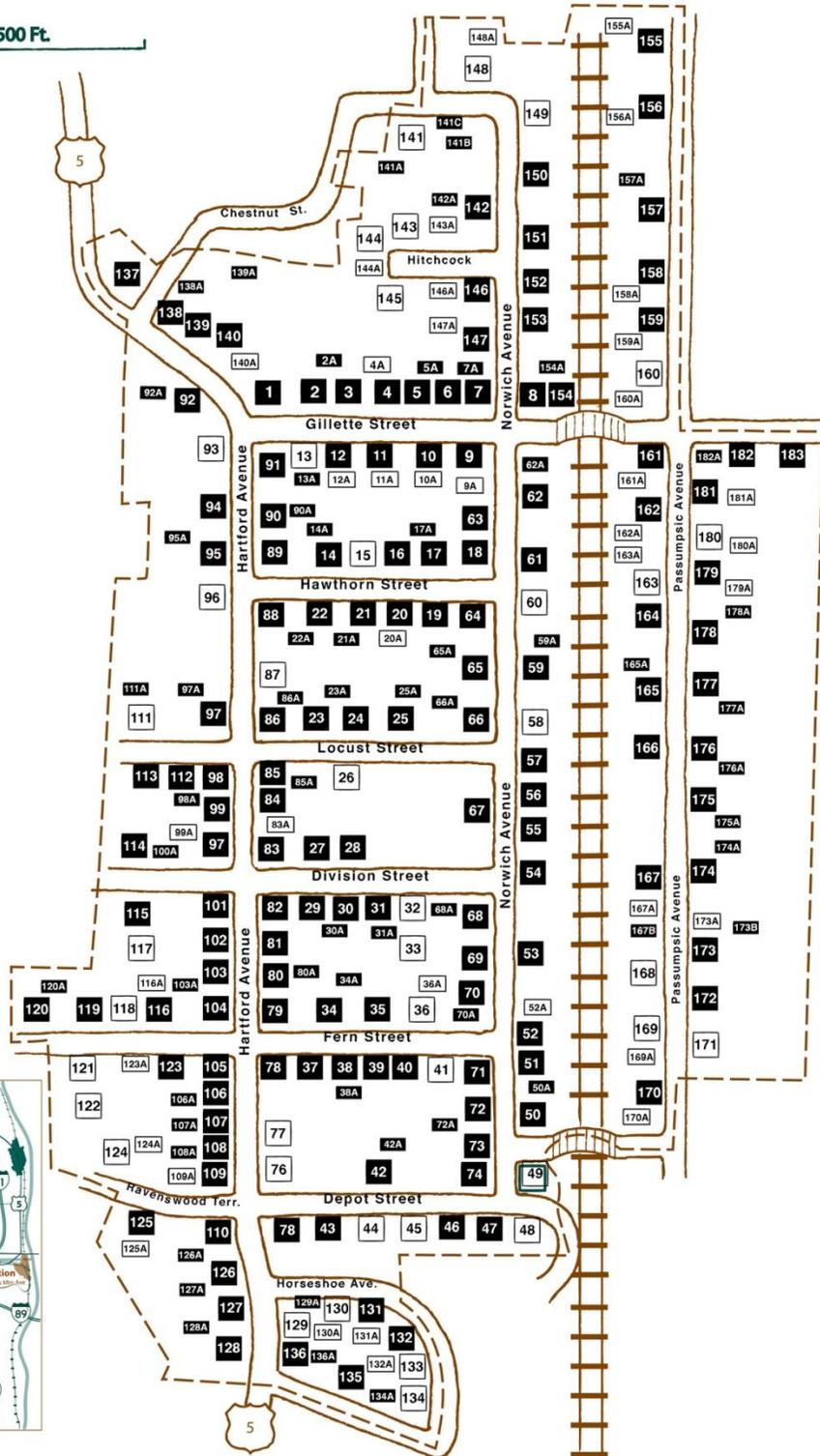
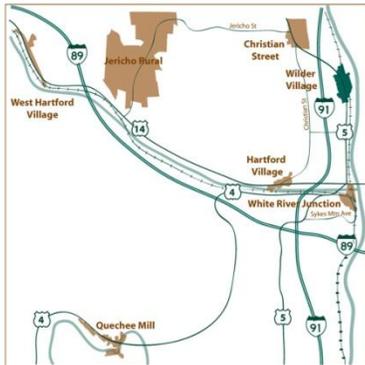
# Wilder Village Historic District

Town of Hartford  
Windsor County,  
Vermont  
2008

- Contributing
- Non-contributing



500 Ft.



Only contributing properties are included in the text.