

Hebron Historic Properties Commission

REPORT FOR DESIGNATING A HEBRON STRUCTURE AS A HISTORIC BUILDING

The Hebron Historic Properties Commission (HHPC) proposes that the Town of Hebron designate a structure as a local Historic Property. The building is located at 15 Gilead Street, situated on the grounds of the Hebron Town Office Building Complex. The building holds historical interest to the community for both its original use and as a memorial. It will provide educational opportunities for current and future generations.

1942 World War II Civilian Aircraft Observation Post at 15 Gilead Street, Hebron



Figure 1 - Builders Fred Lambert, Adolph German, Don Woodward, in front of nearly completed Civilian Aircraft Observation Post, October 1942

Historical Significance

The little twelve and a half foot square building (with windows on all sides, windowed lookout tower and railed walkway) served as the Civilian Aircraft Observation Post for the towns of Hebron and Columbia during World War II. The structure itself is fairly unimpressive, but the townspeople who wore blue badges proclaiming “Volunteer Observer, Aircraft Warning Service” are to be greatly admired.

The “Spotting Post” was a busy place as civilians were scheduled 24/7 to keep both eye and ear to the skies, to report any flying craft, and to thereby help protect the country from enemy invaders. About a quarter of the Columbia and Hebron residents volunteered to serve their town, state and nation from this vantage point. War is hell, but Hebron & Columbia remained steadfast during WW II, just as the towns’ early citizens had done during other conflicts. The Hebron/Columbia area is lucky to have this visual teaching aid to remind all of patriotism and vigilance.

Little observation posts were scattered all over the East and West coastal states, as that was the anticipated entry route for the enemy. With the advent of radar bringing an end to the Aircraft Warning Service’s civilian-manned spotting system, the posts were deserted and gradually deteriorated, or reverted to their pre-war uses. After checking with the Air Force, contacting the Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development, Offices of Culture & Tourism’s Historic Preservation and Museum Division, and researching many other venues, we have located ***no other*** East Coast World War II Civilian Aircraft Observation Post still in existence.

Building History

Before Pearl Harbor, 1941 - September 1942

Before Pearl Harbor, the Aircraft Warning Service had initially assigned the task of organizing “spotting posts” to the American Legion. Hebron, partnered with Columbia, was actively involved in establishing a formal system of skyward observation. The first local volunteer observation post was organized in November 1941, and located in Hebron on Route 316 (Wall Street). Its number was 95A, and its code name, “Freeman # 52”.

From the diary of Lucius W. Robinson, Sr. it is learned that a receiver was installed at that post in February 1942, and wallpaper hung in May of the same year. On a day in June 1942 Joe Barrasso talked with Lucius Robinson about the Post and lightning rods. At the 1942 Hebron Annual Town Meeting, it was voted “that a rising vote of thanks be extended to Mr. [Wilmer] Dingwell for the use of his premises for the present observation post.”

In April of 1942, a communication from the State Civil Director of the Aircraft Warning Service notified towns that posts must have an identification officer certified, and instructed by the State Police, in the protocol of fingerprinting. This identification officer would, after fingerprinting volunteers, complete National Defense fingerprint cards and return them to the nearest State Police Barracks. The State Police would then forward the cards to the State Police’s Identification Officer

in Hartford, and from there they would be sent to the F.B.I. in Washington. On a July evening in 1942, the Lucius W. Robinsons, Sr. and Jr., fingerprinted 31 volunteers in Columbia.

The Hebron/Columbia Identification Officer would issue Aircraft Warning Service identification cards with the observer's name, address, assigned job, left thumbprint, photograph, and signature as witnessed by the Identification Officer. He would also administer an oath as specified under State Defense Council regulations. This observation work was viewed very seriously.

In early September 1942, Chief Observer George V. Bain had resigned and been replaced by Joseph Barrasso (Hebron). Lucius W. Robinson (Columbia) was First Assistant Chief Observer, and Winthrop Porter (Hebron) was Second Assistant Chief Observer. Lucius Robinson, Jr. (Columbia) had the job of Deputy Chief Observer specified on his ID card. On a weekly basis, Columbia and Hebron rotated responsibility for maintaining the schedule of watches. By June 1942, the Post had 325 volunteer observers, most of whom served regular 2-hour shifts.



Figure 2 - The Civilian Aircraft Observation Post as it would have appeared from October 1942-43

September 1942 - October 1943

A bit later in September 1942, the Aircraft Warning Service hierarchy started looking for a new location for the Observation Post. The Army, who had by then assumed the American Legion's charge, and Aircraft Warning Service representatives chose a new site on Post Hill, Columbia. It

was located on Route 66, just up the hill from the Hebron town line. This location provided wonderful 360 degree views for perfect sighting of airplanes.

Construction of the new post began in October 1942, and it must have been completed that same month because a November 2, 1942 midnight date and time has been listed on an application for “Change of Location” for reporting. The building was constructed by Columbia’s Donald Woodward, Adolph German and Frederick Lambert. The 1943 Columbia Town Report shows a payment of \$246.54 to Joe Barrasso [Hebron] for half the cost of constructing the Observation Post. For under \$500, the towns had a 12 1/2 foot square building with a door, windows on each side, stairway from center of room to windowed lookout above, and a door from there to an observation deck with surrounding railing.

Inside the building there was a woodstove for heat, electric service for lights, a telephone for reporting sightings, guides and posters for identifying aircraft, a logbook, and desk & chairs. When a plane was heard, followed by sighting, the observer picked up the handset of the phone. As in all early phone service, this action directly contacted the telephone operator who, when she heard the order “Red Flash”, immediately connected the Observation Post to Boston Control. Once speaking to headquarters in Boston, the observers gave the description of the plane as well as the direction it was flying. The Boston Filter Center kept track of each flight as it progressed and was reported all along its route. Mistaken identifications were reported to headquarters more than once; e.g., after giving a report of a sighting to Boston, the observers noticed that the “plane” had flapped its wings and flown off!

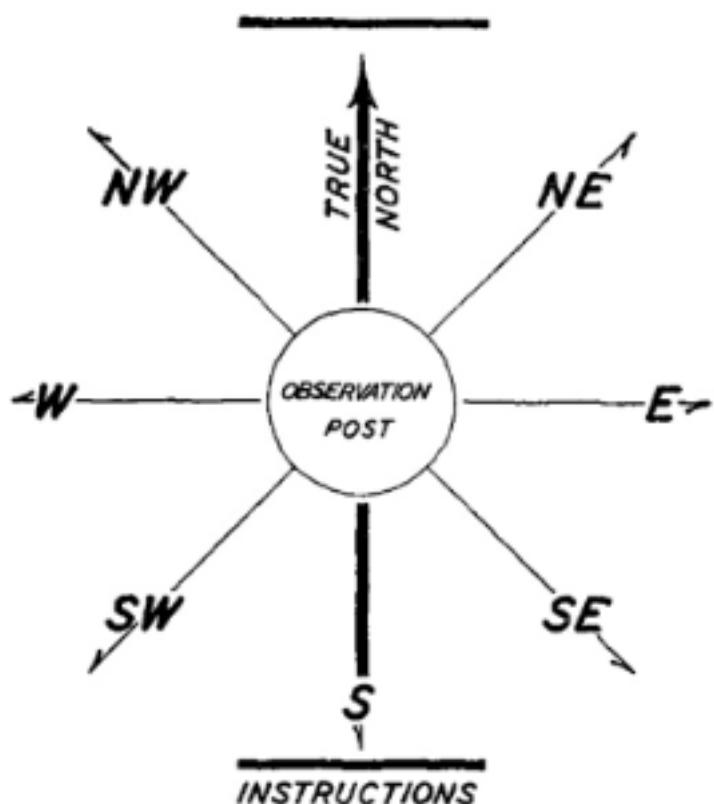


Figure 3 - Aircraft Spotters' Handbook



Figure 4 - Freeman #52 Reproduction Spotters' Desk

After nearly two full years of giving untold hours of voluntary aircraft observation to their towns and, ultimately, the entire United States, the people were informed that the post would be closed on Oct. 13, 1943. So be it, but those individuals who had served as volunteer observers continued to observe the activity above. Starting her observation duties on Dec. 16, 1941, Alice E. Foote stated in her diary entry for June 2, 1944, "Many planes over head all day." Now it can be surmised that the increased activity had something to do with preparation for D-Day. If greater access was had to individuals and/or diaries of the era, it would surely be noted that a very high proportion of residents contributed their part. Lucius W. Robinson served regularly when the Post was on Wall Street, Hebron, but he and Lucius, Jr. undoubtedly served much more when the new Civilian Aircraft Observation Post was located next door to home.



ORIENT THIS CARD IN SOME CONVENIENT LOCATION WHERE IT
CAN BE SEEN BY THE OBSERVERS. IT WILL THEREBY PERMIT THEM
TO FIX IN THEIR MINDS DIRECTIONS FROM THE OBSERVATION POST

FIGURE 20.—Orientation card.

Figure 5 - Sign Used to Help in Plotting Flight Direction of Aircraft

After the War: From Public to Private to Public Property

At some point after the war, Lucius W. Robinson, Sr., on whose property the building had been constructed and the Observation Post stood, bought the building from the towns. From the 1945 Hebron Annual Town Meeting minutes, we learn that it was “voted that Board of Selectmen be empowered to dispose of Town’s one-half interest of observation post.” From that action, one infers that either the Town of Columbia or Lucius W. Robinson, Sr. paid for Hebron’s half equity in the building. A search of Columbia’s wartime annual reports and town meetings provided no clue as to the disposal of their half value of the post. Lucius Robinson first had the building transported to the site of Hebron’s old firehouse. To make this move, the lookout and railing had to be removed with a new roof replacing the superstructure. When a larger firehouse was planned, Lucius W. Robinson, Sr. had Freeman # 52 again moved to a location behind the Hebron Congregational Church, where it stood for many years. [See Figure 16 - Aerial View Location of Observation Post including the Previous Location of the Observation Post behind the church.]

Late Summer 2009 - Present

After being brought to the attention of the Hebron Historic Properties Commission, an extensive study of Freeman #52 was begun. Upon learning its history, the Commission has been committed to seek preservation of this historic building and the cause it represents. Freeman #52 may well be the only Civilian Aircraft Observation Post still in existence in the East. A letter received from the Manuscript Curator of the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force Research Division states that they are unaware of any other such buildings still standing in the United States. Similarly, a note was received from Stacey Vairo of the CT Offices of Culture & Tourism, Historical Preservation & Museums Division, in response to receiving a picture of the post accompanied by a question regarding WW II era observation posts. Stacy forwarded our query to Dave Poirier, previously of CCT, who stated that the building is probably “not unique, but certainly a rare survivor in Connecticut. I suspect that a couple of others may exist, but have yet to be recognized as to their historic function. With a good write-up, this structure would be N[ational] R[egister] list-able as a rare WWII homefront resource.”

Many meetings were held with the town staff to look at the viability of the structure and moving it, to select a site for its relocation, to discuss an appropriate new “foundation”, and more. The Commission took all of the information and charted the pros and cons of all venues and usage options. Since the Hebron Historic Properties Commission has no funding, other than its annual membership dues to the CT Trust for Historic Preservation, we had to scramble to make the relocation and restoration happen.

Prior to submitting our recommendations to the Town of Hebron, the Commission had to select the best relocation site and appropriate usage for the historic structure. We had to report to the Hebron Church with our site and usage findings and ask them to release ownership of the structure. In August 2010, the Hebron Congregational Church did release the building to the Town of Hebron. (See Appendix A for release letter.) We then had to locate willing volunteers, since we couldn’t afford to pay the moving quotes of \$7,000 - \$15,000, who could prepare the recommended site and footings, move the building, backfill and grade around new site, and provide lifetime stewardship of

the building. Finding a group or individual willing and able to move the building proved to be our most difficult challenge.

Luckily, the Hebron Historical Society and Boy Scout Troop #28 actively support worthwhile projects in town. Between them, all of the remaining steps in the scope of work were accepted. The project was presented to the Board of Selectmen for their acceptance on June 2, 2011. At that time the BOS approved referral to the Planning and Zoning Commission for their review. On July 12, 2011, P&Z permitted the relocation of the Civilian Aircraft Observation Post to a location on parcel 17 south of the stone wall, north of the Town Office Building noted as Option 4 in the field behind the setback line of site. On August 4, 2011, the project was returned to the BOS for final approval and go-ahead. BOS Chairman, J. Watt made a motion to approve the Eagle Scout Project of the movement of the WW2 Observation Post to the Town Hall property as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The motion passed with all members in favor. [As an aside, Freeman #52 began its life on the property of Lucius W. Robinson, Sr. It has found its final location on land transferred from Donald W. Robinson to the Town of Hebron. Don was the son and brother of the previously mentioned Lucius Robinsons.]

Eagle Scout projects have been proposed to the Commission, accepted, and performed to fulfill the following: 1) Trevor Averill did initial preparation of siding and paint work to exterior, 2) Connor Sabia oversaw the site preparation and footings as well as overseeing Chipper Massey and Country Carpenters during actual building relocation, 3) Mike Amato restored windows, replaced door, floor and ceiling prior to his interior painting, and 4) Tom Izzarelli shingled the lookout tower which had been reproduced by Fred Brehant of Country Carpenters, and built walkway railing to complete restoration of the building to its original appearance. In addition, the lifetime stewardship of the building will be shared by the Hebron Historical Society and B.S. Troop #28.



Figure 6 - One of a Group of World War II Posters to Be Displayed on Wall of Post

Additional WW II Homefront Activities

Columbia/Hebron Homefront Preparedness

The majority of the American people, although opposed to what the Axis was doing, did not wish to enter another foreign war, particularly so soon after the end of the war which was fought “to end all wars”. However, as the situation deteriorated in Europe, America did go into a preparedness mode with an increase in defense plants and armed forces. The government also arranged to aid the Allies by supplying them with war materials. Factories quickly shifted from civilian to war production; e.g., a Hebron resident’s 1941 Pontiac was the last model made before the Pontiac plant switched to producing items connected with the war. Similarly, another Hebronite’s passage on the RMS Queen Mary in 1939 was the Queen’s last crossing before she was converted into a troop ship.

Hebron and Columbia quickly joined the war preparedness activities. As materials were required for the war effort, shortages were felt by the people at home. To prevent overuse and abuse, a rationing system was developed to fairly dole out restricted items. Ration Cards & Stamps were distributed which proportionately regulated how much a family was allowed. Rationed items included meats, butter, sugar, fats, oil, coffee, canned foods, shoes, and gasoline. From wartime diary entries, we learn that, on various dates, one Hebron resident “got sugar rationing card & took out \$100 [War] bond at the P.O.”, “went for ration card at White School”, “went to the store & was able to get ham & butter”, and still in September 1945 “went to Ration Board for sugar”.



Figure 7 – Hebron’s “Izzy” Turshen and helpers picking up scrap metal and rubber for war effort

“Victory Gardens” were also planted by families to help offset what they could no longer purchase, and to show their patriotism. The Gardens weren’t such a big deal to local residents since most already had well established gardens.

Scrap metal and rubber drives were quite a change for townspeople. The drives provided material which could be recycled to fabricate guns, ships and tanks, also tires. Columbia’s scrap metal was piled on the Green until of sufficient quantity to be hauled to a scrap yard. From Columbia’s Annual Report of 1945, it is noted that many bags filled with milkweed pods were collected. Why, you ask? Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary states that milkweed qualifies under “any of various plants that secrete latex, and it was hoped to work as a rubber replacement.”

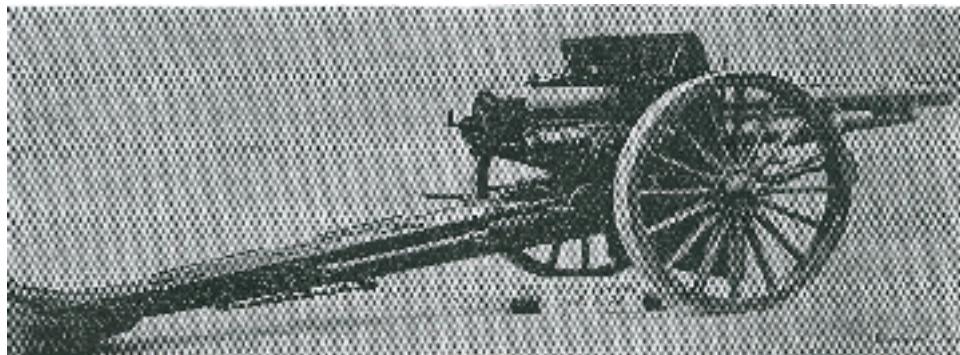


Figure 8 -- American Legion Post 95's World War One cannon which they donated for metal salvage
[The American 4.5 field piece weighed four tons]

Other preparedness activities included practice air raids and blackouts, with black curtains used to block light from showing through the windows of residents’ homes. From a diary, we learn that Hebron was “blacked out” on various dates in 1942-43. Besides making surgical dressings at the “red cross room” on the second floor of the Hebron firehouse and during regular meetings of various local organizations, many townspeople participated in First Aid classes held in the Red Cross room.



Figure 9 - First Aid Class held in Hebron's old Firehouse

School children were extensively involved in the efforts to “win victory”. They participated in everything that their parents did. Many teenagers even shared the responsibility as spotters at the Observation Post. As mentioned by the Superintendent of Schools in the 1942-43 Hebron Annual Town Report, it was learned “that the various enterprises engaged in by the children have furnished material aid but, more important, they have caused the children to understand the advantages of a free country and to work to keep that country free. Actual participation in the war effort has developed patriotism to a far greater extent than merely talking about it could do.”

Freeman # 52: World War II Memorial

The Observation Post was, from 2004 - 2009, opened as a World War II Memorial, and the collection will again be displayed in Freeman #52. Dottie (Brehant) Taggart, the dedicated volunteer curator, has amassed an impressive array of WW II memorabilia. The collection contains items from Freeman 52's day as an aircraft “listening post” such as Aircraft Warning Service badges, Airplane Spotters’ Guide, and ID Cards. Also preserved are other preparedness and patriotism reminders from World War II such as Ration Books & Stamps, news clippings, posters, pictures and much more.



Figure 10 - Pictures of WW II Servicemen and Badges from Civilian Spotters

On Memorial Day 2012 (May 28, 2012), just months shy of 70 years from when it was built, the Towns of Hebron and Columbia dedicated Freeman # 52 to our World War II Homefront Patriots, as well as to future generations. It is our hope that this building and its exhibits will be a teaching aid so that all visitors might have a better understanding of the commitment and vigilance felt by members of the “Greatest Generation”.

To help us celebrate, we invited CT Senator Edith Prague, Congressman Joe Courtney and CT Representative Tim Ackert to the dedication. Each made appropriate comments and presented citations recognizing the efforts of those who served at home during World War II, and to the townspeople of today who helped make the preservation/restoration happen.

Representing “those who served at home” were Belle Robinson and Mary Porter. Through memory and research, these women provided facts and reminiscences of both the building and the spotters who served within it.

Following the program, everyone had the opportunity to view the Observation Tower and some of the World War II era memorabilia. Dottie (Brehant) Taggart, who herself served as a “spotter” and collected the items in the exhibit, was present to share her memories and collection.

The # 1 Song of 1943:

"When The Lights Go On Again"

When the lights go on again all over the world
And the boys are home again all over the world
And rain or snow is all that may fall from the
skies above
A kiss won't mean "goodbye" but "Hello to love"

When the lights go on again all over the world
And the ships will sail again all over the world
Then we'll have time for things like wedding
rings and free hearts will sing
When the lights go on again all over the world

~~~~~

To read more about Freeman #52, and other work of  
the Hebron Historic Properties Commission, go to:  
<http://www.hebronhpc.org/cgi-bin/home.cgi>.  
Click on "Documents", and then on "Local Historic Designation"  
for Belle Robinson's history of the Observation Post  
and HHPC's study report of the  
Observation Post and World War II Memorial.

Hebron Historic Properties Commission  
Deena Watson, Chairman  
Mary Ann Foote, Vice Chairman  
Susan G. Morin, Secretary  
Ruth E. Brault  
Rich Cassata  
Janice Porter Tarbell



(photo taken in 1942)

## DEDICATION

### Hebron/Columbia Civilian Aircraft Observation Post ~~Freeman # 52~~

Monday, May 28, 2012

1:00 P.M.

Hebron Town Office Building Complex  
Hebron, Connecticut

Figure 11 –Back (l) and Front (r) of Program for Dedication of Observation Post

**The Towns of Columbia and Hebron appreciate:**

~~ **Lucius W. Robinson, Sr.** for saving the Observation Post for future generations to study and respect.

~~ **Belle Robinson** (Mrs. Lucius W. Robinson, Jr.) for researching and writing the history of Freeman # 52.

~~ **Fred Brehant** for reproducing the Spotters Desk, and helping wherever needed.

~~ **Roger Barrett, Jr. and Country Carpenters** for time, talent, equipment and materials donated so that the "Spotting Post" could be moved and also sport a new observation tower.

~~ **Freddy Brehant** for designing and constructing the observation tower, and for all of his other technical advice.

~~ all of **Boy Scout Troop # 28**, but especially the Eagle Scout projects of Trevor Averill, Connor Sabia, **Mike Amato** and **Tom Izzarelli** who worked to preserve and restore our Civilian Aircraft Observation Post.

~~ **Hebron Historical Society** and **Boy Scout Troop #28** for assuring lifetime co-stewardship of Freeman # 52.

~~ **Columbia Historical Society** for sharing in the history and preservation of the Columbia/Hebron WW II Observation Post.

~~ All who have donated items for our Civilian Aircraft Observation Post and World War II-era Memorial Exhibits.

~~ most importantly \*\***Dottie (Brehant) Taggart**\*\* for collecting and exhibiting World War II memorabilia for all to appreciate. Dottie brought the building back to life!

**PROGRAM**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Welcome                                                                                                                                                                                         | Deena Watson, Chairman, HHPC |
| Presentation of Flag                                                                                                                                                                            | Boy Scout Troop # 28         |
| "Pledge of Allegiance"                                                                                                                                                                          | Everyone                     |
| Introduction of Special Guests                                                                                                                                                                  | Mary Ann Foote               |
| Congressional Citation                                                                                                                                                                          | Cong. Joe Courtney           |
| History of Freeman # 52                                                                                                                                                                         | Belle Robinson               |
| General Assembly Citation                                                                                                                                                                       | Rep. Tim Ackert              |
| Boy Scout Troop # 28 Projects                                                                                                                                                                   | Mark Sabia                   |
| Governor's Proclamation                                                                                                                                                                         | Sen. Edith Prague            |
| Greetings from Selectmen of Columbia and Hebron<br>Columbia : C. Vance(1), R. Szegda, R. Bogue, R. Hellstrom, W. O'Brien<br>Hebron: J. Watt(1), G. Mulligan, D. Larson, B. O'Connell, M. Stuart |                              |
| World War II Homefront Memories                                                                                                                                                                 | Mary Porter                  |
| "When The Lights Go On Again"                                                                                                                                                                   | Lyrics on Back               |
| View the Observation Post Exhibit                                                                                                                                                               | Dottie Taggart               |

Figure 12 – Inside of Program for Dedication of Observation Post



Figure 13 – Observation Post on the Move Between “Church & State”



Figure 14 – Dedication of the Hebron/Columbia Civilian Aircraft Observation Post

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This report was prepared by Mary Ann Foote, a member of the Hebron Historic Properties Commission. In writing the review of WW II and Freeman #52, the following were appreciated for their efforts, information and/or assistance:

- 1- Lucius W. Robinson, Sr. for saving the building and recording observation post information in his diary.
- 2- Dorothy (Brehant) Taggart for her curatorial talents and perseverance.
- 3- Belle Robinson (Mrs. Lucius W. Robinson, Jr.) for her extensive research and initial report of Freeman #52.
- 4- Mrs. Fitch Jones' scrapbook of World War II news clippings.
- 5- Alice E. Foote's wartime diary entries.
- 6- Minutes of Annual Town Meetings, both Hebron & Columbia.
- 7- Annual Town Reports, Hebron & Columbia.
- 8- Building release letter from Hebron Congregational Church.
- 9- Letter from USAF
- 10- Note from CT Commission of Culture & Tourism
- 11- Minutes of Hebron Board of Selectmen meetings, dated June 2, 2011 and August 4, 2011
- 12- Minutes of Hebron Planning & Zoning Commission meeting, dated July 12, 2011



Figure 15 - Recent Assessor's Map of 15 Gilead Street, Hebron Town Office Building Complex



Figure 16 - Aerial View Location of Observation Post at 15 Gilead Street  
Hebron Town Office Building Property

THEREFORE, the Hebron Historic Properties Commission recommends that the Hebron Board of Selectmen designate this a historic property by amending Ordinance 94-1, "***An Ordinance Establishing a Local Historic Properties Commission and Designating an Historic Property***," with the following description from Hebron Land Records, and as shown on the maps in Figure 15 - Recent Assessor's Map of 15 Gilead Street, Hebron Town Office Building Complex and Figure 16 - Aerial View Location of Observation Post at 15 Gilead Street of this report.

**Section 7 – Designation of Historic Properties shall be amended to include:**

**O. The Civilian Aircraft Observation Post (Freeman # 52) owned by the Town of Hebron, located on the Town Office Building Complex, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT property described below, is hereby designated a historic property.**

**"...a certain tract or parcel of land situated in the Town of Hebron on the westerly side of the highway leading from Hebron Center to Gilead now known as Connecticut State Highway Route No. 85, and bounded and described as follows, to wit: Commencing at a point on the westerly boundary line of said highway at land now or formerly of Marietta G. Horton, the line runs thence in a general westerly direction along said Horton land for a distance of one hundred ninety-four and two tenths (194.2) feet more or less, to a corner; thence in a northwesterly direction along land now or formerly of Leonard Porter and Pauline Porter and land now or formerly of Stanley Nygren, in part by each, to the southerly side of a stone x cross-wall at land formerly of Lyman Eddy and Mary Eddy; thence in a general easterly direction along the southerly side of said stone wall, bounded northerly by other land of this grantor, to the westerly line of the aforesaid highway; thence in a southeasterly direction along the westerly boundary line of said highway for a distance of about three hundred ninety (390) feet to the place or point of beginning; and being a portion of the premises described in a Probate Distribution Certificate from the Estate of Grace M. Lord to this grantor dated December 29, 1958, and recorded in Hebron Land Records at page 306 of Volume 52**

(As described in volume 51, page 436, Warranty Deed dated the 17<sup>th</sup> day of July 1962 from Donald W. Robinson to the Town of Hebron)

## Appendix A

August 2010 Letter of Release of Observation Post from Hebron's First Congregational Church to the Town of Hebron:



### First Congregational Church of Hebron

1 Main Street, P.O. Box 141, Hebron, CT 06248

Office: 860-228-3011 Fax: 860-228-1650

[www.firstchurchhebron.org](http://www.firstchurchhebron.org) [fcchurch0420@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fcchurch0420@sbcglobal.net)

Rev. Kevin L. Zufall, Pastor 860-228-0551

Dear Deena,

We received your letter requesting our donation of the WW II Airplane Spotters' Building. It was presented at our August Council meeting where it was voted unanimously to release the rights for the Observation Building to the town of Hebron and/or the Hebron Historic Properties Commission. We are very much in favor of your plan to restore this small piece of history. Now many more people will get to enjoy the building and the information it can give as to the role it played during World War II. Please keep us informed as to the progress of moving the building.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive ink that reads "Rev. Kevin Zufall".

Pastor Kevin Zufall

## **Appendix B**

Please note that the Town of Hebron, owner of the **World War II Civilian Aircraft Observation Post** located at 15 Gilead Street, is in favor of historic designation of its property, as evidenced by its [DATE] letter written to the Hebron Historic Properties Commission, and attached here:

[WHEN RECEIVED: Letter from BOS, TOH]

## **Appendix C**

Supplementary materials required by Connecticut state statutes for the local historic designation of the Civilian Aircraft Observation Post, located on Hebron Town Office Building property at 15 Gilead Street:

September 7, 2012: Letter from Historic Preservation Council, State Historic Preservation Office, Historic Preservation and Museum Division, Commission on Culture & Tourism, Department of Economic and Community Development



Department of Economic and  
Community Development

**Connecticut**  
*still revolutionary*

September 7, 2012

Ms. Deena Watson  
Chair, Hebron Historic Properties Commission  
130 Charles Lane  
Hebron, CT 06248

Re: Proposed Historic Property: 1942 World War II Civilian Aircraft Observation Post  
at 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT

Dear Ms. Watson:

On behalf of the Historic Preservation Council, I am pleased to inform you that the study report submitted by the Hebron Historic Properties Commission for the 1942 World War II Civilian Aircraft Observation Post at 15 Gilead Street in Hebron, CT was recommended for approval at the September 5, 2012 Council meeting.

The Council commends the ongoing efforts of the Hebron Historic Properties Commission to protect and preserve rare vestiges of the Town of Hebron's irreplaceable heritage.

Please keep me informed of the progress of these designations. In the meantime if you have any questions regarding this notification, please feel free to contact me at (860) 256-2756.

Sincerely,

Mary Dunne  
Architectural Historian

State Historic Preservation Office

One Constitution Plaza | Hartford, CT 06103 | P: 860.256.2800 | CultureandTourism.org

*An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer As Equal Opportunity Leader*

August 28, 2012: Letter from Hebron Planning & Zoning Commission:



## TOWN OF HEBRON

15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248  
TEL (860) 228-5971 FAX (860) 228-5989

Planning/Zoning

Building

Health

Conservation

August 28, 2012

Deena Watson  
Chairman, Historic Properties Commission  
130 Charles Lane  
Hebron, CT 06248

Re: Designation of the World War II Civilian Aircraft Observation Post as a  
Historic Property

Dear Ms. Watson,

At its meeting of August 28, 2012, the Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed the August 6, 2012 memo and report from the Hebron Historic Properties Commission for the purpose of designating the World War II Civilian Aircraft Observation Post as a local "Historic Property" as defined in Section 7-147q of the Connecticut General Statutes. You had asked that this report be forwarded to the Planning and Zoning Commission for their review and recommendation.

Section 7-147q of the Connecticut General Statutes sets forth a procedure for designation of a local "Historic Property". Said procedure requires the submission of a report to the Planning and Zoning Commission for their comments and recommendations. Said comments and recommendations are made a part of the subsequent public hearing and final submission to the Hebron Board of Selectmen for action on the proposal.

Following the review of your report, the Planning and Zoning Commission made the following findings:

- the proposal is consistent with the Town's adopted Plan of Conservation and Development, in particular with the Objectives of Section 1, "The Preservation of Unique Assets", Subsection H. "Areas of Historical Heritage", which states in part that the Town should "facilitate the designation of...historic properties where appropriate to assure preservation of historic assets",

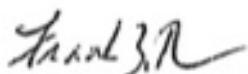
- the Town Plan of Conservation and Development also states that the Town should "work with the Hebron Historic Properties Commission...to keep Hebron's legacy alive for all of its citizens"; the designation of unique historic properties in the community to make the public aware of these historic structures helps us to achieve that objective;
- the property in question is a unique historic structure and as your report states, "...holds historic interest to the community for both its original use and as a memorial"; and,
- the property helps to tell an important story of the Town's history to existing and future residents, and which collectively are important elements of the Town's rich historic character, an important element of Hebron's quality of life.

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Therefore, the Planning and Zoning Commission at their meeting of August 28, 2012 approved the following motion:

*Moved that the Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission supports the Hebron Historic Properties Commission (HPC) proposal to designate the World War II Civilian Aircraft Observation Post, now located on the grounds of the Hebron Town Office Building, 15 Gilead Street, as a Historic Property as per Section 7-147q of the Connecticut General Statutes based on the findings contained in the HPC's report dated August 6, 2012.*

Sincerely,



Frank Zitkus, Secretary  
Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission