

Addendum:

72 Compo Road South, Tudor Revival Garage of Golden Shadows property

The purpose of this Addendum to the Golden Shadows Study Report is to comply with the request of the Connecticut Historic Preservation Council for additional information on and photographs of the Tudor Revival Garage located at 72 Compo Road South (5/4/16). [Note: The garage is an accessory structure situated on the same lot as the No. 70 Tudor Revival residence discussed in the Study Report. However, there are many current Town records that list this garage as a separate No. 72 entity. In an effort to follow Town procedures and separate the two Tudor Revival structures for ease of discussion, this Addendum will continue to use the No. 72 address for the garage.]

The building below the Tudor Revival residence at 70 South Compo Road South is addressed as 72 Compo Road South (Photograph 1) and appears to have been constructed as a garage for this property. According to Sanborn Maps, both buildings were constructed between 1931, when neither is shown on the Sanborn, and 1941 when both the house and southern section of the garage are documented on the Sanborn (Plate 16). Earlier in the twentieth century, Mary Staples owned both the No. 68 Golden Shadows property and the No. 70/72 property. In 1916, Angus MacDonnell acquired both parcels from Mary Staples. Within four years, MacDonnell sold the No. 70/72 lot – still without the improvement of a house – to Horace C. Hurlbutt (Tax Card V35 p 554). Hurlbutt died in 1933 and his widow, Anna L. Hurlbutt, acquired the 70 Compo Road South property - with a house (and, presumably, a garage) - through probate in March 1935 (Tax Card V64 p 339).

Anna Hurlbutt resided "off Compo Rd" till at least 1948 and in 1953 was listed as "died March 21, 1951" (Westport City Directories). As the Langers, through their Chemical Research & Manufacturing company acquired the property in 1955 (Tax Card V133 p 284), it is likely that the garage was altered and expanded under their ownership.

The main section of the original garage (Photograph 2) is a one and one-half story gabled Tudor Revival building and is in keeping with the Tudor Revival residence and was likely constructed contemporaneously with the house. The breezeway connected to the two-story garage addition to the north was added later.

The roof of the original garage section has an asymmetrically massed gable oriented towards the street. (Photograph 3) The northern ends of the gable curve upward at the eave edges, while the southern ends extend in a straight line. Like the main house up the hill, the building is surfaced with stucco and the gable end is half-timbered with rustic boards which frame three narrow

windows which have 2/2 double hung sash. The ground story reads as a garage opening that has been enclosed. The original opening consists of half-timbered posts that support a simple, flat lintel which projects slightly beyond the sides of the posts. Beneath this lintel and between the posts is a simple, plain band. The original garage bay has been enclosed with asymmetrically massed sash; to the south is a triple window articulated by a 4/4 window flanked by narrower 6/6 sash, to the north of which are paired 6/6 windows. The area beneath the windows is filled in with wood; which is buckling and deteriorating.

White paint minimizes the traditional contrast of the half-timbering with the stucco surface, nullifying the original intent to have the garage and residence at 70 Compo Road South present a unified stylistic and design theme. The peeling paint, especially on the rear elevation, exposes some of the stucco.

The south side elevation (Photograph 4) is one story tall and has a tripartite window at the ground floor articulated by a central 3/3 window that is flanked by paired 2/2 sash; all within a simple wooden surround; the sash are protected by what appear to be original wooden storm windows. Below the level of the sash, at the rear of this elevation, is a stone foundation which extends to the rear, which is expressed as a stone buttress that supports the rear corner of the garage. (Photograph 5)

The ground slopes steeply upward along the rear of the garage (Photograph 6) towards the site of the Tudor Revival dwelling (70 Compo), and thus the narrow strip of rear yard paralleling the west face of the garage has been cut from the hillside. The lower portion of the rear elevation of the garage is articulated as a stone foundation with rusticated, parged stone with two small openings at the northern end. The gable end of the rear is articulated as that of the front: half-timbered rustic boards frame three narrow windows which now have 2/2 sash.

The ground floor of the northern elevation of the original section is obscured by the breezeway that connects the more modern garage. The second floor of the original garage is articulated by a shed roofed dormer that boasts paired 2/2 sash with a simple surround and from which a narrow chimney projects.

Expansions to the north consists of a narrow one story breezeway, recessed slightly from the flanking garage wings, with an entry door flanked by paired 6/6 windows, below which is vertical board siding. The door has been replaced with a modern faux six light entry door with a modern door lever. To the north of the breezeway is a two bay, one and one-half story gable roofed garage with two garage bays facing the street. This is surfaced with shingles; the garage bays have plain surrounds and modern steel doors; paired pendant lanterns flank the bays and utilitarian plumbing pipes protrude to the north of the northernmost bay. Although the original section of the building has been substantially altered both in appearance and use, the original section maintains enough vestige of its original appearance to make its historical use as a garage apparent.

The garage is nestled at the southeastern corner of the property, in close proximity to the road, well below the Tudor Revival residence. Behind the garage is a concrete retaining wall and a concrete side retaining wall angles upward from the southwest corner of the garage to the main north-south running retaining wall. (Photograph 7) To the north of the garage, a stone wall with gates, borders the No.72/No.70 property along Compo Road South. (Photographs 8 and 9) At the gates, a Belgian block path, somewhat overgrown, and concrete stairs lead up to 70 Compo Road. (Photograph 10)

Bibliography

Sanborn Insurance Maps: 1916

Town of Westport Tax Records

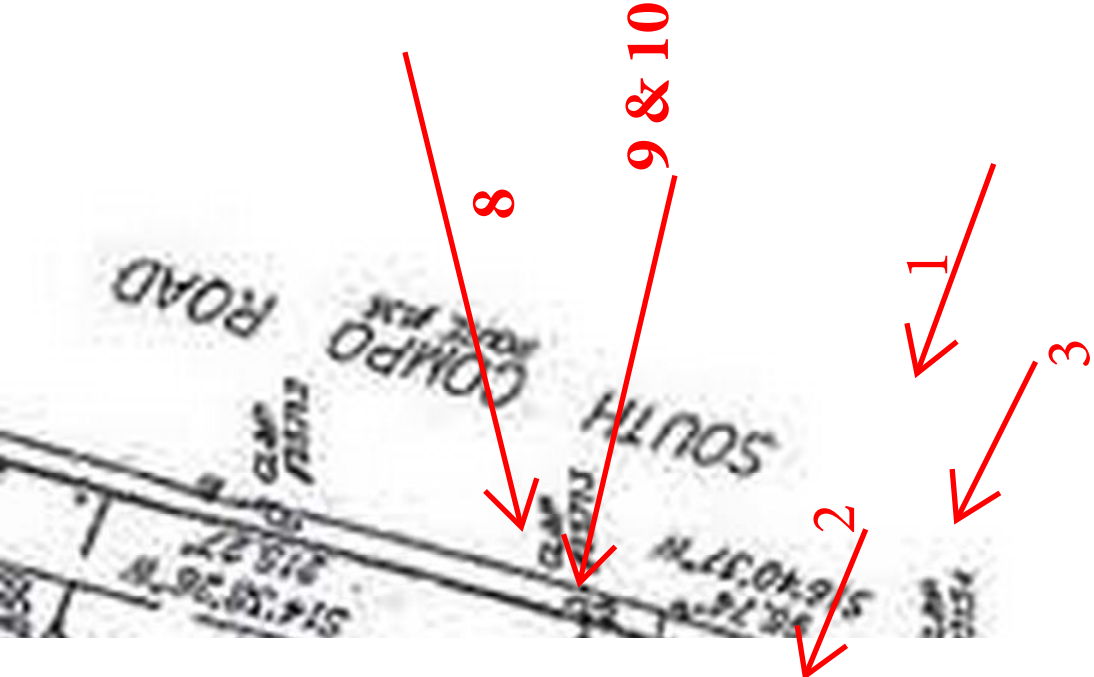
V64 p 339

V133 p 284

V35 p 554

Westport City Directories

1923 through 1955



Golden Shadows, 72 Compo Road South, Garage, Westport, CT

Photograph Key, Exterior Photographs

72 Compo Road South Garage Photographs



Photograph 1, Façade, east elevation, looking west



Photograph 2, Façade, east elevation, looking west



Photograph 3, Façade, east elevation, looking west



Photograph 4, Façade, south elevation, looking northeast



Photograph 5, Façade, south elevation, looking northeast



Photograph 6, Façade, west elevation, looking northeast



Photograph 7, Façade, west elevation, looking north



Photograph 8, Stone wall and garage. View from north, looking southwest



Photograph 9, Stone Wall and Gate, with path, looking west



Photograph 10, Path looking west