

HABS  
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The Powder House  
Fairfield, Connecticut

HABS No. Conn. 40

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PHOTOGRAPH  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District Of Connecticut

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Harold H. Davis, District Officer  
29 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, Conn.

THE POWDER HOUSE

Fairfield, Fairfield County, Conn.

Owner: Town of Fairfield

Date of Erection: Circa 1814

Builder: Not known

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: One

Materials of Construction: Stone  
Slate roof

Other Existing Records: Colonial Dames Series-"Old Houses  
of Connecticut".

List of Photographs:

1. Southwest Elevation

THE POWDER HOUSE

Fairfield, Connecticut

It was voted in October, 1814, at a special town meeting, to erect a Powder House, and it was built on land given to the town by Levi Jennings.

The following is found in the town records: "I, Levi Jennings, of Fairfield Town and County, in consideration of the respect I have toward the said town and the good will I have and bear toward the inhabitants of said Fairfield, also for one cent received to my full satisfaction from David Hull and the rest of the inhabitants of said town, do release and forever quit claim unto the said inhabitants forever, all right title and interest, claim and demand whatever. Signed, sealed and delivered December 16, 1814."

For many years, people accepted the tradition that this powder house was constructed during the Revolutionary War. This was quite natural as powder must have been stored somewhere in the vicinity, but a thorough search fails to reveal its recorded location.

Source of Information: Colonial Dames Series: "Old Houses of Connecticut"

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*revised - July 1938*